

Heave-ho



The hooked leg technique



There was a lot of grunting and groaning in front of the Bob Fletcher's in Port Elgin Saturday. The Port Elgin Chamber of Commerce arranged a tug of war between the fire departments and their helpers from Port Elgin, Paisley and Saugeen Township. The rules of the contest stipulated that three men

on each team had to be from one of the participating fire departments. A winner's shield was presented to Peter Ens of the Saugeen Fire Department by Kent Milroy, President of the Port Elgin Chamber of commerce. The Chamber hopes to make the tug of war an annual challenge.

75 years ago

(From the Advocate files of December 4, 1902)

A provincial referendum on the question of prohibition was slated for Thursday, Dec. 4, and The Advocate reported "the last shots of the campaign" fired at a mass meeting of prohibitionists in Knox Church on Wednesday evening.

(An interesting sidelight on the referendum campaign came in this story from Niagara Falls, but involving a former Paisley minister and a former Walkerton woman:)

Quite a sensation was caused at Niagara Falls last week by the distribution of a little pamphlet in the town, headed "Whiskey sold privately by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Church, in aid of organ fund" Rev. Thos. Colling, formerly of Paisley, is pastor of the Niagara church at present, and were this sensational charge true, it no doubt would cause a shock to his former friends and followers in Paisley.

Mr. Colling was interviewed on the subject, and was astounded upon reading the charge in the pamphlet, as he knew nothing of such business being transacted by the Ladies' Aid. It was then learned that the blissful ignorance of a young lady was accountable for the whole business. Mrs. J. B. Stephens, a former resident of Walkerton, is president of the Ladies' Aid, and her daughter, Miss Carrie Stephens, was acting secretary of the society. This latter, who is a bright business-like young lady, told the story of the affair. Miss Stephens states that in September the ladies of the Methodist Church held what is called a trade sale for the benefit of the organ fund. The idea is an American one. A salesroom was procured, and in order to get a stock of goods the following circular was sent out to the principal manufacturers of the province:

Dear Sir: The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Church are arranging for sample sales about the first week in September, the proceeds to go towards purchasing a pipe organ for the church. We ask kindly for samples of your goods, on which we can realize, in return for which we will thoroughly advertise, your signs to be hung on walls of the salesrooms and any other advertising matter to be distributed. Thanking you in advance, I am yours truly, (signed) Mrs. J.B. Stephens, President.

Miss Stephens, in order to get the names and places of the different manufacturers of the

province, wrote to the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association of Toronto, who kindly sent her in book form a list of all the manufacturers. She, as secretary of the committee, took the list and addressed the envelopes therefrom, and enclosed one of the circular letters that the pamphlet dubs as "the request for whiskey". Miss Stephens claims she did not know who Hiram Walker & Sons, addressed to her mother, the president, which she, as secretary, opened, stating they had sent two cases of small bottles of best brand "Canadian Club" together with a few attractive signs and some small cards for disposal at the salesroom. The girl was at her wits' end to know what to do with the undesirable goods, and conferred with two members of the special committee, and the trio, having a knowledge that other churches received assistance from the firm, and having a desire to swell the church organ fund, took upon themselves personally to dispose of the goods, not wishing to insult the donors by returning their gift.