Board of Health Hold Last Regular Meeting

REPORTS OF CHAIRMAN, SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HEALTH OFFICER PRESENTED—INTERESTING DISCUSSION ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The last regular meeting of the Board of Health for this year was held in the clerk's office Thursday. Those present were: Chairman A. Keith, Mr. G. Mills, Mr. J. O'Reilly, Mr. Keith, R. A. Douglas, Sanitary Inspector, and Dr. J. McAlpine, Medical Health Officer.

M. H. O.'s Report.

The annual report of the Medical Officer was read, and on motion of Messrs. Mills and O'Reilly, it was given to the Town Council as follows:

To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Health of the Town of Lindsay:—

Gentlemen:—In submitting my report for the past year I am pleased, and to be able to call attention to the fact that the Town of Lindsay has been totally free from contagious diseases during the preceding twelve months, and it is especially gratifying to note that no cases of smallpox have been reported since last December.

Families were reported this year having scarlet fever, and at first it appeared as if an epidemic of the same would result. However, with the cooperation of the medical officers of the town and their immediate and prompt reporting of cases as they occurred, made effective quarantine possible, and in this way the spread of the disease was checked and a general outbreak prevented.

In the same way the medical practitioners of Lindsay have practically eliminated diphtheria from the list of diseases in the municipality. Early diagnosis, prompt reporting, the early and free use of antitoxin has been almost universal. In this connection, I think that much credit is due the Sanitary Inspector for his painstaking and efficient disinfecting. So far as has been the Sanitary Inspector's work in this respect that I recall a single case of infectious smallpox, diphtheria, or scarlet fever occurring from persons or families after quarantine was raised. During the past year there were 36 cases of typhoid fever treated in the Victoria Memorial Hospital, but only 16 of these were from the town, the rest coming from different parts of the County. It might be out of place here, perhaps, to dwell on the good work accomplished along general lines by the Victoria Memorial Hospital in the care of the sick and injured, but I feel certain well within the province of a report to commend most highly the skill and efficient services rendered by this institution in the treatment of typhoid fever and in the prevention of the spread of this disease. Further, the Victoria Memorial Hospital has given a large measure of skilled attendance and trained nursing to many cases than the patients could afford to hope to receive at home, but the schools of thought and scientific education in vogue at the Hospital offer the possibilities for further increase to the very maximum. The charge of contracting the typhoid fever at the hospital will be applied to all who can be considered as in this institution the excretion of all patients is thoroughly disinfected and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the disease, and if patients could not be removed to hospital there would have been, during the past year, at least thirty foci of infection that might be a danger for years to come. In the treatment of typhoid alone the Victoria Memorial Hospital has more than justified its existence and given full proof of great usefulness.

Drinking water is recognized as a chief cause of infection it is gratifying to note that steps are about to be taken by the Government to impress on municipalities the necessity of inspection and cure of domestic wells. For years I have been calling attention to this important matter and urging the Board of Health to request the Council to pass a by-law to control all wells in this municipality so constructed that all surface water shall be excluded. Contaminated water is assuredly a menace to the public health, and a large proportion of the impure well water in Lindsay is caused by the fact that surface water is allowed entrance to the wells. It is a well-known fact that some years ago privy pits were quite common here. When one pit was full it was covered over with earth and a new pit dug in a convenient place. I believe that many of the town wells are in close proximity to these old privy pits and that this is the principal cause of so many wells in town being contaminated with sewage, as many of the wells have been proven to by repeated tests made by the Provincial Analyst. The necessity for action in the matter is so urgent and the remedy so simple and inexpensive that the only mystery to me is that the question has not been settled years ago. The Water Commissioners of this town deserve the lasting gratitude of the citizens of Lindsay for their forethought and good judgment in securing the erection of an ozone plant for the purification of the town water, thus placing Lindsay in the proud position of being the first municipality on the continent to adopt what I believe to be the best system invented for the purification of water. J. H. Bridge, the inventor of the ozonizing system for purifying water, entered into a contract with the town to convert the muddy and peaty water of the Scugog river into an "absolutely safe" water, agreeing to remove all objectionable color, taste and smell from the said water, and to destroy all germs or constituents which might prove dangerous or liable to be harmful to the health of the water users. The new system of purification gives every promise of being a great safeguard to the public health and a large factor in preventing infection. Although the reports for the official bacteriological examination of the water since the installation of the system are not yet to hand ,there is every reason to believe from what is known of the valuable properties of ozone as a germicide that the treatment of the public water supply will be most highly beneficial.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours sincerely,
J. McALPINE,
Medical Health Officer.

Lindsay, Ont., Nov. 30th, 1908.

Some litle discussion took place regarding the last clause in the report, which will be found elsewhere in this issue of The Free Press. Mr. O'Reilly thought too much praise had been lavished on the ozone system before it was definitely known whether it would be a success or not. Mr. O'Reilly explained that he was not finding fault with the report but simply calling attention to the fact that special watchfulness should be exercised in considering the new plant. Dr. McAlpine explained that he was simply mentioning an opinion on the known qualities of ozone, as the report clearly showed. No definite statement of the succes or failure of the new treatment could be given until the full reports were received from the Provincial analyst.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year was then presented as follows:

To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Health.

Gentlemen:—I beg to submit my yearly report as follows:

We have no placards up at present; in fact we have gotten off unusually well in this respect all year. Everything has gone along harmoniously; all work has been attended to promptly, and our police court record has been light.

No. of placards for fiscal year between Nov. 15, 1907, and Nov. 15, 1908:

Smallpox, 1; Lywood family (recovered.)

Diphtheria, 3; (recovered).

Scarlet fever, 5; (1 death in Fred. Broom's family).

In connection with the smallpox Hospital, this Board erected two wooden structures at a cost of about $100.00 each. An inventory of the supplies were taken by me and is now in the clerk's hands.

May 4.—Notified East Ward Committee of Health to inspect Jas. Kent's cesspool and report.

May 5.—Sent three samples of water to Toronto for analysis.

Also on June 18th sent two samples to Toronto.

May 12.—Prosecuted W. A. Goodwin for depositing garbage and refuse on Peel-st. Let off with costs, amounting to $3.95.

July 10.—C. D. Barr found guilty of an infraction of the Public Health Act. No fine was imposed.

August 10.—Workman's case, re stables, came up. $1.00 and costs, amounting in all to $4.00.

Respectfully submitted.
R. A. DOUGLAS,
Inspector.

Lindsay, Dec. 3, 1908.

N.B.—This is the time of year that this Board should say where ice shall or shall not be cut, as the ice is taken out as soon as possible now. I would suggest that no ice be taken out of the Rider and Kitchener pond, as it is suspicious.

R.A.D.

The question opened up by the postscript of the Inspector's report was discussed at some length.

Mr. O'Reilly thought that it did not matter much where ice for cold storage purposes was taken from, but ice for household use should be carefully guarded by the Board. The other members agreed in this.

On motion of Mr. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Mills, it was decided that all ice taken out of the river be under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Chairman's Report.

Lindsay, Dec, 3, 1908.

In compliance with the Medical Health Act, I have the honor to report as follows:

I am thankful to be able to say that during the year that is past our town has been comparatively free from contagious diseases. During the year several samples of well water have been analysed and pronounced unsafe for domestic use ,and it is the opinion of the Board that water is being used from wells which are polluted. This is a matter which the Board has not been able to deal with, owing to the water in the water mains also being impure. If the new filtration plant proves successful in providing a wholesome supply of water ,there is little doubt that a number of wells will be condemned, and orders be issued for closing the same.

A committee appointed to inspect the slaughter houses visited these places in September. The report brought in by the committee bore convincing proof of unsanitary conditions surrounding the places where our meats are prepared. No attempt is made by the butchers to comply with the Medical Health Act governing slaughter houses. The Board of Health have discussed the wisdom of having a public abattoir where all animals should be inspected by a capable inspector before being allowed to be slaughtered, such abattoir to be built in accordance with the Medical Health Act, and to be maintained under the supervision of an inspector who will compel the butchers to observe sanitary methods.

Nothing has been done regarding the inspection of milk supply. A late medical congress condemned impure milk as the transmitter of many diseases, such as typhoid fever, consumption ,etc. Milk is a diet, especially adapted to children, and at a time of life when they are unable to resist the injurious effects of impure foods. It is therefore of the utmost consequence that inspection should be made of cows supplying the milk, to see that they are healthy; and that they get a good supply of pure water; that they are properly housed and cared for; that cleanliness should be observed in handling the milk, as it is impossible to be too particular about this one article of diet.

The Board of Health, as guardians of the public health, with the co-operation of the Town Council, are in duty bound to use every precaution to insure a wholesome supply of meat, water and milk to our citizens.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALEX. HORN,
Chairman Lindsay Board of Health.

The report of the chairman of the Board was referred to the Town Council as customary.

A Public Abattoir.

The advisability of having a public abattoir for the slaughter of all cattle for use as food was discussed at some length. To right present conditions in butchering, a public abattoir, where all animals must be killed under proper conditions ,was considered the only proper plan. The slaughter-houses were not kept in right condition now.

The question of having an inspector of slaughter-houses was also touched on. The Health Officer had made one inspection this year, and another will also be made in the near future.

The Milk Supply.

Mr. Keith brought up the question of the conditions under which cows are kept in town. The improper housing, the improper feeding and care could not help but result in injury to the public health, as milk was an important article of diet. A closer inspection of the sources of the milk supply should be made in the interests of the public, Mr. Keith thought.

Mr. Mills—"How do you expect to get pure milk when cows drink out of the river, where it is known that the water is polluted?"

Mr. O'Reilly—"Oh, the cows have an ozone system inside."

Mr. Keith believed that many of the cows were infected with tuberculosis and that buildings and premises should be inspected and the owners made to comply with the law.

AN EXCITING RUNAWAY.

Last Friday about 5.30 o'clock, while two well known West Ops ladies were leaving town, after spending the day shopping, their spirited horse became frightened at the glare of lights from the store windows and dashed up Kent-st. from the Pym house at a terrific speed, throwing the cutter from one side of the road to the other, almost dumping the ladies from their seats.

In some unknown manner the lines or reins got tangled about the ends of the shafts giving the lady driver no chance to pull up the frightened animal.

The horse continued its zig-zag run up the school hill, causing the many other sleighs which were coming in the opposite direction, to take the ditch.

No attempt made by different town citizens to stop the horse, proved successful until near the hospital the brave driver tugged at the reins until they loosened themselves from the shafts and the wild animal was soon brought to a stop.

Outside of a good shaking up to the drivers no serious harm was done.

GOUGH'S "WHERE THE GOOD CLOTHES COME FROM." REGISTERED. GOUGH'S

WE BEG TO ANNOUNCE
THE COMPLETENESS OF
OUR HOLIDAY STOCKS

We Would Suggest Early Christmas Buying

Our reason for doing so is ---we know what a rush is necessary if you put it off too long. We suggest the idea for the following reasons: 1. Our Holiday lines are now complete. 2. The earlier you come the better selections you can make. 3. The satisfaction of knowing you are not going to be worried or hurried by the great crowds of holiday-shoppers which you cannot avoid if you wait until later on. 4. Our salesmen can give you better service now. Put us to to the test and see that our statements are correct.

Gifts to be Appreciated Must be Useful. Look over our List and Select what You Think He Will Appreciate

Overcoats	Neckwear	Collars, Cuffs
Raincoats	Gloves, Hosiery	Mufflers, Caps
Suits, Trousers	Underwear	Shirt Protector
Fancy Vests	Suspenders	Sweaters
Smoking Jacket	Umbrellas	Silk Handk'fs
Rath Robe	Shirts, Mitts	Linen Handk'fs
Fur Coats	Neckscarfs	Pho'x Mufflers
Fur-lined Coats	Armlets	Cuff Buttons
Fur Caps		Stick Pins
Fur Collars		

B. J. GOUGH

CORNER KENT AND WILLIAM-STS.

OBITUARY NOTICES

SAMUEL PARSONS.

After an illness of about three weeks Mr. Samuel Parsons, one of the oldest and most widely known of Lindsay citizens passed away at his home on Regent-st., at an early hour last Saturday. The late Mr. Parsons was in his 78th year and few men in town were better known or more highly esteemed.

About 45 years ago Mr. Samuel Parsons moved to Lindsay and opened up a large blacksmithing establishment on William-st. north, where the McCrea foundry is now situated. This business Mr. Parsons conducted ably and successfully for a number of years.

The deceased was a member of the Sons of England, which order he has belonged to almost from the time he settled in Lindsay. In the local lodge he was viewed as a most desirable and useful member and he was greatly valued for the many services given, including a useful tenure of the office of secretary of the local lodge.

In addition to the sorrowing widow, who is at present in poor health, two daughters—Mrs. Adair, who lives with her parents, and Mrs. Davis, of Regent-st., Lindsay, are among the near relatives surviving. One grandson, Bruce Adair, of Toronto, is home on account of the illness and death of Mr. Parsons.

Cheese Fingers.—When pies are being made, take a piece of the dough, roll very thin ,and cut into strips 3 1-2 inches long and 1 1-2 inches wide. On one strip sprinkle grated cheese, a dash of salt and Cayenne pepper or paprika. Lay on another strip, pinch together, brush with yolk of egg or milk, and bake in a slow oven.

BLACK FOX SHOT.

Cannington Gleaner:—Mr. Arthur Southworth, of Cardiff township, and brother of Mr. C. L. Southworth, manager of Brock Creamery, Cannington, last week shot a black fox on the farm of his father, Mr. Alex. Southworth. This is the first block fox that has been shot in Central Ontario in a number of years. The skin of a black fox is worth from one to five hundred dollars, according to quality.

—Crowds of small boys enjoyed a skate on the river Monday. They kept close to the edge, however.