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MUNICIPAL SERVICE

Bocbaygeon Independent.—Mayor Beal, of Lindsay, in his inaugural address struck a note that might find response in every municipality. As a rule municipal electors consider they have done their full duty when they have gone to the polling booth and deposited a ballot. That is all they do until next election, except perhaps an effort to get as much out of the public Treasury as they can. Mayor Beal expects the citizens to take a live interest in their communal affairs and assist the men they have elected to act as managers. A year ago he asked the co-operation of the citizens and in his recent address he attributed much of the success of the Council of last year, and said not only that, but to the general good feeling that exists in the town today among the citizens as a whole. And while on this question, I would say that there is a large field in which the "Lindsay Improvement Association," "The Advancement Club," "The Canadian Club," or any other group or association of citizens, can work, for anything that will tend to make better citizens, either morally or physically, does away with the need of policemen, prisons and hospitals to that extent.

As the Mayor so correctly estimates, there is vast field for civic work by the citizens themselves, that cannot be done by Councils. The powers and duties of Councils are limited by statutes, the citizens are untrammelled and free to do as their good judgment may dictate. The payment of taxes is a compulsory levy, and compulsion is something to which human nature ever objects. The man who hates paying a few paltry dollars for civic maintenance through the compulsory tax bill, will willingly give by voluntary contribution, ten times the amount when properly approached. An Improvement Association, under skilful guidance, can easily accomplish ten times more work for the general good than it is possible for a Council to do. A sound, active, aggressive civic spirit is necessary to every Community, to maintain it in health and prevent it from going to decay. That spirit is not to be engendered and developed by a Council, which is nothing more than a cold blooded statutory piece of mechanical officialism. The civic spirit has to be developed among the citizens themselves, and what ever that spirit may be, so is the municipality. Some communities have little or no civic spirit, and leave everything to the Council and necessarily the town is a formal husk without life. Other places are perhaps cursed with a few meddlesome cranks of one idea, who keep the community in antagonistic disruption, and destroy all possibility of harmonious unity, breeding nothing but bitterness, animosity and ill feeling. The civic spirit necessary in every community, is the spirit of co-operation and with another; a spirit of giving, not of getting; a spirit of harmonizing opinions, not of mulishly forcing one's own; a spirit of doing for others, not of doing others for oneself.

After all, the distribution of seeds is not as cherished a congressional privilege as free distribution of speeches.

Mummies 25,000 years old, surrounded by pots of beans, have been found in Arizona. Exiled Bostonians beyond doubt.

PROCEEDINGS OF FENELON COUNCIL

The Council of 1913 were re-elected by Acclamation, viz.—Reeve, Henry Tompkins, Councillors, Jno. Lee, Jno. Mark, Jos. Moynes and Wm. Smithson. The Declarations of Qualification and Office were taken and the minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Aid was asked for by the Sick Children's Hospital and on motion of Messrs Moynes and Lee.

Applications for Assessing the Township were received from H. W. Johnston, C. Reid, P. Mark and S. J. McKinnon. On motion of Messrs Mark and Moynes H. W. Johnston was given the appointment salary of \$90, he to pay postage.

On motion of Messrs Smithson and Lee John Cundal and Percy Mark were appointed to audit the 1913 accounts at \$6.00 each.

On motion of Messrs Frank Mark and Smithson a by-law was introduced confirming the above appointments, also the Board of Health for 1914 the members of which are J. W. Ray, M.H.O., Reeve Tompkins and Richard Byrnell. The by-law was passed, signed and sealed, M. Moynes in the chair.

The following other motions received the assent of Council:—
Mark—Lee—That Wm. Arksey be appointed Constable for Cambray Village for 1914.

Lee—Moynes—That the Balsam Grove and Pleasant Valley Telephone Companies receive permission to place their poles on the roadsides to Cameron and Fenelon Falls, they to observe carefully the statutes relating to the placing of obstructions on highways.

Smithson—Moynes—That Jno. Lee be commissioned to have some graveling done on the street near Cooke's Point.

Lee—Mark—That a by-law be passed at next meeting commuting the Statute Labor of all parties having summer cottages and paying the same at \$1.50 per day also charging the same rate per day to all other parties who wish to commute their Statute Labor.

Mark—Lee—That H. Stroud be paid 12c per rod on 87 rods wire fence.

Lee—Mark—That Council grant \$5 to S. J. McKinnon to be used by him for a charitable purpose.

Mark—Lee—That Wm. Styles be notified to remove the stone he dumped into ditch on Con. 9, Lot 18.

Lee—Moynes—That the present wire fence by-law be repealed and another prepared and passed at next meeting of Council embodying among other principles the following:—

- 1st that the ordinary bonus be 25c a rod; 2nd that the bonus be paid for the removal of obstructions to snow and that only partial bonus be paid where anything interferes with the passage of snow. 3rd that the bonus be paid only when the work has been passed by some one authorized to inspect it. 4th that all parties intending to erect wire fence shall notify Council on or before August 15th of each year giving (1) the number of rods, (2) the number of wires in the fence, (3) number of rods not drilled and the number drilled.

Mark—Moynes—That Council has considered Jos. Moore's claim for damages to buggy on culvert at Jno. Westaway's gate and believe that they are not responsible for the same.

Moynes—Smithson—That accounts amounting to \$84.89 be paid.

Council adjourned to meet at Cameron on first Monday in March.
J. B. POWLES.

PREACHMENT AND PRACTICE

They were giving the author of the famous pamphlet, "Be Punctual," a complimentary dinner. It was half an hour beyond the announced time. "What are we waiting for?" inquired a nervous guest.

"The author."

WEDDING BELLS

HENDERSON—NESBITT.

A very pleasing event occurred on Jan. 20th at the home of Mrs. Robt. Nesbitt, 49 Adelaide-st., it being the wedding of her second daughter, (Marie) to Mr. George Henderson, of Imperial, Sask.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon Marsh, only the near relatives of the bride being present. The bride wore a neat tailored suit of navy whipcord, with hat to match.

The happy couple left on the evening train for Toronto, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound and other points, after which they will go to their western home.

GRAHAM—RUTHERFORD

Cobourg, Jan. 27—On the evening of Wednesday, January 21, the home of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Graham, Glenora, was the scene of a quiet but very pretty wedding when their eldest daughter, Mary Adelaide was united in marriage to Mr. George Andrew Rutherford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Rutherford, of Fenelon, by the Rev. A. Cooke, of Fenelon Falls Baptist church.

The bride looking very charming in a dress of cream serge with trimmings of satin and shadow lace, entered the parlor, leaning on the arm of her father, to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, played by Miss Bertha Rutherford, sister of the groom.

Miss Laura Rutherford, sister of the groom, was bridesmaid, and was attired in cream voile, while Mr. John Graham, brother of the bride, supported the groom.

After the ceremony, which was performed in the parlor under an arch of evergreens and roses, the guests all repaired to the dining room, and sat down to a sumptuous dejeuner.

After the bride had donned her travelling suit of navy blue serge and plumage, the happy young couple departed for their future home, amid showers of confetti and rice, carrying with them the good wishes of the entire community.

KINMOUNT

(Special to The Post.)

Plenty of snow, fine sleighing. The thaw of last week helped to make a better bottom.

Our rink has very good ice now. A hockey match between Minden and Kinmount is on for Wednesday night, 28th.

Mr. Jas. Lyle visited in Peterboro for some time, coming home last Saturday.

Mr. Tom MacEachern left last Friday morning for Ottawa, where he has been appointed to a sit in the Militia Department. Mr. MacEachern went with him as far as Peterboro.

Dr. White took a trip last week to Toronto.

Miss Annie Dettman is visiting Fenelon friends.

Mr. John Austin, sr., spent the week end at his home in Fenelon Falls.

Mr. Tom Spratt, of Lindsay, paid a short visit to our burg last Friday.

Miss Vanderburgh received a present of a ladies' companion from her Sunday School Class last Friday night.

Mr. E. A. Wellstood took a drive this afternoon to Minden.

The sleigh ride to Mr. Harry Coben's by the Presbyterian Sabbath School last Friday was an enjoyable affair. Messrs Henry Coben, Ed. Lyle and James Morrison took them all in their sleighs and they spent a pleasant evening. Coming back they had a tie unpleasant. The above named gentlemen gave the children a pleasant shower of rain, which made it a lighthearted, for which they are grateful.

"SUGI" WORK IS NOW POPULAR

If you should chance to discover your friend Brown, the usually well groomed and sedate banker, dressed in overalls down on his knees and busily engaged in scorching a board with the flame from a gasoline torch would you jump to the conclusion that he had lapsed into second childhood—or horrible thought—that he had gone in for pyrography?

But don't worry. The chances are that he is "sugi-ing," and that the board on which he is lavishing his attention and the blue flame of the torch is a decorative panel for the dining room of his new bungalow. Ask him about it, watch him work, and very likely you will be a convert to this curiously named occupation before you know it.

For the benefit of the unenlightened who may be tempted to look up this word in the dictionary—where they won't find it—it may be well to explain at the outset that "sugi-ing" means the process of burning or charring wood to give it the beautiful effect produced by the Japanese on their chief commercial wood, sugi.

The method has been employed by Japanese craftsmen for centuries, and they have reaped a rich harvest from the sale of samples of the wood to English and American travellers. For want of a better name these samples were known in this country as Japanese driftwood. It was not driftwood, however, as the effect was artificially obtained by the use of fire, the individual pieces having first been charred and then rubbed with rice straw.

How the Japanese came to employ this method of decorating wood is interesting. Many centuries ago they began to gather driftwood from the sea and turn it to the uses of beauty. Its embossed surface due to the long continued washing of the waves and the chemical action of the salt of the sea which destroys the softer parts of the wood and leaves the harder growth in irregular ribs, was to them a source of artistic delight.

But the supply of driftwood was limited, and its evolution from fresh wood through the action of the sun and the sea took a long time. Then it occurred to them that the thing to do was to find a way to hurry the process, to gain the same result by other methods—in other words, to produce artificial driftwood.

Finally they discovered that charred wood with the char brushed out left the same result as erosion by the sea, and thereupon was born the sugi finish.

Just how it was done only the Japanese themselves knew, and they could not be coaxed or bribed into divulging the secret. For a long time it was the general impression that the secret lay in the knowledge of when and how to stop the action of the acids.

Finally an American, the Oriental scholar and traveler, John S. Bradstreet, of Minneapolis, got on the right track. What he did not find out in Japan, he shrewdly guessed at, and upon his return to America he satisfied himself by numerous experiments that he had found the correct method.

But that was only half the game. The other half was to discover an American wood capable of taking the sugi finish.

The Japanese sugi, which is rather soft and easily worked, differs from most conifers in that it is not resinous according to the generally accepted meaning of the term. It is close-grained, and when cut into flat sawed boards show a beautiful figure.

The spring growth is much harder than the summer growth, so that when fire is applied to a sugi board a degree of heat which completely chars the softer grain will merely

1887



1914

After nearly twenty-seven years in business in the good town of Lindsay, owing to ill-health, I have decided to retire. This step was made possible by the consideration and ability of the well known and highly popular firm of J. Sutcliffe and Sons, who will in the near future hold a clean sweep sale of the entire stock, which should be an occasion of great interest and profit to the buying public. I wish to thank all for their liberal patronage during the past quarter of a century.

Most sincerely yours,

E. E. W. McGaffey

discolor the harder grain. Then when the burned pieces are rubbed until all the charred portions are removed the darkened grain is left standing out like an embossed surface against the lighter colored soft grain.

During the world's fair in Chicago a few Japanese carpenters were brought to this country to aid in the construction of certain of the exposition buildings. When they became familiar with American woods they indicated a strong preference for cypress, which they said possessed exactly the same qualities of texture and workability as their native sugi.

Here was Mr. Bradstreet's tip. He immediately began to experiment with cypress, and the results convinced him that it was the ideal wood; practically the only American wood that would stand up under the sugi process and come out an artistic triumph.

Not only is cypress free from resin and pitch, a condition which is necessary to the success of the sugi treatment, but by reason of the unusual degrees of difference between the hardness of the spring and the summer growth, it presents a superior contrast after the scorching and brushing out process.

The sugi process is rapidly coming into favor as a means of producing one of the most novel, beautiful, economical and easily attained effects ever obtained on any wood for interior trim. Its extreme simplicity is one of the chief factors in its success. The only tools necessary are a gasoline torch, such as is used by plumbers, or painters, an ordinary steel wire brush, and a small scrubbing brush.

In selecting cypress for sugi work, care should be taken to see that the wood is flat grained, with very little edge grain, and that it is perfectly dry. The only defects to be avoided are splits, large season checks and unsound knots. On account of the slightly uneven surface it is difficult to glue the edges of two boards together as may be done with oak, mahogany, etc., and for this reason it is better to limit paneling to twelve, and preferably to inches.

Another reason is that it will take

large logs to produce very wide boards showing a flat grain figure the full width.

The torch used should have as large and as hot a blue flame as possible, since speed in burning the wood is important. If the surface can be charred so quickly that the heat does not go through the board the result will be much better and much time will be saved. The use of two torches at one time, arranged on a handle so that the flames are a couple of inches apart, will also facilitate the work.

Since the burning is for the purpose of coloring the hard parts of the outer grain only it is important not to burn too deeply. If the charring is carried too far the soft parts will be burned clear through to the next hard grain, and the effect will not be nearly so good.

The mill work should be done and the individual pieces burned and brushed out before they are put into place, because of the tendency of the wood to warp when subjected to the intense heat of the gasoline flame. Warping under such conditions is perfectly natural and unavoidable, and need cause no worry. Wood that is considered absolutely dry still contains as much moisture as an ordinary indoor atmosphere, or about 12 per cent.

The heat has the effect of driving this moisture from the burned surface of the wood through to the reverse side, thereby causing a shrinking of one face and a swelling of the other. The result is that the charred face becomes concave and the other face convex. By setting the board immediately after the burning and allowing it to stand for two or three days it will reabsorb enough moisture to balance up with the atmosphere and thus straighten out. It is then ready for the rubbing process.

It is advisable to do the burning in narrow two or three inch strips the full length of the board rather than to start at the top and work over the full width. The one thing to avoid is over burning.

The ultimate color effect is not controlled nearly so much by the burning as by the brushing. The

more the soft grain is rubbed out the lighter in color will be the general tone. And the rubbing must be done evenly so that the tone will not vary. If the rubbing is done only with the grain the work will be slower and the tone darker.

A good plan is first to go over the board lengthwise, in order to remove the black charcoal, and then rub across the grain. Under no circumstances, however, should there be any diagonal rubbing. One or two experiments on small pieces will teach all there is to know.

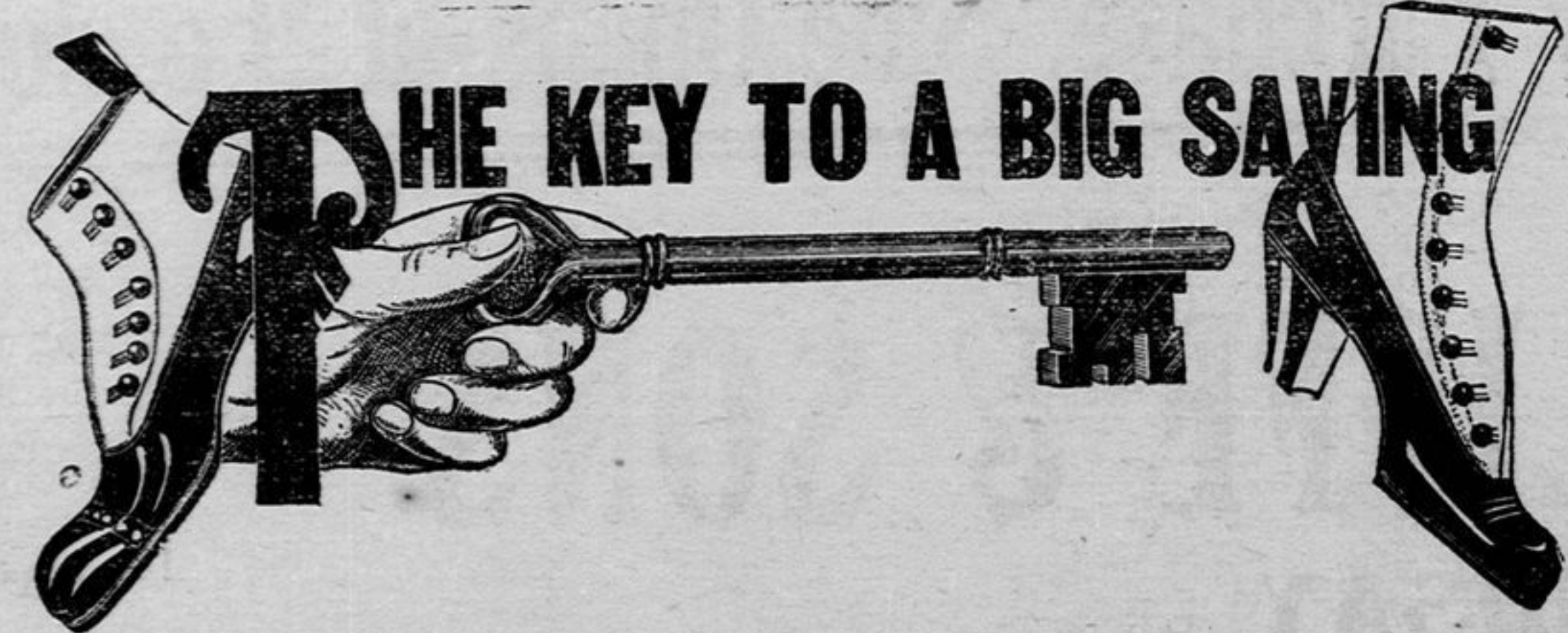
The work of the wire brush leaves the board completely covered with a fine brown powder, which must be entirely removed. This is done by going over it first with a whisk-broom, and then with a small dry scrubbing brush, the latter being handled vigorously to polish the raised surface. Cloth should never be used to remove the powder, as it will rub the powder in instead of removing it.

The final finish depends upon the taste of the operator. If the process is completed after the removal of the powder the board will be softer in tone and less brilliant than if waxed. Ordinary floor wax, however, will bring out the full effect of the grain. The wax should be applied, and then polished with a bristle brush.

Thin stains while permissible, have the effect of darkening the wood. An excellent way to give color to the board is to apply ordinary lead paint of the desired color and then immediately rub out all that can be rubbed out with cotton waste. Varnishes should never be used. They cheapen the work and the results are far from pleasing.

Not only is sugi-finished cypress one of the most distinctly beautiful of all woods as an interior trim for buildings, but because of the ease and cheapness with which the process can be employed and the pleasing and novel effects, that can be obtained its use for special furniture and innumerable small articles, will undoubtedly cause it to become popular with the amateur as well as the professional craftsman.

Four Big Special Offerings This Week, Manufacturers' Overstock Sale



The Felix Forbert Shoe Store - Kent-st. Lindsay, Ont.

- Women's Gunmetal Button or Blucher Style Boots, every pair worth \$3. Sale price..... **\$1.99**
- 200 pair Women's Gunmetal Button or Blucher Style Boots, all sizes, 2½ to 7. Sale price..... **\$1.65**
- Women's Dong. Kid Blucher or Button Boots at a very low price, all sizes, 2½ to 7..... **\$1.49**
- An unusual offer for Men, Shiny Patent and Gunmetal Button or Blucher Style, all sizes, worth \$4.00 to \$4.50. Sale price..... **\$2.95**