



THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 28, 1929

EDITORIAL

The Choosing Is Yours

As most everyone anticipated this year the interest in municipal elections has centred around the Public School Board. Interest is such that individuals who believe in the principles of conducting business with the full knowledge of the public are willingly backing up their principles with their candidacy for positions on the Board. Action citizens are to be given an opportunity of deciding the issues at the polls that have been contentious. We said last week that decisions days have come. Nomination Day will see candidates in the field who believe in the principles of public business in a public way and with public confidence. We have laid the facts of our case before the public content to abide by their decision. Monday is your day to decide the questions, and whatever your decision we will be glad to carry out your wishes as decided in the courts of the final appeal by the voters on Election Day. The electors are well versed in all the details and circumstances. Let them voice their opinion, keeping in mind only the serving best of the needs of the community in which we are all so vitally interested.

A Well-Deserved Compliment

The Council of 1929 in their financial statement given to the ratepayers at the Nomination meeting certainly had a very creditable report to give of the year's business. The collection of taxes and fees and the disbursement of the funds raised showed careful administration and attention to the dues of the municipality. The steady financial improvement shown in every department and the improvements to the town carried out and successfully financed are indeed a source of pride to ratepayers as well as Reeve and Councillors. There was little criticism and all questions were readily answered, showing that each member had a thorough grasp of the work of his department in particular, and the Council work in general. Small wonder then that the well-deserved compliment was tendered Reeve Mason and Councillors Hansen, Nelson, Thetford and Harrison in according them an acclamation by the ratepayers. They have carried on well the various work they have undertaken and the ratepayers have apparently thanked them and asked them to continue. They will undoubtedly do just as efficiently the completion of their work and all that of 1930 as has characterized their activities this year.

President Hoover's Characteristics

Nowadays, when the radio gives so many homes the public utterances of the great leaders who speak in this country and in the United States, people everywhere get acquainted with the tones of voice of these speakers and listen to them generally with keen interest. This is particularly the case with President Hoover, and hundreds of our readers remember with pleasure his ringing tones and emphatic utterances when he delivered his great inaugural address last spring. This and succeeding public utterances so easily heard have rendered the Chief Magistrate of the great republic seem more familiar to the people over here than was the case with any of his predecessors. With this comparative familiarity incidents relative to President Hoover's personal characteristics will be of interest. Fifteen years ago the American Ambassador in London gave a luncheon. There is nothing remarkable in an Ambassador's giving a luncheon, but this particular occasion was notable for two reasons: it marked the beginning of the public career of Herbert Hoover, and Herbert Hoover was so overcome by bashfulness when toasted by the Ambassador that he was unable to stand up and respond. That was only fifteen years ago. Yet to day the name of Herbert Hoover is probably better known the world round than that of any other single living man or woman, and in addition there is hardly a Chamber of Commerce, hardly a Rotary Club, hardly a women's organization, hardly a broadcasting station in the United States, but before his election to the Presidency, had invited him to speak. Fame and the confidence to speak in public these he has acquired since that day. Otherwise the man is the same. Chance, of course, played a share in providing the opportunities which led to fame, but chance did not force him to seize those opportunities. Ultimately, however, the electorate of the United States, impressed with his real worth and high principles, saw that he received the nomination and loyally used their franchise to assure his election as the First Citizen by a handsome majority.

Increase in Life Insurance in Canada

The total amount of life insurance carried by the people of Canada is at present about \$6,500,000,000 or approximately \$650 for every man, woman and child in the Dominion. The United States with \$750 per head of population is the only country in the world that exceeds Canada in the amount of life insurance carried. The number of life insurance policies in force in Canada is 7,000,000 in round figures, or about three for every family in the Dominion. An encouraging fact about life insurance in Canada is that no one has ever lost a cent as a result of the failure of a Canadian life insurance company, which is principally due to the supervision of the Canadian Government Department of Insurance over the companies for the protection of policyholders.

Accidents and Compensation

There were 8,057 accidents reported to The Workmen's Compensation Board during the month of October, 44 of these being fatal. This is a decrease of 221 from the number during October a year ago, but an increase of 819 over the month of September this year. The benefits awarded during October amounted to \$735,736.62, of which \$602,814.83 was for compensation and \$132,921.79 for medical aid. This compares with \$707,471.31 benefits awarded during October a year ago. These figures have, according to R. B. Morley, general manager of the Industrial Accident Prevention Association, stirred industrial leaders to further efforts to cut the toll of accidents by an extension of the safety work being done. Additional members are being added to the field force of the Association and an intensification of accident prevention activities in the plants will be carried out.

Action There, and Action Here

In reviewing the year's business in the Town of Acton, Middlesex, England, the financial statement editorial comments are remarkably similar to what is emphasized in this, its Canadian prototype. A few references will therefore be interesting to our readers. By the way, the election of Mayor and Aldermen over there is held within a couple of weeks of the elections over here. The Acton Gazette says: "Year by year the Abstract of the Acton Treasurer's Accounts grows 'bigger and bigger' in proportion to the activities of a developing community, and the bulky volume just issued for the financial year will lie heavy on the desks of those who obtain a copy of it. Containing nearly 300 large pages, filled with rows of figures in, from the raters' point of view, battle array at the side of their explanatory entries, the publication is a wonderful tribute to the analytical brains and unflagging industry of Mr. S. Lord, Treasurer, and his staff. Few towns of the population of Acton publish so complete a survey of their financial position. The book is also symbolic of the heavy and varied responsibilities which an enterprising community has to bear, and the sight of it will have a depressing effect on raters who do not possess the sanguine temperament. Acton's mortgage debt, which gave some the 'cold shivers' when it passed the million stage, is now up to £1,007,634—a net increase of £25,708 during the year. The debt is equal to £4 4s. per £ of rateable value, and to £20 3s. id. per head of an estimated population of 64,879. The explanation is simple. A growing borough has to provide new sewers and new roads for new estates, and to pay for the various schemes necessary to provide for its development. It must, therefore, keep on borrowing, and unfortunately, old debts are not paid off as quickly as new ones accrue. This year, for instance, Acton has to provide for a large new school, a sewage disposal scheme, and other expensive matters that the debt is likely to continue to increase. The financial saturation may be near at hand for a town of the size of Acton." Municipal officers over here will appreciate very fully the problems required to be met by their confreres in the Old Land. It seems that demands for improvements are just as insistent in the Old Land as in the new. In view of the masses of figures presented at the annual municipal hustings on Monday evening, the above will be of live and timely interest.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Besides the usual declaration of candidates for municipal office it is necessary this year for candidates to have a certificate from the Clerk showing that they owe no taxes to the town.

In case we have been misunderstood let us explain that this curling club we have been advocating is a game for men, something like bowling. Now will some Scotchman come forward and elicit date a little further on the subject.

A quiet, orderly, and interesting Nomination Meeting characterized the one on Monday evening. Details were plainly put and questions intelligently answered and it would appear that ratepayers are well versed in the affairs of their community.

Some municipalities will hold their civic nominations on Monday, November 25, and elections on Monday, December 2. Acton and Georgetown are among the number. Wonder how it would work in Milton? Milton Reformer. Why not try it out in Milton? We'll bet you will never want to return to the old dates at the end of the year again.

It's just a few weeks till Christmas! "Shop early" is good advice to the public, but "decorate your store and display your Christmas goods early" is better advice to the merchant. Many thousands of dollars go to Toronto every year for Christmas goods simply because the merchants in the smaller centres fail to prepare for the early buyer. Barric Examiner

"Read the editorial page of your newspaper," M. A. Sorsoleil, Provincial Inspector of Commercial Schools, told the students of the Eastern High School of Commerce, Toronto, during the commencement exercises. "Some of them aren't bad," he explained. "Education is not obtained in schools," he continued, "the school merely supplies you with the means to become educated when you have left." Please remember that this advice did not come from the local School Board in Acton, but from a Provincial Inspector in Toronto.

Neighborhood News

HURFORDTON

Mrs. John Plidment is spending the week with her son John and Mrs. Plidment at Stratford, Ontario.

Mrs. and Mrs. Wm. Jardine left on Friday last for Lakeland, Florida, where they will spend the winter.

Dorothy Proctor spent the weekend-end at Macdonald Hall, Guelph, the home of Miss Jean McMillan.

Mrs. Robert Proctor returned home Saturday night after a two-weeks' visit with her son, George, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank MacMillan and family left Friday by motor for Orillia, Ontario, where they will remain for the winter.

By smashing in a rear window bashes, several nights ago, gained admittance to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Gibson, 212 Main Street, Guelph, after breaking the window, even though a rear door was locked.

Many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson will sympathize with them in the death of their five months' old son, Donald Evans, which occurred on Tuesday afternoon, after a brief illness.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Peacock and James Vansickle are representing Halton County at the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto, this week—Gazette.

OAKVILLE

Mrs. Eddie and family of England, arrived in Oakville last Friday, to join her husband, and are now living on Green Street.

The Boy Scouts are gathering old toys, which they will repair and distribute at Christmas. Alex Dymock has placed his shop at their disposal—News.

The town council has voted a resolution to set aside repairs to the pier.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Vole leave town today for Donna, Texas, where they will remain until about the first of next May.

A recent visitor to Oakville was Rev. P. G. Hart, Headmaster of Charles Hartman's school who was on his way from Philadelphia to Chicago, to which city has been removed.

Miss Janet Cunningham, nurse-in-charge at Orillia General Hospital, arrived home yesterday after a week's leave owing to the sudden death of her mother, Mrs. Wm. Cunningham—Reardon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Murray Thomas are leaving on Saturday for the south to spend the winter.

Lynn B. Smith returned to Buffalo Tuesday after visiting with Wilbert H. Shadwell on a vacation.

Ed. Warden, Duncan Campbell, of Moffat, was calling on Oakville friends on Wednesday afternoon—Star.

ERIN

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Edge spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. McGuire, at Brantford.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Austin, of Toronto, were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Austin.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gibson, Miss Doris and Master Jim, spent Sunday with friends in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Walker, of Toronto, are spending their vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Overland.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Hull are visiting with friends at Hutchinson, at Brantford, and will stay in the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto.

Mrs. T. J. Bush, W. E. Bush and Mrs. J. H. Bush called on Hilliard Bros., extensive granite growers, at Waterford, Ontario, on Sunday.

Mr. Emerson Maud's many friends will be sorry to learn that he has been quiet and unable to receive treatment at the Guelph General Hospital.

Rev. Edward Lee has been confined to his home with an attack of bronchitis and was unable to conduct the services on Sunday last. We trust he may make a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter O'Brien, of Erin Township, were attending the funeral of their nephew, the late Arthur Lane, who was accidentally shot while hunting on Thanksgiving Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Glass and daughter Jean of Windsor were weekend visitors with Dr. and Mrs. Wm. W. Glass. Miss Margaret Kennedy and Miss Helen Pass, of Guelph General Hospital, spent Tuesday with the Misses Kennedy.

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