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Our Ottawa Letter.

The great secret of the success which has attended the administration of the Agricultural Department both in the Federal and Ontario Governments is that the Ministers in charge are in every sense of the word, practical men. This is being constantly demonstrated, not only in the high state of efficiency to which the departments have been brought, but also in the up-to-date policy that is being pursued and the excellent results coming therefrom. It is also made manifest upon the frequent occasions when the Ministers appear on the public platform and discuss practical measures with practical men. This week, for example, Hon. Sidney Fisher has been talking to the farmers of Western Ontario upon the importance of care and knowledge in the matter of stock-raising, discussing the latest improvements in butter and cheese making, and posting them in the details of the requirements of the British market.

THE BUTTER AND CHEESE TRADE.
As he told the Western Ontario Cheese and Buttermakers' Association "The importance of butter and cheese could not be over-estimated, as was evidenced by the fact that during the past year some \$17,500,000 worth of cheese had been exported to England. The present was a critical time for this industry, and while in the old country last year he was startled at some things he heard, Canadian cheese was being criticized, and old country cheese was commanding higher prices; and what was worse the criticism was merited, for the quality of the Canadian cheese was not up to the standard. The Canadian cheese appeared to have been heated, and from examination it was evidently not done in transit but in the curing-rooms of the factory." Continuing, the Minister described the steps that had been taken to perfect cold storage on the cars and vessels, concluding with the remark that he hoped they would soon overcome this slur on the Canadian cheese, and again occupy the proud position they should have, in the markets of the world.

Referring to the butter and bacon trade, Mr. Fisher spoke in very optimistic terms, declaring that there was a splendid market for both these staples in the British market, and that both had already secured a high reputation there.

GEORGIAN BAY CANAL.
It is interesting to note that the Georgian Bay Canal scheme is being industriously talked up here just now. The good people of the Ottawa Valley are tremendously in earnest in their support, and if half that is claimed for it is true, the carrying out of the project would be an immense boon for the whole Dominion, and would go far toward solving the problem of providing an adequate outlet for the products of the West to the markets of the world.

THE EASTERN SAGE'S OPINION.
If the published opinions of certain journals in Quebec are to be accepted at their face value they are not complimentary to the intelligence of the electorate of Ontario. The Gazette does an amount of unnecessary worrying about the affairs of the sister province, and is always offering gratuitous advice which is probably taken for what it is worth. The latest complaint is that "Ontario is the greatest place for humbug laws on the North American Continent." That's all right. If Ontario likes it, Quebec needn't kick; and apparently they do like it, when they have kept the same Government in power to "humbug" them for over a quarter of a century. But then as the late lamented Mr. Barnum once philosophically remarked, "People like to be humbugged."

THAT TEN PER CENT ROYALTY.
One of the latest arrivals from Dawson City, Mr. W. C. Cotes, is authority for the statement that Commissioner Ogilvie has recommended a reduction of the gold royalty to 2 1/2 or 3 per cent on the net output, adding that, "the people of the district had such confidence in Mr. Ogilvie, that much extra work will be done this winter and spring and many claims, that have not been considered worth working while the 10% royalty was in force, will now be opened up." All that the Government has been waiting for is reliable data from an unprejudiced source, and if the Commissioner declares for the reduction, action will quickly be taken.

York County Council.
The York County Council commenced their January session in the old Court House, Toronto, Tuesday afternoon.
Five names were put in nomination for the position of Warden, which finally fell to Mr. T. J. Woodcock of Newmarket.
The following were selected to strike the standing committees: Messrs. High, Pugsley, Gibson, Ressor, Hall, Evans, Fisher.

Mr. Norman gave notice that he would move, "That the committee on Legislation be and are hereby instructed to oppose before the Ontario Legislature, or any committee thereof, any legislation which may be sought to dismember this county by the separation therefrom of any township or any town, the population of which does not exceed 5000."

Most of yesterday afternoon was taken up in the appointment of two auditors. After many ballots S. T. Humberstone and J. E. Widdifield were appointed.

The following gentlemen will constitute the committees for the year:
Finance—Messrs. Fisher, Hartman, Chester, Norman, and Lundy.
County Property—Messrs. Baker, Fisher, High, Ley, Boag and Lundy.

Education—Messrs. Ressor, Johnson, Hall, Gibson and Gardhouse.
By-laws and legislation—Messrs. Evans, Pugsley, High, Stokes, Hall, Gibson and Ressor.
Printing and Contingencies—Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, Norman, Baker and Ley.
Equalization—Norman, Boag, Chester, Hartman, Gardhouse, Lundy Pugsley Ressor, and Fisher.

WANTED—SEVERAL TRUSTWORTHY persons in this state to manage our business in their own and nearby counties. It is mainly office work conducted at home. Salary straight \$300 a year and expenses—definite, home-made, no more, no less salary. Monthly \$75. References. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope, Herbert E. Hess, Pres., Dept. M. Chicago, Ill. 11-26

Maple

The funeral of the late Mrs. John Kinnee took place here on Monday afternoon and was largely attended. After the interment a service was held in the church conducted by Rev. J. W. Stewart. Rev. A. J. Toye, a former pastor took part in the services.

On Monday night a lecture on French Missions, illustrated by lime-light views, was given in the Presbyterian church by Rev. Mr. Rondeau.
A large number from here attended the S. S. Convention held in the Lutheran church at Sherwood last Thursday and Friday.

Prof. Kent gave his scientific entertainment in the Masonic Hall last Saturday evening. The boys and girls present enjoyed his songs and experiments immensely.
On Monday evening Mr. Ernest Coombs gave an address to the Epworth League on "How to employ leisure time." There was a good attendance and all enjoyed the address.

Mr. T. B. Speight, P. L. S., started on Tuesday morning on a trip to England. He will be gone two or three months.

Mrs. H. Kirby of Thessalon is visiting relatives around here.
Mr. Malcolm McMillan and son John of Shoal Lake, Man., are spending a few weeks with friends in this vicinity.

Mr. Robert Barr's horses ran away on Tuesday, throwing him out, and inflicting a severe wound on the head.

Village Council.

The Council met on Jan. 23, 1899, pursuant to adjournment.
The Reeve in the chair. Members present, Messrs. Hill, Palmer and Trench. Minutes of 9th inst. read and adopted.

A communication was read dated Jan. 20 from the Hamilton Bridge Works Company, making enquiry relative to the Building of a Market house at Richmond Hill.

Mr. James Wright addressed the Council on behalf of the Lacrosse Club, asking permission to use the skating rink for one night to hold a carnival for the benefit of the said club.

Mr. David McKenzie appealed to the council for a refund of his dog-tax paid by him for the year 1898 for which he was erroneously assessed.

Moved by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Palmer that the Treasurer be instructed to refund one dollar dog-tax to Mr. McKenzie.—Carried.

The Returning Officer's account of expenses attending the election of Municipal Councillors for the village amounting to seven dollars was read.

Moved by Mr. Trench seconded by Mr. Hill that the treasurer be instructed to pay the account for election expenses just read.—Carried.

The detailed statement of the Village Treasurer's Accounts and Auditors' report for the past year was submitted to the council.

Moved by Mr. Palmer seconded by Mr. Hill that the report of the Village Auditors be adopted and that the Village Treasurer's Accounts be approved and now passed as finally audited.—Carried.

Mr. Trench introduced By-Law No. 169 to appoint certain officers for the Village of Richmond Hill for the year 1899, which was read a first, second and third time and passed.
The following are the appointments made:—

Assessor—Hesse A. Nicholls, same salary as last year.
Inspector and Pound Keeper—J. Brownlee, same salary as last year.
High School Trustee—J. A. E. Switzer.
Public Library—H. A. Nicholls.
Board of Health—M. McNair.
Fence-Viewers—M. McNair, J. W. Elliott, James Freck.
Standing Committees are as follows:
Fire, Water and Lights—Savage, Palmer and Trench.
By-Laws—Innes, Savage, Trench.
Park and Buildings—Palmer, Hill and Trench.
Finance—Savage, Palmer and Innes.
Streets and Sidewalks—The whole Council
Council adjourned.
M. TEEFY, Clerk.

Victoria Square

The semi-monthly shoot of the Victoria Square Rifle Club was held on the afternoon of Jan. 21st with scores as follows:

	100 yds.	200 yds.	T1
L. Stoutenburgh	47	41	48
W. Scott	44	39	83
G. Forester	45	33	78
Thos. Reid	36	38	74
W. Mustard	38	37	75

Sale Register.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25—Credit sale of farm stock, implements will be sold by public auction on lot 31, con. 3, Scarborough, the property of Jas. Ferron. Sale at 12 o'clock. Terms 9 months Eckardt and Prentice, auctioneers.
THURSDAY, Jan. 26—Credit sale of farm stock implements, &c., the property of James Rowlands, lot 23, con. 7 York Tp. Terms 9 months. Saigeon & McEwen, auctioneers.
FRIDAY, Jan. 27—Credit sale of farm stock, implements, &c., on lot 32, 2nd con. Vaughan, the property of Wm. Washington, sr. No reserve. Sale at 1 o'clock sharp. Terms 9 months. Saigeon & McEwen, aucts.
SATURDAY, Jan. 28—Administrators sale of property in the village of Weston, the estate of the late Benjamin Franklin Ploimau.
MONDAY, Jan. 30—Credit sale of horses and vehicles, the property of George Swift, Hotel keeper, Thistleton. For reserve as proprietor has sold out his business. Terms 3 months. Saigeon & McEwen, auctioneers.
FRIDAY, February 3—Credit sale of farm stock, implements, &c., on lot 27, con. 7 of Vaughan, the property of Neal Black. Sale at 1 o'clock. Terms 9 months. McEwen & Saigeon, auctioneers.
SATURDAY, Feb. 4—Credit sale of cattle, horses, pigs, implements, vehicles, &c., at Richmond Hill, the property of H. E. Hopper. Sale at 1 o'clock. Terms 7 months. Saigeon & McEwen, auctioneers.
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8—Credit sale of farm stock, implements, &c., on lot 17, con. 5, East York, the property of Wm. Mason. Terms 9 months. Lunch at 11 a.m. Eckardt & Prentice, auctioneers.
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15—Credit sale of farm stock, implements, furniture &c., lot 7, rear 2nd con. Merikham, near Dollar P. O., the property of Edward Barker. Sale at 12 o'clock, noon. Lunch at 11. Terms 9 months. Eckardt & Prentice, auctioneers.
Parties getting their bills printed at this Office will receive a notice similar to the above FREE OF CHARGE.

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29-2 Headford P. O.

FARM TO RENT

Lot 32, 2nd Con. Vaughan, containing 200 acres. 145 acres under cultivation; 45 acres fall ploughed, 16 acres wheat and 20 acres seeded down. For terms apply on premises. Possession at any time. 28-1f

FARM TO RENT

Lot 45, 1st con. Markham, adjoining Richmond Hill Village, containing 200 acres is to rent. Possession 1st of April. Apply to
THOS. PALMER,
28-1f Richmond Hill.
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