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# The Liberal

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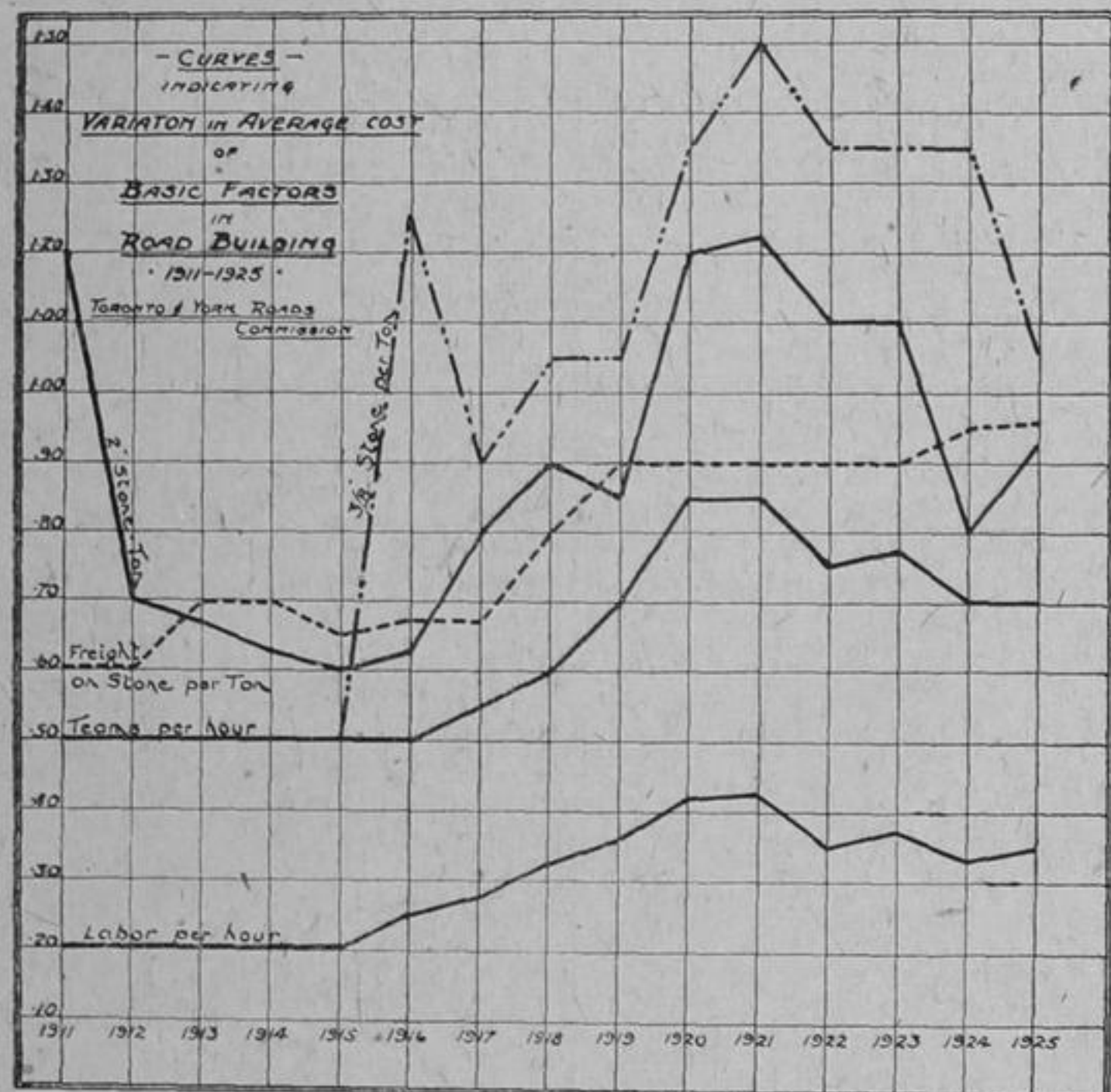
## YORK PIONEER AND PRESENT

BY E. A. JAMES

Article 27

### VARIATIONS IN COST OF ROAD MATERIALS AND LABOR IN YORK

The fifteen years during which the Commission has been operating has witnessed a considerable increase in the cost of all items entering into a road. Stone, which cost \$1.10 per ton delivered, in 1911 now costs nearly \$2.00, and rose to \$2.25 during 1920 and 1921. Teams, which could be obtained in 1911 for 50 cents per hour, now average 80 to 90 cents per hour. Labor, which was plentiful in 1911 at 20 cents per hour, now averages 40 cents and higher in the immediate vicinity of Toronto. Oil and tar for surface treatment have more than doubled in price. The accom-



panying diagram shows graphically the variation in average cost of a number of the principal items in road construction, and brings out clearly that, though costs have dropped considerably since the peak period in 1920 and 1921 they are still much higher than when the Commission commenced operations.

Construction costs in the County of York have been higher than those in other counties of Ontario, partly on account of heavier traffic requirements, but also largely on account of the dearth of road material within the County. With the exception of gravel, which is found only in the northerly sections, and a small quantity of field stone, all material used on the system has been brought in by rail. As shown in the diagram, the freight rate, with the exception of the "peak" years 1920 to 1923, has been approximately equal to the cost of the stone at the quarry, and in a number of cases, notably on Yonge Street, where it was necessary to bring the stone over more than one railway, the freight was considerably in excess of the value of the stone.

N.B.—The writer welcomes comments, criticisms or corrections and he also hopes readers will forward descriptions of incidents connected with the County of York, of which they have particular knowledge.

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## WOMEN'S ASSOC. ELECTED OFFICERS

The annual meeting of the Women's Association of the Presbyterian Church was held at the home of Mrs. Buchanan, Roseview Avenue, with a full attendance. After the treasurer's statement had been read the association found themselves to be in a very creditable financial condition and felt that their labors had been duly rewarded. Several Christmas readings were given and items of interest discussed after which the chief order of business was carried out with the following officers elected for the ensuing year:—Mrs. Sneddon presided. Honorary president, Mrs. Campbell; President, Mrs. Milton Savage; vice-president, Miss M. Moody; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Marsh; Treasurer, Mrs. C. Cooper; Secretary, Mrs. G. Yerex; Flower Committee, Miss Moody and Miss Ireland.

The president thanked the ladies for their co-operation and assistance during the past year, the success of which was only made possible by their united efforts. She urged each member not to slacken in their efforts rather push forward and make the year 1927 a banner year. She also made reference to the kindly help rendered by the secretary and to the capable manner in which Mrs. Cooper had looked after the finances of the Society.

After a delightful tea provided by the hostess a very pleasant meeting was brought to a close.

## York Mills

A school concert and exhibition of the pupils work was held on Wednesday evening, December 15th at the Baron Renfrew school, York Mills. The principal, Mr. Harris, was chairman. The National Anthem was sung by all. After which the following program was enjoyed by all.

Address of welcome, Claire McGee; Explanation of exhibits, Piano solo, Margaret Jeffries; The Mad tea party, from Alice in Wonderland taken from the third reader and dramatized by the pupils, duchess, hatter, doormouse, etc.; Reading, The Pond by Jean Joy; recitation "The Christmas Turkey", Mary Paterson; Encore "The Razor"; Selections on Orthophonic phonograph; "Mill on The Floss," girls of senior fourth; Piano solo, march, Ruth Odium; Drama, The Hare and the Tortoise, junior 1st Selections on Phonograph; distribution of Christmas cards, the work of the pupils; reading "The Blue Jay," Mark Twain by four boys; selection on phonograph, "Jingle Bells;" Recitation, "The slaves dream," four boys junior fourth; Selection on Phonograph; demonstration by Mr. Harris of method of teaching literature junior 2nd; Recitation, "The Snow" Roy Rochford; Recitation, Bobby Joy, Evelyn Rochford; Recitation, Eleanor Hogg and Bobby Lillie. Compositions based on data from the national Geographic were then read by the pupils who had written them.

The Swan by Ruth Odium; Poland by Margaret Batchelor; Guatamala by Hilda Craig; Egypt, by Mary Paterson; Pearls, by Claire McGee; A Trip to Canada, by Wm. Sylvester; Historical by Alice Crow; Reading "Canada" by Harold Tustin. Refreshments were then passed around by the girls.

### Rector Welcomed

On Thursday evening a delightful reception was held in the Parish Hall of St. John's Church, York Mills in honor of Mr. and Mrs. McCollum.

The program began with the singing of the National Anthem. Mr. Goode, the chairman gave an address in which he welcomed Mr. and Mrs. McCollum to the parish.

Mr. McCollum then responded and thanked the people very warmly for all the improvements which had been made in the Rectory.

Miss Hicks Lyne and Mrs. Moore sang delightfully accompanied by Miss Tuchen.

Miss Mary Paterson notified, Mrs. Boubtbee and Mrs van Nostrand officiated at the supper table assisted by Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Goode, Miss Goode and others.

Great credit was due to Mrs. Guttridge the convenor for the success of the evening.

The Sunday School of St. John's Church will hold their Christmas tree and entertainment on Thursday, Dec. the thirtieth.

## MAPLE

(Special to the Liberal)

The dance at the Community hall on Saturday evening was fairly well attended. The Phillip's orchestra of Aurora furnished the music.

The Annual Christmas Tree and entertainment of St. Andrew's Sabbath School has been postponed on account of illness among the children.

The pupils of Hope Public School held their annual concert in the Masonic Hall on Monday evening. The Hall was crowded and a good program, of dialogues, choruses, recitations and drills was given. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. T. Saigeon.

Mrs. T. Jackson has gone to spend a couple of weeks with her parents near Collingwood.

Several members of the Salvation Army Band of Lansing were in the village and played a number of selections of Christmas music on Saturday night. They met with quite a generous response and before leaving were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Robeson.

### Record Production

The following is from the New Lisheard Speaker.

As far as known Mr. Wm. A Reid of Earleton holds the record for Alsike Clover seed production for this season. Mr. Reid had 236 bags of Alsike and 10 bags red Clover seed, all of this season's threshing.

He retained eight bags of Alsike for his own and some neighbor's use and sold the balance through F. W. Hendry of New Lisheard to the Wm. Rennie Seed Co., of Toronto, whose buyer, Mr. H. C. Baley, was instrumental in putting the deal through. This means that Mr. Reid has received enough money from his crop of seed to pay for the land value of any ordinary Ontario farm.

Mr. Bailey has been purchasing clover seed from farmers for the past twenty-five years but cannot remember having had a larger Alsike transaction with any farmer for one season, during that time.

## Markham Twp. Council

Council met pursuant to statute on December 15th, with all the members present and Reeve Gohn in the chair. Communications were received from Fred Pike re gravel trees and fence. Dr. Hore re bill for attending G. Vanzant.

From Dr. C. R. McKay, medical Health officer, with annual report showing, 55 deaths during year; rate 11.1 per 1,000, 90 live births 2 still births; 1 maternal death, 1 death under 1 year. Communicable diseases scarlet fever, 14, 1 death; diphtheria, 6, 1 death; measles, 43; mumps 12; whooping cough, 21; chickenpox, 10; tuberculosis, 2 cases and 2 deaths Milk supply from local dairies. Total expenditure by Board of Health, \$331.98.

The Township of Pickering sent in an account for \$216.52, amount expended by Pickering on Markham townline.

### Resolutions were passed:—

That L. O. L. No. 228 be granted the use of the basement of the Township Hall for regular monthly meetings and also the use of the main hall for one occasion free, providing that the proceeds for the latter meeting be given to charity for the rental of \$35.00 for 1927.

That a grant of \$25.00 be paid to the Treasurer of Unionville Public Library, also a grant of \$15.00 to Markham Public Library.

That the Treasurer pay to D. M. Hoover the sum of \$40.00 for one sheep killed and three injured as valued by T. Holden, sheep valuator.

The road superintendent, Eric Thompson, was instructed to put gravel on certain roads to fill ruts, etc.

The reeve was instructed to check over financial statement, and the council adjourned sine die.

## Edgeley

Edgeley United Church was filled last week to hear Miss Ella Whitmore daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Whitmore of Edgeley in a dramatic and humorous recital for the benefit of the Ladies' Aid. Mr. Thomas McLay, the Scottish Tenor, Mr. William Black baritone and Mr. Clare Henley, pianist and musical monologue artist assisted Miss Whitmore whose successful effort brought in a good sum to the "Aid" Funds.



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## I. D. Ramer