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DURHAM CHRONICLE

IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.

DURHAM, NOVEMBER 1, 1906.

NORTH BRUCE ELECTION.

The indications point to the election of John Tolmie, ex-M. P., the erstwhile Grit. Patron, P. P. A., etc., over A. McLellan, Conservative, by a substantial majority of 200.

The fact that John Tolmie, Grit, Patron, etc., has a political past, did not cut much of a swath in that riding. Men in the country removed from the influences of town and city life change very slowly.

Yet in this case there has been a decided change, as North Bruce, left to itself is Conservative. Now what caused the slump? It might be that the London Election Scandal caused it; or the extension of the fishing season in Bruce for five days; or the Quebec by-election; or the fact that John Tolmie is an exceedingly popular man among all classes, may have something to do with it. Of course it is rather unfortunate that he is a Grit, but of course that is his own funeral.

What if John Tolmie did vote against two cents a mile on the railways; suppose he was absent when the matter of restricting the Express companies came up; and suppose he did run as a Patron against a hard shell Grit? Does the good book not say:—"There is more joy in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth, than over ninety and nine just persons who have no need of repentance."

Just at present there is great joy in the Grit camp in North Bruce over the prodigal's return and election.

WILL AYLESWORTH RETIRE?

No one will for a moment dispute the fact that Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, is and always has been a clever lawyer. Aided by his singular ability, Ross managed to stave off the day of retribution for a long time, but that day came at last notwithstanding Aylesworth's elquence and deft manipulation and jugglery of the law. Aylesworth succeeded well as a lawyer, and he became rich.

Now take Aylesworth the politician, and if we are to judge from his record since he entered the political arena, he is one of the worst dismal failures in Canada. He exhibits singular incapacity to grasp vital issues, and his inability to raise the plane of debate above the country school order, has

made him a laughing stock, among students of political economy.

He is what Sir John A. Macdonald once called Cartwright as Finance Minister, "a misfit minister."

Aylesworth the politician, bids fair to undo the brilliant reputation Aylesworth the lawyer built up for himself.

Our word for it, Aylesworth won't remain in politics long; there is too much talking back to him and that he don't—or won't stand. Besides there is not enough money in it—for Aylesworth—as it takes him all his time defending the political rogues with which he is associated, without the usual fee he used to get.

Yes, Aylesworth is getting oh so tired of politics.

GENERAL TOPICS.

Another death occurred as the result of the Foster Wedding Anniversary in Oneida township, near Caledonia. This was Richard Laidman, of Binbrook, and there are also others who are yet seriously ill, but are expected to recover. It was first thought the trouble was due to ptomaine poisoning from eating gelatin chicken, but it is now believed to have been typhoid, which resulted from drinking impure water.

Charles R. Gray, a writer for veterinary journals, poisoned himself in Buffalo by swallowing the contents of a bottle of laudanum. Gray was formerly an Orillia man and was forty-eight years of age.

A Baptist minister in Calgary last Sunday night arraigned the police and civil authorities as participants in vice and lawlessness prevailing in the city, and the majority of the congregation signified their agreement by rising to their feet. If things are as bad as they seem Calgary must be a rough town.

Snowfall in the Cobalt mining district has practically set aside the work of prospectors for the present season.

An appalling disaster occurred near Atlantic City, N. J., on Sunday last when an electric train left the rails crossing a bridge and three cars were plunged headlong into the deep waters below. Fifty three lives are reported lost, of whom forty nine have been identified.

The English Education Bill has been before the House of Lords and amended by a vote of 256 to 56, making religious instruction compulsory during a part of each day.

A writ was issued at Osgoode Hall by W. J. Lindsay against Wm. Laidlaw, K. C. claiming \$25000 damages for statements made by Mr. Laidlaw, alleging that Mr. Laidlaw falsely and maliciously published certain statements about the plaintiff in connection with the sale of Farmers' Bank Stock.

Thieves broke into the office of the Connell Coal Co. Toronto, and carried off a stove.

Toronto Junction Council at its last meeting gave the first reading to a By-law to submit a vote for the repeal of local option. The Council was not of one mind and a resolution was passed instructing the Clerk to submit the petition to a scrutiny before the next meeting of the Council.

Mrs. J. T. Collyer, of Guelph, was present at the funeral of her brother, Mr. Albert Eya.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mrs. Philip Eva and family wish to convey their heartfelt thanks to all their friends for their kindness to her during her great affliction in the loss of her beloved son, Albert Eva.

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TEACHERS MEET

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the South Grey Teachers' Institute was held in Flesherston school-house on Thursday and Friday last.

It was the usual convention weather—rain the night before—rain again in the morning, rain at regular intervals during the session, and rain to come home by. Notwithstanding all this, a load of sixteen from here defied the elements and started out early Thursday morning for the scene of the battle, but there were no guns fired during the forenoon.

At half-past one the president, Dominie Reid, of No. 3 Artemesia, who has been teaching there for about eighteen years, took his place on the platform, read a portion of Scripture and asked Inspector Campbell to lead in prayer.

Secretary Allan read the minutes of the last meeting, which were adopted on motion of Inspector Campbell, seconded by J. S. Rowe, Principal of Markdale Public Schools. The Secretary was reminded in the resolution, however, that he had forgotten to make a memo of the excursion to Guelph and the sightseeing and feasting enjoyed there at the last meeting. When Mr. Allan got this little matter straightened out properly, he read a resolution from the West Grey Teachers' Association, relating to the desirability of placing urban schools on the same footing as country schools regarding salaries, grading of certificates, etc. Referred to committee on Resolutions.

Messrs. Rowe, Wood and Coleridge and Misses A. C. McKenzie and M. McClocklin were appointed a general committee to report on nomination of sub-committees and to report at a subsequent meeting of the convention.

Inspector Campbell gave his report of the Ontario Educational Association of 1906. He confined his remarks to the great events of that meeting, which was held just prior to the great changes in the regulations relating to rural school salaries and other important matters. The points emphasized in his address were:

- (1) The Nationalizing of our Educational system which is now only provincial in scope.
- (2) The Harmonizing of the Public Schools and the Education Department and the granting of more power to public schools in the Education Department than they hitherto have had.
- (3) The establishment of Township Boards, which would minimize the defects of the present system.
- (4) Teachers' unions, superannuation for teachers, mechanical training, and higher scholastic attainments for teachers engaged in continuation work.

President Reid next delivered his address on "Physical Training," and in his well chosen remarks he emphasized the "mens sane in corpore sano" idea—a sound mind in a sound body as an absolute essential in teachers, whose average life is shorter than that of almost any other employment.

Miss Bains read an excellent paper on "Moral Culture," which was considered good enough by the Convention to be requested for publication in the local papers, in one or more of which it will appear in due time.

Mr. J. L. Cornwell, B. A., Principal of Meaford High School, was next introduced to the Convention, and after a commendable reference to the improved condition of pupils now entering the High School compared with that of a few years ago, illustrated briefly the work in Algebra and Arithmetic, to which special attention should be given as a foundation for the superstructure of the more advanced work to be given in the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. The new geometry he considered a great improvement on the old methods of teaching the subject. Would recommend thorough training and accuracy in mechanical drawing, in which pupils should reach a high state of proficiency before entering the theoretical work. Thoroughness in all work is a great essential.

Miss Trimble of Flesherston, who spent some time as a musical student in Detroit, rendered a beautiful solo which was highly appreciated. For this some teacher rose boldly in his place and remarked "Allow me to move a vote of thanks."

Mr. Drimmie addressed the Convention on "The Influence of Teachers." The subject is a hackneyed one, but we feel assured that Mr. Drimmie gave new ideas, and an inspiration by which all might be improved. We understand that Mr. Drimmie is a lineal descendant of a man of the same name who taught in Flesherston many years ago, and had Joe Clark, of "Saturday Night," as one of his illustrious pupils.

The evening entertainment consisted of a Dramatic Performance by the Flesherston school staff assisted by a number of the citizens of Flesherston. Principal Mansell was director of ceremonies, and the play was exceedingly well rendered and highly enjoyed by

a goodly audience of teachers and citizens.

Friday morning's session was opened in the usual way by devotional exercises, after which Miss Stafford gave a very instructive paper on "School Gardening." The essay is to be published in the local papers, and as Miss Stafford is recognized as a brilliant star in the South Grey Teachers' sisterhood we can easily anticipate its merit and recommend a careful perusal of the essay when it appears.

Mr. Rowe, Principal of Markdale Public School, gave a very thoughtful paper on School Work. Knowledge of the work, Cheerfulness in performing it, Patience in the discharge of duty, and a love for the incalculable of knowledge in the pupil are all essentials to success. The paper was well received and favorably commented on by prominent members of the Convention.

Inspector Campbell gave a pithy and pointed address on the amended school Act in its relation to teachers. He pointed out that the state was paying largely for the training of teachers, and that it was the duty of the state to see that these state trained teachers should remain in the profession and not go elsewhere,—but what are the facts. How can the state keep their teachers when other provinces are offering better inducements. The method adopted by the state may not be the best one, but it is the best means available at present, and it is therefore the duty of every teacher irrespective of political or other influences to assist the state in having the law fully carried out. The changes in the regulations were made for the benefit of education, and thus for the benefit of teachers, who should make themselves fully conversant with the new regulations in order that they may be missionaries in enlightening the rate-payers who have not read the bill. All teachers must know their duty and carry it out in the amended act in respect to salaries or submit to their certificates being cancelled.

A rational method of teaching Geography to third and fourth classes so as to make it interesting and profitable was pointed out by Mr. Allan, Principal of the Durham schools. We should first teach by means of observation which is the foundation for a great deal of geography to be classed as "Nature Study." Too often teachers are satisfied with mere definitions, words only, without even the nucleus for a thought. As far as possible the pupils should be led or allowed to see things for themselves, and those facts in geography which the pupils have not the privilege of seeing should be taught chiefly by a development of the imaginative faculties. Important facts should receive most attention and the mind should not be burdened with a mere list of names. Map drawing is highly desirable and should be much practised.

Mr. Howey gave an excellent paper on "Music in Schools," dividing his subject into the Why, What an How we should teach in music. Why—Because of its use, its attractiveness, its ennobling influence, its aid in physical development, its voice improvement, etc., etc. How—By repetition, personal influence, or the influence of a pupil who can lead, etc.

Mr. M. K. Richardson was called upon and extended a hearty welcome to the teachers. He referred to his present position in looking after homeless children in the province, and how his work brought him in closer touch than ever before with the teaching fraternity. He expressed a desire that teachers having "home children" in their sections would notify him if such children were not given the advantages of receiving a good education.

"Wherein lies the Teacher's Success" was the title of a paper read by Miss Soul, and was deemed worthy of publication in the local papers of the inspectorate.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President—Mr. Mansell, Flesherston.
First Vice—Miss May McClocklin.
Second Vice—Miss H. Stafford.
Secy.—Messrs. Mr. Thos. Allan, Durham.
Management—Messrs. Wood and Reid and Misses McKenzie, Moore and Murdoch.

Short addresses were made by Mr. Cornwell, Rev. Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Sheppard, of Markdale Trustee Board, and others.

Votes of thanks were tendered the citizens of Flesherston, and to those who took part in providing the entertainment the proceeds of which amounted to \$50.

It was resolved that \$40 of the proceeds be given to Mr. Mansell for Educational purposes.

The Convention was closed at 4:30 by singing the National Anthem.

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Flesherston.

On Thursday evening the usual entertainment in connection with the Convention was given town hall, when a four act entitled "Because I love you" rendered by the Flesherston Dramatic Society to a large audience. Synopsis of the scenes—Act 1—George Washington, "A country girl in old Virginia. An imprudent wedding. Act 2—Lover's leap blue mountain precipice. A rescue. Act 3—The Courtleigh plantation mansion. A woman's Act 4—The mountain studio, a car's paradise. An affair of honor cast of characters was as follows: "Imogene Courtleigh"—Wilful ward and wealthy—Miss May "Prudence Freeheart"—Imogene's companion, "Ginger," a gypsy Miss Coulson; "Nance Tyson," her supposed mother, Mrs. M. "Buck Tyson," Nance's husband a gypsy tinker; "Horace," an artist and accidently lover of man, W. C. Livingstone; Potts, Vermer's chum and friend with Ginger; Ed Bentham Courtleigh; Imogene's guardian, Emerson Bellamy; "Elmer Vartert," New York dude, C. N. arldson; "Major Duffey," clerk, etc., Dr. Murray; "Ripley," a Virginian landlord; Richardson; "Lige," a gentle color, Geo. McTavish. To elate we haven't space, but must play was well balanced and ingeniously sustained throughout. was shown by the unabated and at times hearty applause audience. All took their part and each one distinguished herself in some part of that made up the whole. The stage was good and the appropriate was painted by Mr. M. K. Hogg and was assisted by Miss Hogg and Miss Ella Karstedt, coeds, \$50.

The annual business meeting of the Flesherston branch of the Bible Society was held in the Presbyterian church on Thursday evening. The auditors' report showed the past year \$61.46 had been received and disbursed as follows: For \$11.60; to Upper Canada B. S. Quebec B. S., \$9.86; British & B. S., \$20. Collectors were elected and officers were elected as follows: Rev. L. F. Kipp; Secretary, W. Thom; Treasurer and Dep. Mr. W. H. Bant. Rev. N. S. Sunday, agent for the B. S. Sunday here and delivered dresses in behalf of the speaking in the Baptist church morning, in the Presbyterian in the afternoon and in the M church in the evening.

The annual fowl supper