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CIVIC DUTY

New municipal councils are taking office throughout the province, and it is an opportune moment for considering the position of councils. The prevailing idea of ratepayers is that having elected a set of councillors, there is nothing more to do beyond kicking, knocking and growling till this time next year. The fact is so short a time since the populace have obtained their rights in controlling public affairs, that they still instinctively look upon their representatives and officials as masters. The masses having for centuries been the slaves physically and mentally of their masters and clerics, there is still some difficulty in getting the masses to realize that their representatives and the officials appointed by them, from member of parliament to poundkeeper, are the servants of the people, and require the same looking after, the same supervision as a factory employer gives to his managers and foremen. In civic affairs the residents of each municipality form a civic community, they are the joint shareholders in the municipality, in all the works, and in all the regulations they may deem requisite, for the good government of the community, and the peaceful preservation of their individual rights. Once a year they select a certain number whom they commission to act as managers of sense, masters, but servants, and it is the duty of the community to assist, instruct, and advise them, and

at all times watch carefully what is being done, or left undone. If anything goes wrong it is not so much the servant that is to blame but the employer. The servant may be to blame for the first step wrong, but if the second is taken it is the neglect and carelessness of the employer. Keep an eye on your representatives and officials, and if they fail in their duties, give them notice to quit, just as promptly as you would your hired help. At the same time no citizen should forget or neglect his own duty. The election of a board of directors or council in no way liberates the citizen of his duties. Out of the taxes paid by each ratepayer the average amount used for streets, roads and pavements is not more than two dollars, and to hear the average ratepayer talk would convey the impression that he was paying at least two hundred. Civic duty demands that every citizen take a deep and constant interest in the welfare of his municipality, and be ever ready to give a hand in keeping the roads and premises within his reach, in a fit state of repair, and a creditable condition. Civic duty demands loyalty to the municipality, a firm belief in its peculiar advantages, and a cheerful endeavor to make the most of those advantages. Howling loyalty to a king, while ones back premises are reeking with filth, spreading disease through the neighborhood, is a loyalty expressing blind adoration of a man, that is only the froth of a tribal superstition, on which the sharks of society prey for their own selfish interests. Be loyal to your municipality, the place that gives you your livelihood, be loyal to your home. Our cousins on the south of the boundary being freed of the fungus growth of loyalism to a man, give the loyalty to the place they live in, and not a man but strenuously believes that his particular four corners is not to be equalled within the four quarters of the whole earth. Ontario is much in need of a strong dash of the same spirit, a spirit of civic pride, a spirit that leads every citizen to think well of his municipality, and willingly do his share, and more than his share, in improving and beautifying, and making his township or village something that he can honestly be proud of. Councils are executive officers, utterly incapable of accomplishing any lasting purpose without the co-operation of the citizens. The progress and welfare of a municipality depends not on the councils selected by the citizens, but on the citizens themselves. Exactly as is the civic spirit of a majority of the community in each municipality, so is the municipality. Don't forget it. Think it over.

A few bargains left yet at the

FIRE Sale

AT R. J. MULLIGAN'S Druggist, Omemece

THE CANADA GO'Y PAINT PRISM BRAND READY MADE PAINTS Made from Pure Lead and Lined Oil McLENAN & CO.

DOES PROPERTY QUALIFICATION BAR GOOD MEN FROM MUNICIPAL POLITICS?

Property qualification bars some good men from municipal politics. That relic of antiquity, the "property qualification" as represented in the idea that a man's fitness to serve his fellow men in any municipal capacity whatever depends upon the quantity of bricks and mortar or real estate he can lay claim to, and not on the quantity of brains he may possess, should be relegated to the limbo of pre-municipal times and pre-manhood suffrage days, to which it rightly belongs. The idea that only the man possessing houses or land can have a "stake" in the community is worthy of the middle ages, when kings and barons thieves only counted, the men were their driven cattle. The logic of such a contention is that a workingman having a family of boys and girls, the men and women of the succeeding generation, to bring up, to feed, to clothe and to educate; to fit them to take their part in life as useful citizens; such a man has a "stake" in the community. The real question is which has the greater stake in the community? The man whose ideas of life are limited to his ability to add to his rent roll, or the man whose chief concern in life is the true welfare and future well being of his family; their present comfort so far as housing and perfect sanitary and general municipal arrangements can contribute to that end; the schools in which they must receive their education; and who in every way strives to serve his fellow men. The question must be decided regardless as to whether the man to be considered lives in a rented house or owns a whole row of tenement buildings. The absurdity of the situation is apparent when you consider the situation for a moment. A man with all the requirements to hold a seat at freehold to \$200 or leasehold to \$400; in towns, freehold to \$600 or leasehold to \$1,200; (c) in cities free-

the municipal board, is debarred if he lacks a stated amount of "property." At the same time this man may occupy a seat in the Legislature of this Province. Why a man can "qualify" to legislate for his fellows in the supposed higher body, and not be a fitting man to represent his fellows in the lower sphere of legislation is one of the curios of our complicated system of government. The law, which is a Provincial measure, reads as follows:—"No person shall be qualified to be elected a mayor, alderman, reeve or councillor or any local municipality unless such person resides within the municipality, or within two miles thereof, and is a natural-born or naturalized subject of His Majesty, and a male of the full age of twenty-one years, and is not disqualified under this Act, and unless such person has, or his wife has, at the time of the election, as owner or tenant, a legal or equitable freehold or leasehold, or an estate partly freehold and partly equitable, which is assessed in his own name, or in the name of his wife, on the last revised assessment roll of the municipality, to at least the value following over and above all charges, liens, and encumbrances affecting the same: (a) In villages, hold to \$1,000 or leasehold to \$2,000; (d) in townships, freehold to \$400 or leasehold to \$800. But if any such person is at the time of election in actual occupation of any such freehold, rated in his own name, or in the name of his wife on the last revised assessment roll of the municipality, he shall be entitled to be elected. If the value at which such freehold is actually rates on such assessment roll amounts to not less than \$2,000, and for that purpose the said value shall not be affected by or reduced by any lien, incumbrance or charge existing, on or affecting such freehold."—Barrie Saturday Morning.

STAGE CAREER OF JOHN MEEHAN LINDSAY BOY IS WINNING FAME

John Meehan, who comes to the Academy of Music in the leading role in "The Rosary," is a Canadian boy—born in Lindsay—who has steadily worked his way to the front by hard work, in his chosen profession. His stage career dates back about nine years, his first engagement being for a minor roll with Robert Edeson in Soldiers of Fortune. During the season he met with some discouragements and listening to the advice of one or two acient actors who had a grievance against the world in general, determined that the stage offered no great inducement for a serious minded, ambitious young man, and determined to give it up, which he did. He stood fast by this determination for nearly a year, meanwhile studying law in the office of an uncle. One day however, Mr. Edeson came to town with Soldiers of Fortune, which he had revived after the failure of The Rector's Garden. John attended the performance, and speedily discovered that the stage had a strong attraction for him. His uncle, who had attended the performance with him, noticed his intense interest and agitation, and then and there advised him to go back, if he felt that way about it, and so the law lost another shining light.

New England cities in the support of Miss Leigh de Lucy, where he played leading roles in such plays as The Daughters of Men, Janice Meredith, The Climbers, Strongheart, The Man on the Box, and other plays of that class. During the last season Mr. Meehan starred in The Man on the Box. All through his stage career Mr. Meehan has had a reputation for reliability and earnestness in his work, playing what parts came his way to the best of his ability, and whatever honors have come to him have been fairly earned. Asked recently what style of play he liked best, he replied, "Well, we all like to be the hero, of course, still a good character part that one can study on and try to better at every performance, is well worth while, more especially if you can so sink your identity in the character that the folks out front are made to wonder if it is really you. If it's a good part or a bad part, get all you can out of it, and sooner or later you will get credit for what you can do."

Since that time Mr. Meehan has been connected with stock companies in Boston for three seasons, where he had a good experience in a varied line of parts. A season on tour with David Belasco's company in The Girl of the Golden West advanced him further, and then came three seasons with a first-class stock company in

COUNCIL MEETING OPENED WITH PRAYER HOW THEY DO THINGS IN ORILLIA

The following from the Orillia News Letter concerning the festivities in connection with the inaugural meeting of the town council, will be read with interest. In Lindsay scarcely a corporal's guard turns out to the opening session of our town fathers: "The inauguration ceremonies in connection with the formal investiture with the seats of office of those who have been called to serve in this year's council, will be held in the council chamber at 8 o'clock on Monday evening, January 8th. "The religious exercises will be conducted by the local clergy, after which His Worship the Mayor

present his inaugural message to the council. "For the first time in Orillia's history the ladies as well as gentlemen are invited to attend this public function and in this regard we are simply keeping pace with other progressive towns and cities in Canada. "The council chamber and municipal offices will, as usual, be nicely decorated with flags and flowers by Superintendent Whitton of the parks department. A short programme will be given by the citizens' band. "The citizens in general with their ladies are cordially invited to be present on this occasion."

THE HELL HOUNDS OF THE POOR PEOPLE

Enormous sums of money are extorted annually from the poor — extorted from the poverty stricken class that can least afford to pay. Mutual loan societies, philanthropic organizations, employers' associations, and individuals have warred against the exploitation. But despite many determined crusades success has only flirted with the struggle. The loan shark has continued to flourish, and his system of usury has become more remorseless. To-day the poor man pays twenty times as much for borrowed money as the business man. No wonder righteous indignation is aroused when a person is victimized by circumstances over which he has little control, and some one else profits by his misfortune. Perhaps the greatest evil done by these plunderers lurks in their practice of salary grabbing. The salary assignment business thrives upon secrecy. Much of it is secured through misleading advertisements of which the following is the stereotyped model: Money for salaried people — If you hold a permanent salaried position, we will loan any reasonable amount from \$10 upwards without security or knowledge of employer or friends. Our rates are low; payments easy; rebate if paid before due. Quick service, long time if desired; no red tape; no extra charge; nothing taken out of loan in advance. Will receive courteous treatment whether you borrow or not. When the salary grabbers are occasionally brought into court on charges of usury they find a legal defence in the loop hole that they are not loaning money on salaries, but buying salaries in advance just as a broker deals in futures in the grain market. So people continue steadily to pay their toll through the barred windows of loan offices. Perhaps no better illustration of the relentless grip of the loan shark, when a victim is once in his power, can be cited than the case of Harry H. Tower, of Chicago. Tower signed a \$15 note for a friend in 1900, and in the ten years that followed paid interest to the amount of \$2,152. Here is the story: "About ten years ago, just after I had married, I signed a note for a friend and assigned my salary as security," he said. "I was a clothing salesman, and my salary was \$11 a week—not very much for a married man. "The friend failed to pay the note when it came due, and I was forced to borrow money to pay the interest. After I had paid \$18.50 I fell behind and had to borrow; \$29.50 to get started again. I had paid most of this when I was forced to increase the loan until it amounted to over \$100. "Then my baby was born, and I was unable to pay the loan. I was sent from one loan shark to another all of them apparently in collusion with each other. When my note fell due with one of those fellows, he would give me twenty-four hours to borrow enough money to pay the indebtedness and recommend a certain loan shark for me to visit. They always charged me \$10 for making out the papers and loaning me enough money to pay my old debt. "Tower was rescued by the Legal Aid Society of Chicago. When he went to the Society he was indebted to three loan sharks. Of one he had borrowed \$50, paid \$72.75 and still owed \$42.75. The other two notes were for \$50 each for which he had agreed to pay fifty per cent interest. He is now a railroad clerk, living a peaceful, contented life of freedom. "From "Borrowing Ruin," December Technical World Magazine.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY

An eminent scientist, the other day, gave his opinion that the most wonderful discovery of recent years was the discovery of Zam-Buk. I just think! As soon as a single thin layer of Zam-Buk is applied to a wound or a sore, such injury is insured against blood poisoning. Not one species of microbe has been found that Zam-Buk does not kill! Then again, As soon as Zam-Buk is applied to a sore, or a cut, or to skin disease, it stops the smarting. That is why children are such friends of Zam-Buk. They care nothing for the science of the thing. All they know is that Zam-Buk stops their pain. Members should never forget this. Again, As soon as Zam-Buk is applied to a wound or to a diseased part, the cells beneath the skin's surface are so stimulated that new healthy tissue is quickly formed. This forming of fresh healthy tissue from below is Zam-Buk's secret of healing. The tissue thus formed is worked up to the surface and literally oozes off the diseased tissue above it. This is why Zam-Buk cures are permanent. Only the other day Mr. Marsh, of 101 Dufferin Ave., Montreal, called upon the Zam-Buk Company and told them that for over twenty-five years he had been a martyr to eczema. His hands were at one time so covered with sores that he had to sleep in gloves. Four years ago Zam-Buk was introduced to him, and in a few months it cured him. To-day—over three years after his cure of a disease he had for twenty-five years—he is still cured, and has had no trace of any return of the eczema! All druggists sell Zam-Buk at 50c. per box, or we will send free trial box if you send this advertisement and a 1c. stamp (to pay return postage). Address Zam-Buk Co., Toronto.

JUSTICE MIDDLETON DISMISSED CASE

Mann v. Fitzgerald—E. D. Armour K. C., and A. D. Armour for plaintiff. R. J. McLaughlin, K. C., and J. A. Peel (Lindsay) for defendant. This is an action of ejectment, in which plaintiff seeks to recover a parcel of land known as Deihl's point a peninsula extending into Cameron lake, physically connected with lot 25, con. 10, Fenelon, but lying in front of lot 25. Judgment: There is an allowance for road between lots 25 and 26, and this, if extended across the bay behind the peninsula will cross it at a narrow frontage. The plaintiff contends that the water line must be followed quite regardless of directions, and thus the whole peninsula is included. I think the more natural thing to do is to follow the water's edge to where the road allowance extended across the bay intersects the shore of Cameron Lake at the western side of the peninsula, and then turn easterly. The effect of this is that the peninsula situated in front of lot 25 and partly in con. 9 and partly in con. 10 is not patented. Taking the view I do as to what passed by the patent I do not think that the plaintiffs have any paper title to the lands in question, nor have the defendants any title. Action dismissed with costs.

HAS RETURNED FROM ENGLAND

Mr. H. W. Fielden, of Toronto, who was in Lindsay for several months last year in connection with the Sylvester Mfg. Co., settlement, has just returned from a three months' business trip to Europe. He was in town on Wednesday and gave the Post a call. Mr. Fielden states that he found a good disposition to place capital in sound Canadian enterprises, as European capitalists realize that Canada affords a splendid field for profitable investment. In England Mr. Fielden states, the people were deeply concerned over the German spectre, while the persistency of the Militant Suffragettes in pressing their demands on the Government added spice and variety to the situation. Mr. Fielden said the people appeared to be "agin" the Asquith Government, and he would not be surprised to see the Conservatives in power at the next election.

\$10,000 GRANT FOR WET FAIRS

Within the next few months \$10,000 from the annual Government grant to agriculture will be expended in amounts varying from \$1 to \$300 to those agricultural societies in Ontario where the fall rains seriously interfered with the gate receipts at the Fall Fairs. At the last session of the Legislature the suggestion of Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, the superintendent that \$10,000 out of the annual \$75,000 appropriation to be used in this way, was adopted.

BELLEVILLE GIRL STOLE HIS LOVE

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 3.—Claiming damages to her affections in the sum of \$50,000, Miss Violet Schram began suit against Dr. Frederick B. Ashton, a well known Woodward avenue physician, for breach of promise of marriage. The suit was called in the Circuit Court yesterday afternoon. Miss Schram, who is about 35 years old and of good appearance, says that Dr. Ashton "kept company" with her to the exclusion of other desirable men, and that at the end of that time the physician met and fell in love with Miss Margaret Galley, a pretty young woman of Belleville, Ont. Miss Schram alleges that when she reproached her lover with his preference for the Canadian girl, the doctor remarked: "Well, you know it is not often a fellow gets a snap like this," and from this time on Ashton's affections, according to Miss Schram, were transferred wholly to Belleville, where he married Miss Galley, May 24th, 1910.

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Sewage Spoils Stream Mr. Justice Middleton, in a judgment rendered to-day at Orillia Hall, awarded Mrs. Louisa Croft of Cobourg, proprietress of a mill there, \$1 damages for the injury to her property by the pollution of a small stream by sewage, and granted an injunction restraining the mill from allowing sewage to be discharged into the creek which runs through her property, the town to pay the costs. BORN

OLDFIELD—In Lindsay on Tuesday, to Mr. and Mrs. Thos. field, a daughter. HENLEY.—On Tuesday January to Mr. and Mrs. Ed. J. Henley Gladstone Ave., Toronto, a son.