

Local Electric Plant Makes Large Profits

ADMITTED TO 16 PER CENT. IN SUIT SOME YEARS AGO—THIS WAS ON REAL STOCK AND ON "WATER"—ADAM BECK TO VISIT HERE SHORTLY—INTERESTING LETTER FROM J. P. DONALD ON THE ELECTRICAL POWER QUESTION.

(To the Editor of The Free Press.)
Now that the holidays are over and the little hiatus that usually occurs has been filled up, it might be well for us, as a community, would ex-amine ourselves and see if we cannot do something to forward our own in-terests. The other day a gentleman who could not, by the largest stretch of imagination, be accused of radical-ism or socialism, brought me in a copy of the "World" of January 7th. wherein is given the judgment of a Supreme Court of the United States in the famous long-drawn-out case of Consolidated Gas Co., together with a pungent remark on the same by my friend "Billy" McLean. They made good reading, and I would add everyone interested in hump up a copy and read them. New York has been fighting for 80 cent gas, and the company, secure, as they thought, in their monopoly, have been steadily raising it, putting forth the plea that they could not pay 6 per cent on their capital and do so. The court in in-vestigating what the capital consist-ed of, struck an item of \$10,000,000 out of account as "good will," but more commonly known as "water." Right-fully, we think, the court struck that item out and laid down the prin-ciple, that whilst all companies own-ers of public utilities were entitled to a fair compensation for the money ac-tually invested, they were not entitled to interest on "water." There is no doubt this decision will be far-reach-ing—even beyond the confines of the U. S. Whatever we may think of U. S. institutions in general, it is freely admitted that had he a monopoly, the second to none, and any decision they make, will carry weight anywhere. To localize—we have a public util-ity in our midst, owned by private parties. It is absolutely essential, not only to our comfort, but to our very living, and therefore any unjust charges are not only wrong, but re-prehensible. As one prominent mer-chant put it the other day, he is the better man because he has competi-

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY REPORTS FOR THE YEAR

REVIEW OF THE WORK FOR 1908 GIVEN IN SECRETARY'S REPORT—FINANCIAL CONDITION SHOWN BY TREASURER'S REPORT—PRESIDENT DR. WHITE MAKES INTERESTING ADDRESS—OFFICERS ELECTED.

In Saturday's issue of The Free Press a brief review of the annual meeting of the Children's Aid Society was given, and below will be found the full text of the treasurer's report and of the report of the Secretary and Agent, Mrs. E. E. Sharpe.

These reports were presented at the annual meeting was not very largely attended. Dr. J. A. White, president of the local C. A. S., occupied the chair. Mrs. E. E. Sharpe, secretary, read the minutes, after which the annual report of the treasurer, Mrs. Geo. A. Milne, was read and adopted.

The secretary read a letter from His Honor Judge McMillan, thanking the Society for an invitation to be present and speak, but regretting his inability to do so. Mrs. Sharpe also reported that she had received a letter from a former ward of the Society, who was getting along nicely.

The secretary's annual report was then presented and passed.

The address of Dr. White, president, touched on many matters of interest. The year just passed, he thought, had been a very successful one. The object of the Society was to surround the children with a better atmosphere. It was not always necessary to separate parents and children to accomplish this, a word or a little advice often resulting in much good. Dr. White thanked the Society for support given him during the year, and also expressed his appreciation for the grant from the County Council. He also said that it was the intention of the Society to wait on the Town Council with a view to securing a grant from that body for the carrying on of the noble work in caring for and bettering the condition of the children.

Continuing his remarks, Dr. White pointed out that public opinion was changing in regard to the treatment of juveniles and he paid a well-merited tribute to Judge Lindsay's efforts for betterment. "What we want," said Dr. White, "is more love and less law in dealing with the children." The parole system, the Salvation Army prison visitation, the prison gate relief work and other forms of help along this line were touched on and commended.

Dr. White contended the belief that children were bad because they were wayward. Many of them were only bad because of evil surroundings and lack of opportunity. "The boys and girls," he said, "are just waysome good in them. Give them a chance."

The danger from foreign immigration and from existing political and social conditions was touched on, and the need for C. A. S. work outlined. Lack of parental control and watchfulness was given as a leading cause that required the aid of the Children's Aid to cure.

On motion of Inspector Knight, seconded by G. H. Wilson, a vote of thanks was tendered Dr. White for the address.

With Vice-President J. Rogers in the chair, the old officers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. G. H. Wilson as one of the vice-presidents. Mr. S. J. Fox, M.P.P., was elected honorary president, in place of the late Dr. Herriman.

This leaves the officers for 1909, (as published in The Free Press Saturday) as follows:
Hon. Pres.—S. J. Fox, M.P.P.
President—Dr. White.
Vice-Presidents—J. Rogers, G. E. Rea, Inspector Knight and G. H. Wilson.
Secretary—Mrs. E. E. Sharpe.
Treasurer—Mrs. G. A. Milne.

Balance on hand	\$ 87 30
Receipts from Victoria Co.	100 00
Receipts from Haliburton Co.	50 00
Fees	12 75
Total	\$ 250 05
Disbursements	
Secretary's salary for year ending Oct., 1908	\$ 25 00
Collecting fees, 1907	10 00
Board and lodging for children in temporary homes	64 90
Girls' and boys' clothing	24 83
Children's boots, including a boot for girl with deformed foot	14 85
Stationery, printing, lawyers' fees, etc.	21 14
Travelling expenses in connection with neglected children and agent's time	23 45
Constable's services in connection with children	13 75
Affiliation fees local Council of Women	1 00
Cleaning children	1 50
Photographs of children, etc.	1 50
Sundries	1 50
Other necessities	50
Total	\$ 203 62
Balance on hand	\$ 47 44
KATE C. MILNE, Treas.	
Audited and found correct.	
A. CAMPBELL, Auditor.	

Report of Secretary and Agent.
The following is the report of the secretary and agent, Mrs. E. E.

treasury in the early part of the year, but owing to the apparent need of funds in the near future your Board of Managers have issued a leaflet appealing to the generosity of members and friends of the Society for money to carry on the work. Contributions will be received at the Dominion Bank, Lindsay.

Parcels of valuable second hand clothing have been received from friends in town, and also from Mrs. Burke, of Reaboro.

The County Council of Haliburton at its first session a year ago granted \$50 to our Society in aid of the work. A grant of \$100 was also received from Victoria County Council.

The annual reports of visits to wards of our Society are on the whole quite satisfactory.—Respectfully submitted.

ELLEN E. SHARPE,
ROCK ME TO SLEEP.

Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight,
Make me a child again, just for to-night!
Mother, come back from the echoless shore,
Take me again to your heart as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care,
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair—
Over my slumber your loving watch keep—
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

Backward, flow backward, O tide of the years!
I am so weary of toils and of tears!
Toil without recompense—tears all in vain—
Take them and give me my childhood again!
I have grown weary of dust and decay,
Weary of flinging my soul-wealth away—
Weary of sowing for others to reap;
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue,
Mother, O mother, my heart calls for you!
Many a summer the grass has grown green,
Blossomed and faded—our faces be-tween—
Yet with strong yearning and passion-ate pain
Long I to-night for your presence again;
Come from the silence so long and so deep—
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

Over my heart in days that have flown,
No love like mother-love ever was shown—
No other worship abides and endures,
Faithful, unselfish, and patient like yours;
None like a mother can charm away pain
From the sick soul and the world-weary brain;
Slumber's soft calm o'er my heavy lids creep—
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

Come, let your brown hair, just light-ened with gold,
Fall on your shoulders again as of old—
Let it fall over my forehead to-night,
Shading my faint eyes away from the light—
For with its sunny-edged shadows
once more,
Haply will throng the sweet visions of yore—
Lovingly, softly, its bright billows sweep;
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

Mother, dear mother, the years have been long
Since I last hushed to your lullaby song;
Since then, and unto my soul it shall seem,
Womanhood's tears have been but a dream,
Clasped to your arms in a loving em-brace,
With your light lashes just sweeping my face,
Never hereafter to wake or to weep—
Rock me to sleep, mother—rock me to sleep.

—Elizabeth Akers Allen.

J. H. BRANDON IS POPULAR AT FENELON FALLS.

About a year ago the staff of the North Star Roller Mills presented Mr. John H. Brandon with a fine gold-headed cane as a token of the esteem in which he is deservedly held by them. This Christmas, as a further mark of their regard, Mr. Brandon was presented with an exceptionally handsome Meerschmum pipe, which the Gazette had the privilege of looking at the other day. The pipe is a "dandy," and is highly appreciated by the recipient, not only for its beauty and the prospective smokes he will enjoy, but as an evidence of the kindly feelings of the mill staff, which, it is needless to say, he thoroughly reciprocates.—Fenelon Falls Gazette.

WORTHY OF SUPPORT.

A year ago there were only about 30 persons engaged in the printing business in Lindsay— to-day there are over 45. The Free Press is helping to build up the town by turning out a good paper and paying good wages.

You're Not Too Late

to benefit by some of the thousands of bargains we are offering to housekeepers. We have enjoyed a great Christmas trade, but as we are constantly receiving New goods, the stock is always fresh and bristling with money-saving chances.

Braund's Fair.

Next to Cinnamon's Hardware.
NOW is Your Best Time to ENTER

Never neglect your opportunities: improve your spare time, take a Winter Course with us and if you are ambitious you can be prepared for a good situation in a few months. Accept our proposition and we will secure for you a good situation.

FEDERAL BUSINESS COLLEGE

LINDSAY, ONT.

Doorstep Not a Relic But an old Grindstone

EXPLANATION OF A MINDEN MYSTERY BY AN OLD ANSON BOY.
(Minden Echo.)
Away out in "Sunny Alberta" Mr. George Smith, formerly of Anson, is interested in an item which appeared in these columns and makes the following explanation: "It amused me very much to read about the mysterious stepping stone of Mr. F. Wilson's, that is supposed to have been made and used by the Indians long ago. Now, I happen to know a little about the history of this stone. I think nearly fifty years ago, when Minden was young, grindstones were both scarce and dear. Old Mr. McCracken, who lived south of Minden, was in need of a grindstone, and being a stone cutter, though he would make one for himself. So he procured a piece of rock somewhere and made a grindstone, but when he had it finished, found it too hard and not gritty enough, so alid it aside. I saw Mr. Wilson's stepping stone at least ten years ago and he told me he found it, so I expect it is old Mr. McCracken's grindstone instead of the Indians. Please tell Mr. Wilson that I don't think he need be afraid of the Indians coming for their grindstone. He might be afraid on account of the piece in The Echo, read in all quarters of the globe, some Indians would be sure to hear it, so I thought it my duty to let him know all about it."

We are pleased to hear that Mr. Smith is prospering in his new home in the West and that the crops were good out there this year.

Sensible Advice Given Prospective Emigrants

CANADA'S PROSPECTS HELD OUT PROPERLY—LAZY PEOPLE NO GOOD HERE.

A business man of Lindsay, who has only been in this country a few years himself, has handed the following to The Free Press. The clipping is from an old country paper, and the opening paragraphs are both sensible and timely. The business man, in handing over the clipping said that he himself had no fault to find with the country. There was opportunity here for men who would work and strive, though those who were too lazy or too shiftless to exert themselves could not hope to succeed here any more than any place else. The extract from the English paper refers to a lecture on Canada under the auspices of the Chestnut Auburn District Council and reads in part as follows:

"Dr. Robbins prefaced his remarks on "Canada" by dealing at some length with the question of emigration. People who were born tired and had never got rested, he said, should not emigrate to Canada, where success meant hard work. Emigrants should be optimists, and should take a favorable view of Canada, which would commend them to the Canadians, who were proud of their country. People doing well in England should not emigrate to Canada, as for such there was no better country than Eng-land. But young men of energy and determination, who saw no prospect of success in England, would do well to emigrate to Canada, where they would probably succeed beyond their most sanguine expectations. They must be prepared to work, and take the first job that offered itself. Such persons he (the lecturer) was always willing to help, and if any present should wish to communicate with him they might ask the librarian for his address and write to him. He would advise and assist them to the best of his ability. (Applause.) People with

Graham Bros.

Laidley & Newton's old Stand Opp. Benson House.

large families, who could not get on in this country, would do well to go to Canada, where they would find that the larger the family the better it would be for them, as there would be employment at remunerative wages for themselves and their growing sons and daughters. It was true that last year, owing to the financial crisis in the U.S.A., there was a scarcity of employment in Canada, due to the im-migration of workmen from the U.S.A., but in a country so vast and that must have a great population, pros-perity was bound to return, and it would be as good a field for emigrants as ever it has been. In the west of Canada there was a great need of mar-riageable women, as, owing to the scarcity of women, many men in good positions were unable to find wives to share their life with them.

The audience endorsed these re-marks with acclamation. The proceedings were terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Noble for presiding, voiced by Mr. A. Goulding. The chairman, replying, said thanks were chiefly due the librarian (Mr. Hudson) for the idea of arranging the lectures."

The Council's Inaugural; Committee Heads Chosen

MAYOR BEGG SPEAKS OUT FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND CLOSE ECONOMY—LOWERING OF THE RATE BETTER THAN NEW FACTORIES.

The inaugural meeting of the 1909 Council was held on Monday at 11 o'clock, in the Council chamber. The members present were Mayor James Beeg, Ist Dep-reeve B. L. McLean, 2nd Dep-reeve W. W. Jordan, and Aldermen Geo. Calvert, A. C. Babcock, A. J. Campbell, R. Kyle, H. Dobson, H. J. Lewis and A. Howkins; absent, Dave Geo. Jordan.

Clerk Knowlson read the official statement of the voting on polling day, after which the members sus-cribed to the declaration of office and qualification and took their seats.

The Mayor Speaks.

Mayor Beeg, before taking up the first order of business—the appoint-ment of the chairmen of committees—said he was pleased to see so many new faces; he wished to congratulate upon their election to so impor-tant a position and desired to extend a hearty welcome to the new mem-bers. The relations of the members last year with each other had been very pleasant and harmonious, and he trusted the same would be true of the new Council; they should agree among themselves—there would be enough quarreling among outsiders over town affairs to keep all busy straightening things out. He hoped the chairmen of committees would, when necessary, tell the people plain-ly why their wishes could not be car-ried out in certain cases—it would prove better than temporizing. They should adhere closely to the policy of economy followed by last year's Council—if the same care could be ex-ercised for eight or ten years the tax-loads would be reduced materially, and this would be more beneficial than the building of factories. (Applause.)

The Council then proceeded with the appointment of chairmen of com-mittees, as follows:
Moved by Dep-reeve Jordan, seconded by Ald. Lewis, that Dep-reeve McLean be chairman of Finance com-mittee.—Carried.
Moved by Ald. Babcock, that Ald. Calvert be chairman of Town Property.—Carried.
Moved by Dep-reeve Jordan, seconded by Ald. Campbell that Ald. Calvert be chairman of Town Property.—Carried.
Moved by Dep-reeve McLean, seconded by Dep-reeve Jordan, that Ald. Babcock be chairman.

Ham. Omelet—Add to a teaspoonful of flour half a breakfast-cupful of milk, 2 eggs, a dessertspoonful of grated ham (cooked) and a little pepper and salt. Stir well together the flour, milk, eggs, pepper and salt, and then add the ham. Put a little butter in an omelet pan over the fire, and add the mixture. When the but-ter begins to bubble stir it with a spoon one way until it thickens, and then fold the edges of the omelet over into an oval form. Fry it for about five minutes, and serve hot.

Moved in amendment by Ald. Babcock, seconded by Ald. Lewis, that

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