

# DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF LINDSAY

### Prompt Action Was Strongly Emphasized at the Joint Meeting Last Night of the Council and Board of Education—A Public Meeting Will be Held Next Week

If any doubt existed in the minds of the Lindsay aldermen concerning the deplorable condition of the public schools of the town, it must certainly have been dispelled as a result of their meeting with the Board of Education and having laid before them the condition of affairs as they really exist. The result of the joint meeting will be that both bodies can now deal intelligently and unitedly with the situation confronting them.

#### SITUATION EXPLAINED.

Mr. Thos. Stewart, in taking the chair, stated that the object of the meeting was for the purpose of taking the aldermen into the confidence of the Board on the question of school accommodation. They were not present to take definite action, but to get the benefit of the opinion of the Council, and later on to hold a meeting of the ratepayers. His own mind as well as that of others had been drawn to this question for years, but, obstacles deterring them from taking the proper steps. This year, when the high school inspector inspected the schools, accompanied by members of the Board, the necessity of improved accommodation was strongly emphasized.

SEVERAL MATERIAL CHANGES in the departmental regulations demanded important changes. One change was in the approved and non-approved schools. The school that was not approved, the speaker said "stands libelled" and is not a school any longer. Ambitious pupils would not attend it.

"It is necessary that our collegiate should be in the approved class," said Mr. Stewart, "both in equipment, teachers, and every other department. The inspector appreciated the fact that the Board was doing its best, and although the school was really not in the approved class they managed to get it in that position, but present conditions will not keep it at that standard very long. It must be enlarged. The regulations emphatically state that no class room shall exceed 45 pupils and the inspector informed the Board that after the present term the rule would be 15 pupils with 40 as the limit.

#### AN ADDITIONAL TEACHER.

Mr. Stewart said it was necessary for the Board to secure an additional teacher at the beginning of the present year, and if an increase in the attendance takes place another will have to be added. To provide a class room for the teacher already engaged the stage in the assembly hall had to be utilized.

They were all aware, the speaker said, that science had secured a position in the curriculum. They were wakening up to the fact that in the industrial world a man must be skilled in science. The science department at the collegiate institute must be double its present space. The school has no gymnasium and in consequence the grant has been threatened.

The collegiate institute building was a good one, but it was rather difficult to enlarge it. Two members of the Board, Messrs. Anderson and Carew, inspected several schools in the western portion of the province and on their return they recommended that Architect Darrach, of St. Thomas, be asked to visit Lindsay, and inspect the buildings and report. Mr. Stewart here read the architect's report on the suggested changes.

#### THE SCHOOL DEBT.

This year, Mr. Stewart said, the collegiate institute debt would be paid off. They had been paying \$30,000 within a period of twenty years. The proposition contemplated was to have the sum expended on collegiate institute improvements (\$15,000) extended over thirty years. The thirty year tax will not be as great as the twenty year, the charge being about one-third of what it has been heretofore.

#### COUNCIL HAS POWER.

The Council has power to raise the money, Mr. Stewart said, without going to the people. The routine is for the Board of Education to make the demand for the money, and if the majority of the Council are favorable that body could pass a by-law and the work could be proceeded with. If unfavorable, the question would be submitted to the people.

#### INSPECTOR INSISTS

In answer to a query, Dr. White said that the inspector had insisted on a special room for the principal.

#### WOULD REDUCE GRANT

Mr. Stewart said if the school was not in the approved grade the government grant would assuredly be reduced.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL CONDITIONS

Stewart said they had been a worry to the members for years. They were old and were never any good. The first of them were built when the people did not possess the necessary requirements and the others were not erected with an eye to providing suitable conditions.

#### UNSANITARY CONDITIONS.

The speaker here referred to the closets in the schools. It was an impossibility to have sanitary conditions existing. There was no system of ventilation in the schools, and if a person were to enter them an hour or so after they were open the foul air would not be fit to breathe.

At the Central school the closets are outside and the building is heated by stoves. The children in easy reach of the stove are uncomfortably hot, while those further away are directly the opposite. All those conditions go to effect not only the comfort and working ability, of the pupil but their whole life.

The proposed changes in the public schools suggested by Architect Darrach were here referred to by the chairman.

#### HOW TO PAY FOR IT.

"How are we going to pay for it?" asked Mr. Stewart. It meant an expenditure of \$54,000, and he did not approve of the town paying for it in thirty years. In all probability private legislation could be secured, and the amount spread over a period of fifty or sixty years. It made it a light burden to bear. The town ought to be about free of the public school debt had the Council in years past saved money to pay for some of the schools. The present indebtedness for all school purposes is about \$5,000.

#### WOULD NOT STAND IT.

Mayor Begg—If you go to work at all the schools the town would not stand it. The taxpayers had been told that the collegiate institute would be self supporting and would not cost them a dollar, if you put your proposition before the ratepayers it will not carry. I don't think the Council would be wise in passing that amount. It should go to the people. By that amount I refer to the whole of the proposed expenditure. How many are we educating at our public schools that are not paying a cent?

Mr. Stewart—They are paying some but not enough. The situation is an awkward one.

#### LAX IN HIS DUTY.

Reeve G. A. Jordan—Has the inspector not condemned the public schools? If not he has been lax in his duties. They are not fit for a child to sit in. I have been obliged to keep one of my children home on account of existing circumstances and I am no crank.

Mayor Begg—I am not a crank, either, but we must do the best we can.

Mr. Stewart—The Board has received a letter from a citizen who threatens action against the town owing to the unsanitary condition of the Francis-st. school.

#### FOR THE LITTLE ONES

Mr. Stewart said he had heard the argument of the town's indebtedness since he was a boy. There was one thing that could not be neglected, and that was the education of the child. It was better to neglect every other part of the town's service than to ignore this duty. The speaker said he sent his three children through the schools and he felt that he had not done his duty when he did not fight this question fifteen years ago. The children are laid in their constitutions in the schools will cause them suffering when they are fifty or sixty years old.

Reeve Jordan—They will not live to that age.

#### WHAT HE SAW.

Mr. J. Carew here narrated what he had observed on his tour of inspection in the west. He had talked like the Mayor, but he had realized that the town was in a deplorable condition in regard to our schools. If it came to choosing between the streets and the schools, he would take the schools.

#### MR. ANDERSON'S VIEWS.

Mr. Anderson said he was pleased to see the aldermen present. Both bodies should come together oftener, because both were striving to do the best they could for the town. In referring to his tour of the west with Mr. Carew the speaker added that no man was more opposed to the school board some years ago than he was. He considered that they spent the citizens' money "high wide and crooked." However, he never saw a body more careful with the people's money than the present school board. "Improved school conditions have got to be provided,

and that very soon. Are we going to ask the children to submit to the present conditions any longer?" asked the speaker. He was willing to pay his share, and all should be a unit in the matter.

#### ALWAYS REPAIRING.

Mr. Edwards said that every year repairs were necessary. They cost \$500 last year.

The Mayor—We have got to patch our streets, too. How do other people live who are not so well off as we are in Lindsay?

Mr. Anderson—In passing through towns on the train we could see they all possessed good schools.

The Mayor—Our schools look good, too, when you pass them.

#### PROCEED IMMEDIATELY

Deputy Reeve McLean—Providing the Council deals favorably with the proposition when would the Board proceed with the work?

Mr. Stewart—Immediately.

#### CONFIDENCE IN BOARD.

Mr. McLean said he did not think the Council would make a mistake in authorizing the expenditure on the collegiate institute. No doubt the other was equally important—but the great expense must be looked at. If the repairs are necessary in connection with the Union school it would not be fair to neglect the others. The question has got to be faced, however. He knew of the conditions existing at the Francis-st. school twenty years ago. He had every confidence in the school board and as far as the improvements in the collegiate were concerned he felt the Council would be justified in authorizing the board to go ahead.

The question of the proposed expenditure on the public schools, he felt, should go to the people. If a campaign was instituted and the ratepayer educated up to what was urgently required, the by-law could be submitted in June, and he felt it would be considered favorably. He was heartily in accord with the views of the Board, and would not hesitate in voting for the measure, but he felt that the people should be consulted.

Mr. Jackson said he was pleased to hear Mr. McLean. His ideas were all right.

#### DUTY TO CHILDREN.

Deputy Reeve W. Jordan said the young children were of more importance than the older ones. He would have the public schools looked after; first, the south ward school was, in his opinion, not fit to go in. He remembered some twenty years ago he was sent on a tour of inspection from Mariposa to inspect this building. They would not put it in Mariposa. He was pleased to think his children never passed through the schools of Lindsay.

#### A SUGGESTION.

Alderman Calvert—Would it not be wise to go ahead with the collegiate institute and put the proposed public school expenditure to the people in January?

Mr. Stewart—That is a good suggestion.

#### A PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Stewart was of the opinion that a public meeting should be called before any by-law was submitted. The citizens should be taken into their confidence and the conditions explained to them.

#### UNITY IS NEEDED

Mr. J. Carew said the council would have to unite with the board or they fall. If any member fights the proposition it is useless to try and do anything. If they expected to accomplish anything they must be united. Fifty or sixty thousand dollars is a lot of money, but when spread over a long period, it would not press heavily.

#### THE REASON WHY

Mayor Begg said he wanted to know why the money was going to be spent, because at the nomination proceedings the council received criticism and not the school board. If they pass the Collegiate Institute by-law in the Council and then submit the other to the people, they would lose.

#### A MEETING CALLED

It was then decided that the mayor would call a public meeting of the rate-payers to consider the question on Tuesday evening next.

## Stray Canines Worrying Sheep

### North Ops Farmers are Up in Arms Against the Nuisance

The residents of North Ops are again being bothered by packs of dogs which are roaming around the countryside fretting the sheep and cattle. Large numbers of these stray canines are on the run, but their travels will be brought to an abrupt end if they are not sooner restrained. Last year the farmers were annoyed considerably, and they are on the look out this season and have their guns cleaned and ready for them.

—Rev. W. A. Bunner, of Salem Methodist church, has been called to Newburgh.

## MARIPOSA COUNCIL

The members were all present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The clerk read a communication from Mr. John Campbell respecting a grant to repair the roads at lots 10 and 11, con. 15. This communication is referred to the road commissioner, Mr. R. S. Mark. From Dr. S. Broad, regarding the leasing of a gravel pit at lot 15, con. 3. Mr. Broad is very anxious that that the council should find gravel elsewhere.

From Mussen Limited respecting a concrete mixer and road roller. From the Ontario Metal Pipe Company, giving quotations for metal culvert pipes. Mr. Dennis Makins and twenty persons interested in the Shorts drains were present and for two hours or more the discussion was carried on as to cleaning out the said drain, and when no decision was arrived at Mr. Makins notified the council in writing that he wanted the drain cleaned out as soon as possible. Mr. A. J. Varcoe presented a petition signed by W. J. Hall and seven others desiring the construction of a municipal drain at or in the neighborhood of lots 11 to 14 in concessions 3, 4 and 5. Mr. William Tamlin desired a new lease for a gravel pit at lot 24, con. 13.

Mr. Samuel Walters reports having got his agreement signed by all except Mr. Thomas Cary, who preferred that the engineer be called on to lay out a proper drain under the ditches and watercourses act. Mr. John Campbell reports a grievance at lot 16, con. 2, in regard to some drainage matter. Messrs. Joseph Grege and J. J. Sloan represented the police village of Little Britain in the matter of building a bridge at that village.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED. Motion by Messrs. Varcoe and Swain that by-law 741, being a by-law to provide for the payment of services and duties performed by the clerk of the township of Mariposa, while carrying out the provisions of the Ditches and Watercourses Act, be received and read a first time.—Carried.

By-law 641 was read the usual number of times, signed and sealed. Motion by Messrs. Ferguson and Swain that the township engineer, Mr. A. G. Cavana, be employed to make a report on the drainage of lands as set out in the petition of W. J. Hall and others as provided by section 3 and the following sections of the Municipal Drainage Act of 1897.—Carried.

Motion by Messrs. Varcoe and Ferguson that the Reeve and Mr. John Stacey be a committee to purchase a concrete mixer if they deem it profitable.

Motion by Messrs. Rogers and Varcoe, that the clerk be authorized to call for tenders for the erection of one riveted Warren Truss Steel Bridge, to be built at Little Britain, said bridge to be 14 feet wide for roadway and forty feet space between the abutments, and also to provide for a four foot side walk on the west side of the bridge to be placed on the extended ends of the bridge abutments and to be constructed by the first day of July, and of the requirements as provided by the Ontario Statutes, and that the Reeve and clerk be a committee to receive the tenders and let the contract. The said sidewalk to be ordered and built on condition that it be paid for by the police trustees of Little Britain.—Carried.

Motion by Messrs. Ferguson and Swain that by-law 642, being a by-law to appoint an arbitrator for the purpose of leasing a gravel pit covered and read a first time.—Carried.

By-law 642 was read the usual number of times, passed, signed and sealed. Motion by Messrs. Rogers and Ferguson that the Reeve be authorized to execute a lease for a gravel pit being part of the south half lot 24, in con. 13, Mariposa, being one acre and including three quarters of an acre for the old pit, for the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars, for a term of fifteen years, and that Mr. Tamlin be paid ten dollars for the township's share of fencing said pit.—Carried.

Motion by Messrs. Swain and Varcoe that the Clerk be authorized to procure an agreement signed by Jas. Davidson, Lorenzo Davidson, Albert Davidson, Robert Eakins and Leslie Webster to take the water caused by the opening up of the road allowance at lots 22, 23 and 24, in con. 7, thereby saving the corporation free from any damages caused thereby and that Messrs. Foster Thompson, Jas. Webster and Leslie Webster and Robert Eakins will give possession of the land in said road allowance without any compensation.

Motion by Messrs. Ferguson and Swain that the township engineer be authorized to make a report on the Shorts Drain as provided by the Drainage Amendment Act of 1900, sections 77A and 10A.—Carried.

Motion by Messrs. Swain and Ferguson that the following accounts be paid.—

- E. P. Rodman, repairs for grader ..... \$7.20
- Samuel Walters, for work on the bridge at lot 10 con 11 2.00
- A. McPherson, drawing timber and gravel for same bridge 10.50
- Enos Metherell, drawing cement and gravel for culverts lot 10 con. 4 ..... 6.52
- Geo. Barry, putting in culvert lot 13, con. 8 ..... 4.00
- C. D. Barr, registering lease far gravel pit part lot 7, con. 10 ..... 1.75
- T. H. Moase, repairing bridge at lot 5, con. 2 ..... 2.00
- Geo. Martindale, three days' operating on grader ..... 4.88
- Malcolm Murray, 1 1/2 days' with team on grader ..... 4.88
- J. B. Weldon, services and expense on Rogers' Drain ..... 17.91
- William McInnes, attending on Neil McDougall during small pox quarantines ..... 14.00
- Motion by Messrs. Swain and Varcoe that Mr. Neil Ferguson be appointed to look into the matter of the drainage at lot 16, con. 2.—Carried.
- Motion by Messrs. Swain and Varcoe that this Council adjourn until the second Monday in June for General Business and for the Court of Revision of the Assessment Rolls.—Carried.

"Where the Good Clothes Come From"

# Gough's MAY MUST BE A BIG MONTH

Unseasonable weather has made a lull in trade generally, but we have decided to force things in May by offering values hitherto unknown in this town. There will be specials in every department—real specials—great bargains that will appeal to men of good taste in the matter of clothes.



## Men's Suit Extra Specials

Men's blue and black suits in the new single and double-breasted styles, beautifully finished, deep lapels, fine goods, all sizes. Regular \$6 to \$10. Special at..... 5.95

Men's suits, sample suits 'men's all-wool tweeds, light and dark patterns, the very latest creations of the tailor's art, new and correct, all sizes. Reg. \$10, special at..... 5.95

Men's suits, sample suits, in all-wool Canadian tweed, light and dark patterns, the very latest creation of the tailor's art, new and correct, all sizes. Reg. \$10, special at..... 4.95

Men's suits, made of fine domestic tweeds, light and dark colors and fancy stripes, broken checks, etc., very well tailored and lined with best quality farmer's satin. sizes 36 to 44. Special at..... 7.50

Men's Suits, made from fine quality domestic tweeds and fancy worsteds, in neat up-to-date patterns, lined with fine quality Italian cloth, well and strongly made, newest styles. Sizes 36 to 44. Very special at..... \$10

Men's Suits, right to the point, in blue and black worsteds, fine botany twill, etc., in single and double-breasted, good quality mohair linings, well tailored and cut on the very latest models, with long lapels, shaped back, dip front, etc. Sizes 36 to 46. Extra special, \$10

Men's Suits, made from extra fine quality fancy worsteds, in all the latest patterns, fancy stripes, etc., well lined and trimmed, newest styles, in single breasted sack models, with fancy cuffs, long lapels, correct fashion. Sizes 36 to 44. Very special at 12.50

Men's Suits, imported blue and black worsteds, in fine botany twills, etc., for spring wear, cut on the very latest single and double-breasted sack model, showing the latest features of correct fashion, lined with Skinner's celebrated satia finish linings. Thorough canvassing and staying to prevent going out of shape, hand tailored, New York's latest, with long lapels, dip front, shaped back, fancy cuffs and pocket flaps. In sizes 34 to 48. Extra special, at \$15

# B. J. GOUGH

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## East Victoria Wanted Resident

### Did Not Desire an Outsider to Succeed Their Late Conservative Member

It was evidently the desire of the delegates at the Liberal-Conservative Convention held in Fenelon Falls on Tuesday that none but a resident of the riding of East Victoria should be elected to succeed their late member, Mr. J. H. Carnegie, as a candidate. In fact Mr. Geo. A. Balfour spoke very strongly against any outsider getting the nomination. There was a big delegation of qualified delegates present and the eight names placed before the convention had the following:

inaction, but the convention did not comply. It is rumored that he will contest the riding.

—Bulk tea may leave? the dealer a larger profit, but "Balada" tea (packed in sealed lead packets) lasts a lasting and favorable impression upon the palates of all giving a trial.

—Severe shocks have been felt again at Messina and Reggio.

## LOCAL MARKETS

- Eggs, fresh per doz. 17c to 18c.
- Butter, per pound, 24c to 25c.
- Lard, 15c.
- Ducks, \$1.00.
- Chickens, per pair, \$1.00 to \$1.10.
- Best Manitoba patent flour \$1.20 to \$1.25.
- Straight rolled flour, \$2.30 to \$2.35.
- Oats, 42c. per bus.
- Best Buckwheat, 52c. bus.
- Large peas, 90c. bus.
- Oats, 42c. per bus.
- White Oats, 42c. per bus.
- Wheat, fall, \$1.10.
- Spring wheat \$1.05.
- Goose wheat, \$2.05.
- Barley, 52c.
- Hay, new, \$12.00 to \$14.00.
- Straw, per ton, \$5.00 to \$5.25.
- Export cattle, \$5.00 to \$5.50.
- Stockers' cattle, good, \$2.50 to \$3.25.
- Milk cows, \$30.00 to \$50.00.
- Dressed hogs \$9.25 to \$9.50.
- Hogs, fat, \$7.25.
- Hogs, live select, \$7.25.
- Sows, heavy, \$5.00.
- Potatoes, per bag, 90c.