

The Haileyburian

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Housing Commission Plan Discussed From All Angles

Chairman of Body and Head of Municipality Present Details of Situation Since Inception in 1923; People Who Were Not Burned Out Were Responsible for Plan Being Applied

The whole situation in regard to the Haileybury Housing Commission was thoroughly aired at the annual meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday night, when H. A. Day, present chairman of the commission and former town clerk, and Mayor S. J. Mason went thoroughly into the question, the former giving the history of the inception of the plan after the big fire of October 4th, 1922, and more recent efforts made towards a solution of the problem of unpaid loans, and the latter presenting the present position of the municipality, which has had to assume about one-third of the houses built under the scheme.

Mr. Day admitted that the topic was not a "cheerful subject" and that he felt resentment at the treatment of the government in insisting on imposing every penalty provided for in the agreements. The commission had felt justified in asking some consideration in view of the circumstances, he said, but repeated efforts, interviews with various officials and the Minister of Municipal Affairs had brought only a tightening up of the agreements and a demand for prompt payment in the future, although the authorities had consented to the writing of new contracts for those in arrears.

Sketching the history of the housing plan, Mr. Day said that it had been originated by those who had not lost their homes in the big fire and who found that these homes and properties were of no value, lacking schools, public services and a town to make them of use. The properties were a "curse" rather than an advantage to their owners, he said, and the only chance to make them of value was the rebuilding of the town. It was these owners of homes who were responsible for the scheme, by which \$300,000 was made available for building houses. They were also responsible, the speaker said, for an active campaign to induce those who had lost their homes to rebuild under the commission plan with the result that 110 citizens took advantage of it and "probably 100 of these would have been better off without it." For five years, Mr. Day said, there was plenty of activity in town and the housing plan appeared to be a success, but when the depression came the payments began to fall behind. A few years later an effort was made to secure an adjustment of the interest charges and promises were made by the then provincial government that the interest would be written off. This was one of the reasons why the payments had been allowed to fall behind, and another reason was the fact that the municipality could not secure eviction orders against those in arrears, the government only having the power to issue these orders.

For the past couple of years the commission and the municipality had been striving towards a solution of the problem and endeavoring to secure an adjustment of the interest rate of five per cent, but without success. Last year a final survey was made by officials of the department, interviews with the minister were arranged and all possible steps taken to bring the matter to a settlement, with the

result that the government had insisted on payment in full for every property on which there was a loan, either by the borrower or by the municipality. The only concession was the writing of new contracts over a period of 10 years. Representatives of the commission and of the town council who interviewed the government were virtually told to "go back and collect the loans," Mr. Day said.

Mayor Mason, speaking from the municipal standpoint, told the meeting that the town had a direct responsibility for \$120,000 in March last in connection with housing commission properties together with the debenture debt for the entire amount, less what had been paid on the loans. Half of the \$60,000 represented properties repossessed by the municipality and the other half was for interest and collections in former years which had not been remitted to the government. The amount still owing was \$250,000, the mayor said, of which \$128,000 was owed by the borrowers. During the past year a total of \$59,000 had been paid on the loans but only part of this was on the principal.

Of the original 110 contracts 10 had been paid in full, 36 houses had been repossessed by the town 62 borrowers were paying their instalments under the new agreements and there were a couple of cases where a settlement had not yet been reached. The town had 34 of the 36 houses rented, but the unfortunate phase was that these properties had to be transferred to the non-assessable list thus removing \$60,000 from the taxpaying property. If the houses were kept rented, Mayor Mason said, and the borrowers kept up their payments, \$2,224 would be remitted monthly to the government. This, he said, would not pay the amount owing in 10 years but "we are not worrying about that at the present."

His Worship was not without hope for the future, in spite of the fact that the assessment had been reduced by \$60,000, and it still takes about \$70,000 to run the town, collections had been better during recent months than for

New Commissioner



According to reliable reports from Queens Park, Toronto, Hon. A. St. Clair Gordon, minister without portfolio in the Hepburn cabinet, will be appointed as chief liquor commissioner for Ontario within the next few days. Mr. Gordon will succeed the late Edmond G. Odette.

Hospitality At Town Hall Stops After Wine Party

Cobalt Council Will Have Doors Locked in Future; Transients Disturbed

In future the Cobalt town hall will be locked up when the chief of police goes home at nights, instead of sticking to the former practice of leaving two of the outer doors open for the convenience of transients who might want to use part of the building for a night's shelter.

This decision was arrived at by the town council on Monday night when the new police officer, W. L. Pidgeon, reported that some of these temporary visitors had staged a wine party and had created so much whoopee that other guests of the municipality in adjacent cells had their rest disturbed. The council instructed Town Clerk A. W. Harrington to have the doors put in order—the keys apparently having disappeared—and the building will be closed tight in future from the time the chief goes off duty until the caretaker arrives in the early morning.

At the same meeting the council issued orders that tenants of houses owned by the municipality, and whose rents are in arrears, be notified to vacate the premises by May 1st. The same date was also set as a deadline for those in arrears for water rates.

The salary of the town auditor, R. L. O'Gorman, was increased from \$350 to \$400, on account of extra work required by the provincial government.

The Cobalt council has two of its members out of active attendance at the present. Councillor James Lawrence is undergoing treatment in the Toronto General Hospital and Councillor Burt Sopha is suffering from a broken wrist, sustained in a fall in his garage. Councillor Lawrence has been granted three months' leave of absence.

Dymond Township Calf is Real Freak of Nature

A freak of nature in the form of a calf which is equipped with a duplicate set of some of its physical features is frolicking about the Dymond township farm of Fred Maille, who lives on the main highway north of New Liskeard. The animal, born a few days ago, has a normal body and one head, but it has two mouths, a couple of sets of teeth, a pair of tongues, two noses and four nostrils. The extra equipment is directly above the usual features and the calf can use either set as desired. This bovine curiosity is healthy and frisks about the farmyard in manner similar to other calves constructed on more orthodox lines.

At the end of March this year there were 2,708 applications for jobs on file at the Mine Employment Bureau in Kirkland Lake.

Assault Charge From Last June Is Disposed Of

Belated Hearing in Court Here Brings Fine or Jail Term; Local Man Was Victim

A belated hearing of an assault charge, in which R. R. Warren of Haileybury was the victim and Wesley Davidson of New Liskeard the alleged aggressor, was held before Magistrate Atkinson in police court here on Friday last, with the result that the defendant was convicted and a fine of \$50 and costs imposed, with the alternative of 30 days in the district jail. The alleged assault took place in June last and the accused had been in the Matachewan district during the interval. The court was told.

At the same court session Victor Soucie of Cobalt was charged with forgery. Evidence was to the effect that he had cashed a cheque for \$14.00, bearing the forged signature of A. J. Murphy, local timber operator. The sentence imposed by His Worship was three months.

Another Cobalt resident, Donat Ladouceur, faced two charges of obtaining goods under false pretences and will spend the next 60 days in confinement. He was given the term on each count, the sentences to run concurrently.

A trio of youths from Thornloe district appeared on charges of theft of motor parts. They were released on suspended sentence, bound over in the sum of \$100 for one year and paid the costs of the hearing.

One charge of drunkenness and a few infractions of the traffic regulations were heard, with the usual penalty of a fine and costs resulting.

Police Probing Thefts at Warehouse and Garage

Provincial police officers from headquarters here are assisting the chief at Cobalt in investigating two burglaries which occurred in the silver town on Monday night or early Tuesday morning. A warehouse of the George Taylor Hardware Limited, near the T. & N.O. Railway, and Kennelly Garage, Silver Street, were the premises entered, the locks being forced in each case. At the hardware warehouse 15 lengths of iron pipe, 20 feet long, a keg of 3-inch nails, a hacksaw and a pair of heavy pliers were missing while a 17-plate battery and a number of tools had disappeared from the garage.

Neil Donovan, alias Austin Craft, accused of robbing a bank in Timmins last fall, was convicted at Cochrane last week and sentenced to serve eight years in penitentiary. He had been held in the district jail here through out the winter and at one time assaulted Guard Jos. Thisdelle inflicting injuries which kept the latter laid up for several weeks.

Board of Trade and Rotary Combine Forces at Banquet

Annual Session of Former With Weekly Meeting of Latter Form Interesting Program on Monday Evening; Songs, Music and Dances Interspersed With Regular Business

When the local Board of Trade and the Rotary Club held a joint meeting on Monday evening, following a banquet in the main dining room of Hotel Haileybury, there was an interesting and entertaining program provided for the forty-odd persons present. There was a musical program interspersed with the regular business of both bodies and there were several addresses covering local problems that provided food for thought on some phases of community life in Haileybury that should react to the benefit of all citizens. Presiding were the heads of the two organizations, W. H. Tuke, president of the Board of Trade, and J. H. Murray, head of the Rotary Club, both of whom welcomed the gathering.

The musical program, arranged by N. D. McIsaac, vice-president of the Board, and Past President D. G. Hogan, included community singing led by L. H. Periera, dances by Miss Caroline Sutherland of Cobalt, and solos by Mr. Periera. Mrs. J. A. H. Joyal played the accompaniments and Mr. McIsaac furnished violin music for Miss Sutherland's dance numbers.

The Rotary Club, which had postponed the greater part of its regular business, presented a film which had been loaned by a similar organization in Xenia, Ohio depicting scenes from a hobby fair held there on a large scale, with particular emphasis on boys' work. This film was shown by Rotarian R. D. Cumming, and the gathering was told by President Murray that a similar one of local activities of Rotary was being prepared. Mr. Murray also reminded those present that this week-end the annual hobby fair will be held and invited all to attend on Saturday, when the exhibition will be open to the public.

Speaking for the Board of Trade, President Tuke gave an outline of what had been accomplished during the past year, citing the highway signs that had been erected after considerable worry with the Department, the efforts of the Board to prevent the proposed diversion of the main road around the town and the fact that the collection of minerals kept in the hotel rotunda had

been cleaned up and put into first class shape by B. W. Hartley and S. Beanland, to whom he extended thanks. He said he knew of no person who would do as much public service, and do it as well, as Mr. Hartley.

For the current year, Mr. Tuke said, the Board should continue the "annual kick", about radio reception, see that the climate and surroundings of Haileybury should get all possible publicity and he believed that an old project, that of a ferry at the Narrows on Lake Temiskaming might be carried through.

Chief among the addresses given at the meeting were those of H. A. Day, chairman of the Housing Commission, and Mayor S. J. Mason, which are reported in another column. Other speakers were Jas. Reavell, secretary of the Public School Board; Dr. J. A. H. Joyal, chairman of the Separate School Board; Wm. Long, secretary of the Horticultural Society, and Mr. Tuke himself for the High School.

Mr. Reavell gave figures showing the board expenditures as \$13,000 annually, of which \$11,500 came from the municipal assessment and the balance from government grants. He recalled that the staff had accepted a 10 per cent reduction in salaries a few years ago, which had not been restored, said that the Board had always had the best of co-operation from the town council, and that there was a splendid staff of teachers and no friction of any kind in the affairs of the school.

Dr. Joyal told the meeting that the action of the Separate School Board in closing the school last year had been a wise one in spite of the criticism that had been heard. The result had been that the board had received some special grants and an extension of time on its obligations, together with better collections of taxes by the municipality. The separate school supporters had suffered greatly from the last big fire, he said, as some 60 per cent of the burned-out area had been of that persuasion, and this fact had aggravated the situation through the succeeding years. The final settlement, Mr. Joyal said, was proving of benefit not only to the separate school supporters but to all citizens of the town and he could see a distinct improvement in the situation this year, with prospects of a reduced tax rate if all were forced to pay.

For the High School, Mr. Tuke said that there was no town in Ontario which has such a fine secondary school system, with the school itself, the mining school, St. Mary's Academy and a business college, besides the

The Week's Weather

Week ending April 19th	
	Max. Min.
Thursday	54.0 18.2
Friday	50.0 28.0
Saturday	32.0 11.0
Sunday	38.6 16.0
Monday	42.0 22.0
Tuesday	36.6 32.0
Wednesday	47.2 32.0
Precipitation for week	.49"
Max. wind (1 hr.)	17 m.p.h.

Governor of Madrid



General Don Luis Alarcon De La Lastra, commander of General Francisco Franco's Moroccan artillery, has been appointed civil governor of Madrid. General De La Lastra's principal job since his appointment has been the feeding of needy Madrilenos.

Take Notice!

The CENTRAL DAIRY announces the sale of W. Corville's interest to Jos. Fairen (former Delivery Man for Dominion Stores). Mr. Fairen has assumed charge of the pasteurizing plant on Main Street, where a supply of Choice Milk and Cream is available, and is prepared to make Special Deliveries to any part of town at five minutes' notice. In addition, the regular service to our steady customers will be kept on the present schedule.

MILK 10c per quart 10 Tickets for \$1.00
As Taxpayers in Haileybury, we would appreciate the opportunity of serving the public.

Central Dairy

HUARD & FAIREN, Proprietors
New Phone No. 23 Haileybury

"CHINTZ COTTAGE"

A THREE-ACT PLAY

Under the Auspices of the United Church W.A.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 27

IN UNITED CHURCH, HAILEYBURY

ADMISSION — — ADULTS, 35c; CHILDREN, 25c

Tea and Produce Table

Under the Auspices of St. Paul's W.A.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd

3 to 6 p.m.

At the Home of Mrs. G. H. Hayward, Lake Shore Road