

DECIDED AGAINST BUILDING NEW HALL

Ratepayers Present at Meeting Last Friday Night Against Project.

The meeting in the town hall last Friday night, called by Mayor Smith to discuss the proposed sale of the existing town hall and the erection of a new one decided against any change in the present situation, and no new theatrical accommodation need be expected for a couple of decades, at least.

The meeting, while not largely attended was, however, fairly representative. Some of the heaviest taxpayers, and some of the lightest, also were present, as well as a number of the ladies of the I. O. E. E., who, however, came only to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the voluminous blasts of oratory belched forth on occasion by their "shelled warts" lords and masters.

In the speaking that followed the opening of the meeting by Mayor Smith, who stated its object, there was little exception taken to the statements often made that Durham surely needs a new hall. On this all were agreed. The need of a waterworks system was imperative, and while the scheme was defeated last January, in the opinion of most of the speakers the question is not dead yet, and Durham may find herself in the same class with the town of Forest, and waterworks ordered by the Ontario Health Department. Another argument advanced, too, was the high cost of building, labor, etc. It was thought that the time of re-adjustment of prices was near at hand and that the cost of building would be lower in the very near future. Anyway, it was not deemed wise to sell the hall at the present time and build another that would cost at least from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

Reeve Calder was the chief exponent for the building of a town hall, and gave many reasons for so doing, which, while agreed to by the majority, were not quite strong enough to convince the meeting that they should part with their shovels—just yet, at any rate. Mr. Calder thought the town should be willing to make improvements and advance along with other towns of her size. He explained how the difference in revenue would offset a lot of the extra expense incurred, and suggested that the town pay for the hall by issuing 30-year debentures. Two mills on the dollar would pay for the building of a new hall. Councillor Macdonald, however, said he had had legal advice on the matter, and that a hall, if built, would have to be paid for in 20-year debentures. To this the Reeve made no reply, but insinuated that a lot of the opposition to the town hall was on account of the defeat of the waterworks by-law last January.

Another feature that helped turn the meeting against the hall proposition was the recent recommendation of the High school inspector, who has practically stated that it is altogether likely Durham will be called upon to build an addition to the High school in the not far distant future. As nearly as could be given, this addition would cost in the neighborhood of \$15,000 to \$20,000, and while the County paid quite a lot of it, it was just taking the money out of one pocket and putting it in the other—it was the municipalities that paid the county in the first place. Mr. William Moore was, we think, the only speaker who endorsed Mr. Calder's remarks, though it is quite possible others were present who didn't speak on the matter, but who would favor the erection of a new hall.

On motion of Bell-Laidlaw, it was carried that the Council be instructed to take no steps in the matter.

FORMER HIGHWAY ENGINEER NOW AT MOUNT CLEMENS

Mr. George McKeelnie received a card from Mr. G. Lynch this week stating that he had accepted a position at Mount Clemens, Mich., and that he would commence his duties at once. Mr. Lynch says the remuneration is quite a lot better than that paid by the Ontario Government.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynch and family, who occupied the apartment over the Central Drug Store, were esteemed residents of the town up to a couple of weeks ago, when they moved to Westport. In the general shake-up in the Highways Department last February, Mr. Lynch was one of the engineers who was let out, and his friends here will be glad to know he has secured an even better position with a private corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Lynch were popular residents here and the whole town will join in tendering congratulations.

DECLARES ALBERTA FIRES OF INCENDIARY ORIGIN

Alberta Forestry Chief Makes Statement and Says Situation is Worst He Ever Experienced.

"This is the worst fire situation I have experienced," said Col. R. H. Palmer, chief of the forestry service in the Edmonton, Alberta, area, Friday, who has just returned to that city from inspecting the forest fire conditions in the North. "Most of the fires are not due to accidents. I am satisfied. There are signs of people trying to start fires going all over the North."

Col. Palmer did not commit himself concerning his opinion of the motive behind the incendiaries, but it is alleged at Edmonton that many of the settlers are deliberately setting the fires in order to obtain jobs fighting them.

METHODIST DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT MT. FOREST

Successful Year Reported by Meeting Which Was Representative of the Whole District.

The annual meeting of the Mount Forest District of the Methodist church was held in Mount Forest on Thursday, May 15.

The circuits of the district were well represented by the large number of laymen in attendance. With one exception all departments of the church reported an increase in financial returns, and circuit successes were a cause of much satisfaction to both the members of the district and ladies' organizations of the local churches.

A district evangelistic campaign during the fall of 1924 under the Department of Social Service and Evangelism was encouraged. The great gain to the district through the work of the Northern Summer School at Miramichi Bay was favorably commented upon, and a resolution, pledging full support to the enterprise, was passed. The district as a unit pledged itself to an objective drive to reach the home missionary work of the district.

The district placed on record its appreciation of the Ontario Temperance Act and its valued enforcement, and urged the loyal support of this worthy means of restraint by every Christian man and woman against the audacious and outrageous methods employed in bootlegging, heartily commended the constant vigilance of the Provincial officers and the successful securing of convictions and closing of loopholes which have meant the lowering of community morals, and deplored the fact that so many so-called house parties are the enemies of temperance by the bold introduction of intoxicating liquors, and of the treating systems and protested against any repeal whatsoever of the O. T. A.

The following is a digest of the statistical returns:

- Raised for Missions, \$3,895, increase \$364.
Raised for Connexional Funds \$8,114, increase \$523.
Raised for Circuit purposes \$13,877, increase \$309.
Raised for Ministerial Support \$12,550, increase \$695.
Raised for all purposes \$35,052, increase \$1,628.
Sunday Schools, 21; Officers, Teachers and Scholars, 1,513, increase 109; Young People's Societies, 8, increase 1; Membership of Y.P.S. 294, increase 129.

CHIMNEY FIRE CAUSED LOT OF EXCITEMENT

Fire Department Called Out, But Luckily Had Nothing To Do.

A chimney fire in the Lynn & Wilson butcher block on Saturday about noon caused a lot of excitement, considerable smoke in the upper part of the building, and gave the firemen an after-dinner run that settled their dinner and used up a lot of their surplus wind. Luckily, outside of the muss and slow carried upstairs by willing helpers, no damage was done, as the fire was confined to the chimney in which it started.

The fire was evidently caused from an accumulation of soot becoming ignited and, the flue being plugged, the smoke came out through the stovepipe hole in the residence upstairs in such volume that it was thought for a time there was fire in the partition. The fire department made a good run when an alarm was turned in, but had little to do other than stand by till all danger was over.

FIRST BAND CONCERT NEXT WEDNESDAY

Local Musical Organization Opens Summer Season With Good Program.

Durham Citizens' Band commences their summer program of concerts next Wednesday night at 8 o'clock, when they will render a good program from the bandstand on Federal Square, as formerly.

Though somewhat handicapped in the early spring by the resignation of Bandmaster Wilson and the difficulty of securing a new leader, the organization is again working one hundred per cent and at a recent meeting Mr. Harry Huggill was appointed leader. Mr. Ronald Giles is chairman, and Messrs. C. Buschlen and Wm. Lake on the board of the Band's executive committee. At the meeting the band-boys extended a hearty vote of thanks, showing their appreciation of the services of the President, Mr. P. Gagnon, and the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. H. R. Koch, for their interest and support.

The following program will be rendered next Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.:

- 1. March, "The Show Boy."
2. Serenade, "The Lovers."
3. "Excursion."
4. Waltz, "I Love You."
5. Trombone Solo, "My Old Kentucky Home (with variations)."
6. March, "The Coon's Brigade."
7. Waltz, "The Silver Glade."
8. Overture, "Operatic Mingle."
9. March, "The Town Booster."
10. Medley, "Home Songs."
11. "God Save the King."

Agnes MacPhail, M. P., might try her pacifist propaganda on the church unionists and antis at Ottawa.—Hamilton Herald.

LOCAL AUTOISTS HAD UNLUCKY WEEK-END

Collisions of Various Kinds Mar Pleasures of Many.

Durham and vicinity have been unusually lucky in the matter of auto accidents, but this last week-end the jinx seemed to have been in pursuit of them. Saturday night, a car driven by Martin Laidler bumped into a rig belonging to Lachie McLean of the Rocky, somewhat badly damaging the harness and buggy. That same evening, Bob Wilson was going south on Garafra street and when opposite the Smith Bros' garage a car pulled out from the yard with the result that Wilson's car hit the Hanover bus amidships, doing more or less damage to both cars. The Hanover man admitted himself in the wrong, he paid the shot for the repairing.

On Sunday night while coming home from the Masonic church parade at Hanover, some of the local brethren report having seen a cow laid out on the road near Allan Park, not dead but badly bent, having apparently been hit by a passing auto.

On Monday, not to be outdone, Dr. Smith and a car from Collingwood had an argument up near The Red new corner in which both were considerably damaged. Both paid their own repair bills, we understand.

For a law-abiding community of extremely careful motorists, the past week-end has been about the most strenuous we have encountered in a long time.

TENDER JUMPED TRACK AND DELAYED C. N. R. NIGHT TRAIN

Arrived Here About Two O'Clock on Sunday Morning.—No One Was Injured.

The heavy rains of the past couple of weeks have been doing quite a lot of damage to the roadbed tracks throughout the district and we understand a good many "slow" orders have been issued by the railroad officials. While we have heard of no washouts in the immediate vicinity of Durham, there are several places on the run between here and Toronto where the roadbed has softened and slow orders have been issued.

It is possible that one of these soft places was responsible for the delay of last Saturday night's C. N. R. train from Toronto, which arrived here about two o'clock Sunday morning, nearly five hours late. Near Fergus, one of the trucks on the Toronto flyer jumped the rails, necessitating the delay.

A derailed truck on the C. N. R. northbound noon train on the Palmerston-Owen sound branch last Thursday also caused damage to ties on the track for some distance about a mile north of Chesley. The truck had been off the track for some time before it was discovered, as its derailment did not create any disturbance on the train. The train was got under way in about an hour.

TORONTO'S "DURHAM CLUB" NOT FOUNDED BY RED CROSS

Reader Says Our Statement to This Effect is Incorrect.

In one of our news articles last week, The Chronicle stated that the local branch of the Red Cross Society was responsible for the organization of the Durham Club of Toronto. A local reader has corrected us in this statement and says that the Durham Club was organized by five or six ex-Durham residents for the purpose of meeting many other of the town's ex-residents now residing in the Queen City.

Of course, The Chronicle did not mean to state that the Durham Club was organized directly by the Red Cross here, but rather that the commencement of the Red Cross Hospital here was one of the factors in organizing the Club in Toronto for the purpose of devoting part of their time in a social way and at the same time help out the old home town in her struggle to have a hospital established.

We regret the mistake, but cannot see that the statement could in any manner cast any reflections on either the local Red Cross society or the Toronto Durham Club.

MT. FOREST YOUTH SENT TO JAIL FARM

Stewart Beacon, Mount Forest, Pleads Guilty to Burglaries.

Following the arrest on Tuesday last week by Chief Gringle, of Joseph McEvoy, Harvey Palmer and Stewart Beacon, with a car in the gravel pit at the end of the town, Beacon appeared before Police Magistrate Hillyer and pleaded guilty to four charges of theft and burglary and was sentenced to four years, less one day, at the prison farm. These charges included entry of the Confederate Office, J. W. Tanner's store, Pfaff's pool room and Armstrong and Hunter's livery, all of which took place on May 2.

McEvoy and Palmer, who gave an address on St. Patrick street, Toronto, were taken charge of by an officer from Toronto, charged with the theft of a motor car, in which the three were travelling. Beacon, whose home is in Mount Forest, has been in trouble before.

When one comes to the end of a perfect day he leaves his umbrella on the porch.—Toronto Telegram.

STREET-OILING PROGRAM ON THIS WEEK

Grease and Muck Everywhere, But Nuisance Won't Last Long.

The work of putting the summer supply of oil on the county link and in the business section of the Provincial Highway is on this week, and as a result, the safest place for a nice new car is in the barn, at least for a few days until the mess dries up. The program this year is not nearly so extensive as last, and in the main business section, even, only a narrow strip is being put on instead of the wide swath oiled in previous years.

Despite the lesson learned two years ago, and practised last year with good success, those responsible for the work are not using the sand covering and as a result the oil is being carried and thrown in all directions by vehicles using the streets. Last year it was the U. F. O. annual convention that got mixed up with the street-oiling program, and this year the Grits are the unlucky politicians to become entangled in the local Tropic Dome oil scandal. Evidently the Tories have become wise and wait until the oiling program is completed, or intend pulling theirs off in the fall when they are sure no such sort of program will be liable to mess up the works and interfere with the working of their smooth-running political machinery.

MRS. THOMAS NICHOL DIED ON TUESDAY

Passed Away After Short Illness From Paralysis.—Was Respected Resident of This Locality During Whole Lifetime.

We regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Thomas Nichol, who passed away at the Red Cross Memorial Hospital here between nine and ten o'clock on Tuesday evening.

Up to a couple of weeks ago she had been in her usual health, but a week ago Friday took a paralytic stroke. This was followed by another on Sunday, and on Monday she was taken to the hospital, but from the first there was little or no hope of recovery. On Monday night she took another stroke, and lingered in an unconscious condition until her death on Tuesday evening.

The deceased was the eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. George Ryan, and was born in Glenelg on the 8th of January, 1863. On the 24th of December, 1884, she married the late Thomas Nichol, who died in 1915. About eighteen years ago she came to Durham with her husband and family, and has been a resident here ever since.

The marriage resulted in a family of five children, three of whom, David, Alfred and Armetta, survive, and reside in town. One son, George, died in the West five or six years ago, and a daughter died in infancy.

Besides her family, she is survived by three brothers, Messrs. Geo. Wm. and Robert Ryan, all residents of Durham, and two sisters, Mrs. Robert Douglas, Toronto, and Mrs. Kearns of Durham. A sister, Mrs. John Whittaker, died only a few months ago, and a brother, Thomas, some years ago.

LATE THOMAS LAUDER WAS WELL KNOWN HERE

Well-known Resident Here Some Years Ago, Died Suddenly on His Ranch at Swan Valley, Idaho.

We received a letter yesterday from Mrs. Frank Livingston of Hamilton, now visiting her sister, Mrs. R. E. Webster, at Painesville, Ohio, where she has been spending a few weeks.

Since going to Painesville Mrs. Livingston learned of the death of her brother, Tom Lauder, who died suddenly and unexpectedly at his ranch at Swan Valley, Idaho, where, unmarried and living alone, he was found dead on the 4th of May.

At time of writing Mrs. Livingston was not in possession of particulars, and was unable to give much information. She feels very badly over his death, but tries to look on the bright side, thinking it was his wish to die as he had lived—alone.

The deceased was a native of this town and was well known to many, who will regret to learn of his death. Mr. Lauder has been a reader of The Chronicle for some years and, strange to say, his last remittance of five dollars was received here on the 6th of May, just two days after his death. It was sent to his sister in Hamilton and forwarded from there. The sympathy of The Chronicle is tendered to the sorrowing relatives.

Two Grey Constituencies Will Not Be Changed

GLENELG TWP. PIONEER PASSED AWAY SATURDAY

Mrs. Thomas McNally Dead From Paralytic Stroke at Advanced Age of 80 Years.—Other News of District by Our Traveston Cor.

A most highly respected pioneer mother, Mrs. Thomas McNally, passed away on Saturday morning after seven months' suffering, the result of a paralytic stroke received last fall. Mrs. McNally was the second youngest daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Blair, and was born in England 80 years ago, coming to this country when nine years old. At the age of eighteen, she was most happily wedded to Mr. Thomas McNally, and they were fifty-six years united when he was called away six years ago.

The union was blessed with a large family of six sons and five daughters, eight of whom survive, besides thirty-nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. The members of the family are: George, of Meaford vicinity; Thomas, deceased; Will and Joe, of Meaford; Annie (Mrs. John Ellison), Ellen (Mrs. William Williamson), deceased; Bertha (Mrs. William Gilbert), of Moose Jaw; Sarah (Mrs. John Kingston), Meaford; Albert, of Edge Hill; Arthur, on the homestead, and Maggie, deceased.

During the long and tedious illness she has been most tenderly and thoughtfully cared for by Arthur's wife, and she deserves warmest praise for her untiring care.

Mrs. McNally was a woman of wonderful vitality and activity up to the time of her illness, was a devoted wife, a true mother, and fond to her big family, a neighbor most highly esteemed for her kindness of heart, the hospitality of her home and the willingness to help others.

She and her husband lived the first twenty-two years of their union on Lot 6, Concession 6, but forty years ago purchased Lot 3 on the 8th Concession "over the hills" and by industry and good management were in comfortable circumstances.

She was a lifelong member of Zion Methodist church and the funeral took place on Monday afternoon, service being conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. E. Peters, and his sermon was a most inspiring and comforting one. During the service Mrs. John O. Greenwood and Miss Margaret Greenwood very sweetly sang "No Night There." At the close of the service the sacred remains were laid beside that of her husband and youngest daughter.

A beautiful wreath from the members of the family, and a handsome spray from her sister, Mrs. Peter McArthur of Owen Sound, sole surviving member of the original Blair family, and her family, were the floral tributes.

One friend present from a distance were all the members of the family with their partners, save Mrs. Gilbert from the West; Mr. Walter Kingston and his sister Mrs. Earl Brinkman; Mr. Hector Kingston, Richard McNally, Messrs. Hector and Clark McNally and the latter's wife, all of Meaford vicinity; Miss Annie McArthur and her mother, of Owen Sound; Miss Jean McNally and Mr. Will Laughlin of Harkaway; Mr. Robt. Smith of Melancthon, and Mr. and Mrs. John McNally of town.

HANOVER TAX RATE IS 52 MILLS ON DOLLAR

Two Mills Higher Than Last Year Despite Economy

The 1924 tax rate of the town of Hanover will be 52 mills on the dollar.

This was decided at a special session of the Town Council attended by all the members. A reduction of 5.6 mills in the town expenses and improvements rate was wiped out by an increase of 6.7 mills in the school rate. A comparative statement of the town tax rate for this year and last shows that the Public School requires 14.5 mills this year (including by-laws) which is a reduction of four-tenths of a mill, but the High School requires 7.1 mills more than last year.

It is interesting in this regard to recall how the town rate has been cut in recent years. It was 17.4 in 1922, 12.4 last year, and is now only 6.8.

The Japanese exclusion question seems to have excluded the government over there.—Border Cities Star.

Declared Hon. Duncan Marshall in Masterful Address to South-East Grey Liberals Here Yesterday—Liberals May Hold Picnic This Summer, and Pricerville Vicinity Chosen As Best Location.—Officers Elected and Much General Business Completed.

The annual meeting of South-East Grey Liberals was held in the hall here yesterday. The attendance was small, but representatives were present from many parts of the constituency and the meeting was regarded as satisfactory by the management.

Officers were elected as follows: President, C. Witham, Hanover; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. J. S. Knechtel, Hanover; 2nd Vice-President, D. T. Wright, Dundalk; 3rd Vice-President, Gordon Geddes, Durham; Secretary, S. B. Clarke, Hanover; Assistant Secretary, Albert Knechtel, Hanover; Auditors, George Binnie, Mrs. Graff.

The advisability of having a picnic during the summer was discussed at some length and a committee was appointed to make arrangements, when an effort would be made to have Premier King as one of the speakers.

Pricerville, or the vicinity of Pricerville, was considered the most central part of the constituency and received the support of the convention. Mr. W. Calder at this point raised a question as to changes likely to be made in the redistribution to this Hon. Duncan Marshall, who was present, advised that the Greys having near the unit of population, would not be changed. This, he said, was based on information just received from Ottawa, and may be regarded as official.

Hon. Duncan Marshall, an old Bruce boy from near Chesley, and long in public and political life, was the chief speaker of the meeting. He was a former minister of agriculture in the Province of Alberta and has large farm possessions in his Western home. He is now organizer in the Liberal interests, a position he held formerly some fifteen or twenty years ago. He is a fluent speaker, has a good personality and has a penchant for taking a drive at anything savoring of Toryism.

After intimating this to be a good time for Liberals to take stock of themselves, and referring to the difficulty of any government making laws to suit all parties in a country like Canada, where the interests are so varied, he referred to present-day conditions and requirements. He said the country is in a bad state, as the result of ten years of Tory rule before they were turned out in 1921. The conditions in 1896 at the close of eighteen years of Tory rule were the worst ever, with similar conditions following the ten years' rule ending in 1921. The great cause of the evil was the want of markets and marketing facilities by the farmers, caused by Tory blundering and the nurturing of the protection to industries, or the so-called National Policy of the Conservative party.

All prosper, he said, when the farmers prosper, and the prosperity of manufacturers is dependent largely on the ability of the farmers to buy and pay for their outputs. He referred also to the number of "mushroom" industries that sprang up and failed even under the fostering influences of Protection.

Times didn't improve all at one bound after the Laurier Government came into power, but improvement was shown from the first, and developed rapidly in a few years. He referred to the removal of the quarantine regulations in 1896 through the influence of Sir Sydney Fisher, and later the introduction of the British Preferential Tariff by the Liberals, under Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He regretted the failure to carry Reciprocity in 1911, and with pride referred to the removal of the embargo on cattle, which immediately resulted in better prices to the farmers.

He said the substantial manufacturers were not finding fault with the new tariff and that new price lists were being issued offering binders at a reduction of from \$12.00 to \$18.00. The new budget would reduce the burden of Canadian buyers to the extent of about \$21,000,000 a year.

Mr. Marshall actually admitted that no government could meet conditions of war without paying extravagant prices for the services received, nor would he feel like blaming or considering as profiteers the manufacturers who had to make enormous outlays in plants to be scrapped when the war was over, of which no one could predict how soon.

A vote of confidence in the ability and integrity of Premier King was carried with hearty applause, and later a vote was tendered the speaker for his able address.

TEMPERATURES FOR LAST WEEK

Thermometer readings made each morning at 8 a.m., and are for the preceding 24 hours. The following are the maximum-minimum temperatures for the week:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Max., Min.
May 16: 55, 38
May 17: 74, 52
May 18: 68, 51
May 19: 39, 29
May 20: 39, 30
May 21: 44, 32
May 22: 46, 31