The Flesherton Advance.

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Osprey Township Officials Honor Reeve W. L. Taylor

Presentation Made After The Council Session Saturday

At the conclusion of the session of the Council the members and officials repaired to the dining room of Mrs. Guy's hotel, where a splendid fowl supper was provided for the retiring Reeve and Warden, Mr. Taylor. Plates were set for sixteen members of the council, officials and guests among whom were Messrs. Taylor, Stephen, Hutchinson and Moore, councillors, the veteran treasurer, J. A. Kernahan; C. N. Long, clerk; D. Stephens, assessor; R. Londry and Jas. Davidson, tax collectors; Dr. R. W. Lindsay, M.O.H.; Chas. W. Long sanitary inspector; H. C. Francis manager of the Bank of Toronto; Verne Ireland of the Bank of Toronto staff, Feversham, Rev. Bushell of Maxwell, John Lockhart, a former Deputy-Reeve with Mr. Taylor, and Jas. McKenzie, road superintendent.

Mr. C. N. Long acted as toastmaster and a pleasant time was spent in speeches and complimentary addresses to the host of the evening, Mr. Taylor. Mr. Jas. Davidson levened the proceedings by singing a Scottish song as only Jim can sing it.

The crowning event of the day was a presentation in the Orange Hall, where Mr. Taylor had been invited and who was presented with a fine mantle clock in the presence of a large number of friends and officials, as a remembrance of his long service in the township municipal life Mrs. Taylor, through Ellen, or Teddy as she is more familiarly called, was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers, consisting of large and small "mums." The following address was read at the presentation:

W. L. Taylor, Reeve of Osprey

Dear Sir,—We, the members and officials of the municipality of the township of Osprey, on learning of your intended retirement from municipal life, desire to express, in some tangible way, our deepest appreciation for your valued counsel and cooperation during the many years we have been together in the service of the municipality.

You, in your official capacity, for a quarter of a century have, in a most faithful manner, conducted yourself and the business of the municipality on a high plane, also bringing honor to us in serving our fair county with its highests honor, that of Warden for the year 1934.

Your tact and good judgment have been exemplified in many ways, and your advice and business ability have guided us in carrying out successfully the administration of our township affairs.

Your relations with us have always been most cordial and in you we have found one in whom we could trust. We thus are loath to part from an honored friend and counsellor.

As our association is about to cease we wish to remind you that we shall always remember with gratitude your connection with us and that our best wishes go with you and Mrs. Taylor for long life, health and happiness in the days to come.

In appreciation we ask you to accept this clock and you, Mrs. Taylor, through Ellen, this bouquet.

—Signed: John Stephen, Arnold Hutchinson, L. Moore, Thos. Beatty, John Kernahan, C. N. Long, Dougald Stephen, Jas. McKenzie, Reg. Londry Jas. Davidson, R. W. Lindsay, C. W. Long and H. C. Francis.

Mr. Taylor was completely taken by surprise by this token of acknowledgment on the part of the officials and in reply expressed the heartiest thanks of himself and Mrs. Taylor for the address and gifts, which, he assured, would be doubly enjoyed by Mrs. Taylor, who, through being an invalid, was unable to attend.

The balance of the evening was spent in dancing and in social ways

Considerable Business At Last Session Of The Year

The Osprey municipal council met in final session in the Orange Hall at Maxwell on Saturday, December 15 with all the members present with the exception of Mr. Beatty, who was absent on account of sickness. After the minutes of the November meeting were read and confirmed the council took up the large amount of business which is always on hand at the end of the year to complete the year's work.

A large number of ratepayers took advantage of the treasurer and collector and both were quite busily occupied during the day receiving the yearly toll of the overburdened tax payer. However as very few complaints were made everyone was relieved of their money and sent home happy, with their tax slip duly receipted.

The clerk presented bylaw No. 17, authorizing the treasurer to pay the county rate of $13,875.00, also school rates, trustee levies, debentures and drainage debentures as they become due, was read the required number of times and passed.

Bylaw No. 18, appointing deputy returning officers and poll clerks for 1935 was as follows: Poll No. 1, deputy, Arnott Menzie, clerk, Hy K Jackson; No. 2, C. W. Long, deputy, Geo. Morrison, poll clerk; No. 3, John Hale, deputy, Wm. Buell, poll clerk; No. 4, C. A. Edwards, deputy, Wm. Service, poll clerk; No. 5, Jno. L. Morrison, deputy, Donald McIntyre poll clerk; No. 6, M. P. McLean, deputy, T. J. Davidson, poll clerk; No. 7, Wm. Hannon, deputy, Mal. Gibson, poll clerk; No. 8, Jno. S. Winters, deputy; Art. Jamieson, poll clerk. The nomination of candidates for Reeve, Deputy Reeve and Councillors will be held in the Orange Hall at Maxwell on Monday, December 31, at 1 o'clock p.m.

Bylaw No. 18, authorizing the payment of township officials for their services for 1934 was also passed. Motions passed were that the collector deduct $4.73 from taxes on Lot E.P. 8 and 9, Con. 13, such amount being due to an error in the assessment. The county treasurer was instructed to erase all taxes appearing against Lot 1, Con. x, as said amount being levied in error.

The collectors were instructed to receive taxes on Lot Pt. 30, Con. 5 less dog tax assessed to H. Heitman also on Lot 69 and 70, Con. 3, less dog tax.

General accounts ordered paid were as follows:- J. H. Hammill, relief to H. Adair $5.93; Bert Hammill, relief to transients, $4.00; E. Robinson stamps $3.00; H. G. Marshall, division court expenses $6.78; F.H.W. Hickling, div. court expenses, $6.78 and Chas. Pye, div. court expenses, $14.-22; Workmen's Compensation Board re claim of D. Winters, $70.00; Advance Printing account, $148.30; R. W. Lindsay, services as M.O.H., $19.-50; Wm. Norman, truant officer $7.-00; Thos. Ferris, disposing of dead animals $2.00; E. Bennett, ambulance service to Mrs. Croft, $15.00; C. N. Long telephone acct., $5.45; W. L. Taylor services on relief work during year $15.00; A. McIntyre, sheep valuer, $1.50; R. S. Pedlar, sheep valuer, $1.50; W. Norman, sheep valuer, $3.00; A. Campbell, sheep claim, $6.00; W. Scutt, sheep claim, $26.00; J. Lougheed, sheep claim $6.-50; Jno. McKinnon, claim, $11.00 Grants were made to Singhampton Badjeros and Maxwell public libraries of $10.00 each. C. N. Long appeals to Judge again voters' list. C. N. Long, expenses to Owen Sound on O. A. pension work, $6.00.

General road accounts presented by road superintendents and passed were:- A. Hawton $5.80, R. A. Cox $81.00, E. Dobson $18.00, J. Izard $19.50, A. Grummett, tile $69.75, G. Dobson $7.00, E. Robinson $7.77, E. Post $10.00, R. Speers $2.00, G. Young $17.76, Jas. Hudson 17.67, J. Smith $18.50, A. Hollingshead 70c, S. Carson $5.50, T. Sammonds $2.50, A. McLean $2.00, C. Sampson $6.57, J. Hudson $14.50, H. Grummett $3.50, D Ring $5.00, County treasurer $54.73 Jos. Seeley $30.00, H. Hardy $16.00 J. McKenzie, supt., $30.00.

Before the council adjourned Mr Taylor in a few well chosen words thanked the members of the council and officials for the hearty co-operation in the work during the time they had been together, after which the Rev. Mr. Bushell of Maxwell United church offered prayer.

"What'sthe idea of that cross-eyed man for a store detective?"

"Well look at him. Can you tell whom he is watching?"

A child of 18 months was rushed to the hospital in Hamilton after he had swallowed a button. The button was recovered and mother was then able to go ahead with her sewing.

Christmas

The Christamas season brings a welcome, if temporary respite from the trials and tribulations of the work-a-day world. It is a season of family reunions, of happy visits to the old folks at home, and through it all runs the merry laughter of little children as they await the coming of Santa Claus. Goodwill is abroad in the land

Take a glance at this festival which holds so high a place in the hearts of men.

The celebration of Christmas was not a part of the early Christian festivals and there was no consensus of opinion as to just when the feast of the nativity should be observed, whether on January 6,March 25 or December 25. No feast, however, is ever referred to in these earliest mentions of Christmas observances.

The first certain mention of December 25 is in the Calender of Philocalus issued in 354. This states that in "year 1 after Christ, the Lord Jesus Christ was born on December 25, a Friday and 15th day of the new moon." This referance, however, is not entirely accurate as December 25 of the year one was a Sunday.

In Britain, December 25 was a festival long before the conversion to Christianity. Bede relates that "the ancient people of the Angli began the year on December the 25th, when we now celebrate the birthday of the Lord; and the very night which is now so holy to us, they called mothers' night, by reason we suspect of the ceremonies which in that night-long vigil they performed."

It is interesting to recall that the observance of Christmas was forbidden in England by act of Parliament in 1644. Charles 11, however, revived the feast

The Christmas tree, so beloved of children, seems to have had its counterpart in early pagan religions. In Egypt the palm tree put forth a new shoot each month, and at the time of the winter solstice it was the custom of the Egyptians to decorate the houses with a branch of palm bearing twelve shoots. In Rome the fir tree was regarded with veneration, and during the Saturnalian festivities the halls and houses were hung with evergreen boughs.

Among northern European tribes a great fir tree was set up in each household at Christmas-tide. At its base were placed representations of Adam and Eve; in the branches coiled the serpent, and on the topmast bough gleamed a candle, symbolizing that Light of the World through whom alone was victory over the serpent possible. Later in history the tree was more profusely decorated with colored knick-knacks, all of which were at first symbolical.

Christmas is never quite complete without the holly wreath and the mistletoe. The holly or holy tree was to Christmas at one time an object of veneration, the little thorny leaves and red berries representing the crown of thorns and the drops of blood. Doubtless they introduced this solemn reminder at the joyous festival in order not to forget the sacredness of the occasion in the general festivities. The mistle bush mistletod—or mistletoe as we know it—owes its use as a festal decoration to pagan times. Among the Celtic nations the mistletoe was held to be sacred, and at the festival of the winter solstice the Prince of the Druids himself cut a bough of it. The people were assembled and then were led to the woods by the priests who drove in advance of the company two snow-white bullocks. When the oak tree was found which bore the mistletoe the plant was cut with a golden sickle, and the bullocks were sacrificed. Another Scandinavian custom was the burning of the Yule log. At their feast of Juul, during the winter solstice, the Scandinavians kindled huge bonfires in honor of the god Thor. The ancient Goths and Saxons had winter festivals which they called Jul. Christmas is still frequently referred to as Yuletide.

In feudal times in England the bringing of the great Yule log to the wide hearth in the baronial hall was one of the most joyous ceremonies connected with the festival. (The men hewed down the greatest log—or clog, as it was called—singing merry yule songs while they dressed it and dragged it to the hearth.

According to Herrich, the yule clog "was to be lighted with the brand of the last year's log, which had been carefully laid aside for the purpose and music was to be played during the ceremony of lighting."

Perhaps we no longer light our Christmas hearths with "the brand of last year's log," and many another good old Christmas custom has been dropped by the way, but others have arisen to take their place, perhaps not so rich and colorful as the old but still alive with that true spirit of fellowship—which is Christmas.

And as we watch the merry play of the children about the Christmas tree there may come drifting through the mists of the years the wistful echoes of childish laughter long since stilled and the patter of little vanished feet on the stairs.

Hit And Run Motorist Struck Road Walker

Porter Beard Hit By Motorist Who Did Not Stop—Not Seriously Injured

Struck by a hit and run motorist near his home on Thursday evening last, Mr. Porter Beard of Springhill was injured and badly shaken up, but no bones were broken. The accident occurred when Mr. Beard was walking south toward his home and in front of Mr. Elwood Moore's farm, two miles south of town. Mr. Beard was on the east side of the highway and a car came behind him travelling south at a fair rate of speed when it struck him throwing him to the ground with great force. The car was on the wrong side of the road at the time of the accident and if the driver knew that he had hit a man he did not show it as he never slackened speed and kept on going. Mr. Beard walked the remainder of the way home, but it took him about an hour to reach his residence which is situated next to the Moore farm, although the house is a considerable distance back from the road.

Mr. Beard had his wrist and ankle injured and his hip cut from the blow and was otherwise shaken up. He has been confined to his bed since the accident. He had no idea who the driver of the car was as he was unable to secure the license number, and so another hit and run motorist escapes from his negligence.

Highway Relief Work

Items appeared in nearby papers last week stating that work was to commence at once on the Durham-Flesherton highway section of No. 4 Highway as a relief measure. While the work is to be done there has not been any definite date set for the start of operations. Surveying has been in operation during the past summer and only finished this past week. No details are yet on hand as to what section of the road will receive first attention but the whole road is not up to the government standard in width and will all have to be reconstructed. It is expected that the road will be located just south of the present road from Flesherton station to this village, the western end emerging on the present highway at the old Orange hall. Data is being secured on the unemployment situation in this section by Mr. R. Patterson of Owen Sound, member for North Grey.

HOW'S THIS ONE

To the consternation of the guests the vicar was very late for the ceremony.

Years afterwards he met the bridegroom, and taking him by the hand remarked: "Well, John, it is just ten years ago that I gave you an awful fright."

"Yes," said John goomily, ,'and I've still got her."

The estimate of Grey County's bill from the Provincial Government for the county's 20 per cent of expenditure on Provincial Highways for 1934 is $148,000. Had this work been delayed till 1935 the whole cost would have been put up by the province.

OUR WISH TO YOU

At this joyous Christmas season we wish to convey our Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas to our hundreds of readers. We also wish them a greater measure of prosperity during the new year of 1935. It is also our desire at this time to thank our corps of district correspondents for their great help in assisting us to give our readers the news of the district. Their work is appreciated by us as it takes a great deal of their time to gather the news and prepare it for the editor. To them we acknowledge the debt we owe for their faithfulness and their interest in their own communities.

A One Paper Town

With the issue of December 13th the Walkerton Telescope made its final appearance to the public, having sold its plant and subscription list to the Herald and Times, edited by Mr. J. A. Wesley. The Telescope has been in circulation since 1869 and was one of Bruce County's oldest newspapers. Mr. H. E. Pense has been editor of the Telescope for the past ten years. With this amalgamation Walkerton will now have only one newspaper, whereas a few years ago there were four being printed in that town. There have been quite a number of newspapers forced to suspend publication, due to the times and the last has not yet been heard of papers ceasing publication.

School Concerts

Advertisements under this heading will be charged for at the rate of two insertions for 35c or one insertion for 25c.

Don't miss Portlaw school concert on Thursday, December 20. Admission 15 and 10 cents.

Don't forget the concert in Orange Valley school on Friday, December 21st, at 8 o'clock p.m. A play "Windy Willows" will also be given. Adults 20c; children 10c. Everybody come!

Don't forget the concert in Rock Mills school on Friday, December 21, at 8 o'clock p.m. The program consists of music, songs, recitations, monologues, pantomines, dialogues and tabaleau. Admission: 15 and 10 cents.

Miss Dorothy Fisher adn pupils are holding their Christmas closing exercises at the Ceylon public school on Friday afternoon of this week, when a good program will be presented. Adults 10 cents.

New Postal Director Nemesis Of Robbers

Alex. Gibson Has Figured In Many Arrests For Post Office Thefts

Considered one of the outstanding postal investigators of Canada, Alex. M. Gibson, newly appointed director of postal services in the Toronto district, received many congratulations recently.

Mr. Gibson entered the service at Toronto in November, 1906, as a stamper and sorter and received $1.25 a day. In 1923 he became an inspector. During his 26 years in the service he has never been charged with an error and has never been late.

His investigations assisted Toronto police to clean up the half million dollar mail robbery at the Union station in 1928. Four men went to prison. It was through a tip from Mr. Gibson that the capture of Red Ryan was effected in the St. Paul post-office when he called for mail Ryan had escaped from Kingston penitentiary.

Mr. Gibson was also active in connection with a big mail robbery at Parry Sound in which the perpetrators killed a farmer named Jackson who offered to assist them in getting their automobile out of the mud. The murderer, Burowski, was hanged.

Before the Union station robbery, Mr. Gibson received a large share of credit for the recovery of $60,000 in bonds and securities stolen from a transfer truck in downtown Toronto. The thief was captured.

Besides the Toronto district Mr. Gibson will have charge of all postal activities as far north as Parry Sound, as far east as Port Hope and as far west as Welland.

Mr. Gibson is 48 years of age, married and has one daughter.

Vigil Of Red Coats Will Protect Gold At Ottawa

In the subterranean vaults of the Department of Finance, flanked by walls of concrete and heavy steel doors, and watched night and day by red-coat constables of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the huge gold reserves of the new Bank of Canada will be stored.

In a few days the executive and clerical staffs of the bank will move into permanent quarters in an Ottawa office building.

The gold reserves and currency and the officials directly concerned with their handling, however, will remain in the east block of the Dominion Government buildings where the treasure storage facilities of the Finance Department will be at their disposal

At a latter date, possibly not for several years, the bank likely will have a building of its own equipped with complete vault facilities.

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CHRISTMAS Greetings

To the citizens of the Village of Flesherton:-

Ladies and Gentlemen: On behalf of the council and officials of the Village of Flesherton, I wish to extend to you, our appreciation for your co-operation during the past year. And also to wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Your Obedient Servant,

HOWARD A. McCAULEY,

Reeve.