

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

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WISHING ALL OUR READERS A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS

THOMAS SLEE ARRESTED ON ARSON CHARGE

Suspected As Being Member of Suburban Robbers.—Sick in Bed When Apprehended.

A dispatch to Saturday's Toronto Globe from Whitby, says:

"While sick in bed at his home in Zephyr, Thomas Slee was this afternoon placed under arrest by a party of officers, comprising Provincial Constable Taylor of Whitby and Inspectors Stringer and Ward of the Ontario Police, Toronto.

"The arrest of Slee marks the apprehension of the seventh suspect of a member of the gang of which Charles Laing, who was sentenced to three years in Kingston in connection with the Port Perry bond robbery, was a member. Slee, who is charged with conspiracy to commit arson, was placed under guard while \$5,000 bail was put up for him, pending his trial before Magistrate Hamilton in Uxbridge on December 27.

"The police expect to make further arrests following that of Slee, whose charge arises from the complete destruction by fire of a store in Zephyr belonging to J. O. Bartlett on September 29."

"It is possible that the Thomas Slee referred to in the above dispatch is none other than the recent manager of the old Brigham Telephone Company, whose central office is located at Allan Park. As Slee left this vicinity a couple of years ago and moved with his family to Zephyr, it is altogether likely that there is more in the dispatch than the mere similarity of names. No doubt residents of Allan Park and vicinity will await the outcome of the investigation with considerable interest.

TWO INJURED WHEN HORSE RAN AWAY

Glencel Residents Principals in Spectacular Runaway Accident Last Week

As a consequence of the lines breaking and the horse running away, with the result that the buggy was upset and the occupants thrown out upon the frozen ground, two Glencel residents were somewhat badly, though not seriously, injured on Thursday of last week. Mrs. Stoddard was rather badly stunned, and the driver, Mr. James Goodwill, the other victim, is suffering from shock. Both, at latest reports, were recovering nicely.

The parties were returning from Markdale to their home at Townsend's Lake. In the buggy were Mr. Goodwill, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Stoddard and his daughter, Mrs. Andrew Griffith. When driving down the 10th Concession of Glencel and nearing the county road at John McCarthy's in a somewhat unaccountable manner the lines suddenly broke, and the horse ran away with the results as above stated. Mrs. Stoddard was taken to the home of Mr. McCarthy, where she remained for a few days, and while Mr. Goodwill was able to return to his home, he is yet suffering considerably from shock.

WEEK OF PRAYER

Program of Topics and Speakers

Monday, January 5, in the Anglican Church, "Christ's Claim to Universal Dominion."
—Rev. James Taylor.

Tuesday, January 6, in the Methodist Church, "Christ's Supremacy."
—Rev. W. J. Smith.

Wednesday, January 7, in the Presbyterian Church, "Christ's Claim to Service."
—Rev. J. H. Whelan.

Thursday, January 8, in the Baptist Church, "Christ's Claim on the Individual Life."
—Rev. J. E. Peters.

Friday, January 9, in the Presbyterian Church, address by Rev. G. S. Pinnock representing the Upper Canada Bible Society. He will have lantern views on Nigeria.

The Services will begin at 8 o'clock each evening, and the offerings will be for the Bible Society.

EGREMONT PIONEER DEAD

We regret this week to have to record the death of one of the old and highly respected residents of this vicinity in the person of Mr. William Brown, who passed away on Saturday morning. Although not in the enjoyment of good health for some time past, his death came very unexpectedly. The widow and family have the deepest sympathy of this community in their bereavement. The above was taken from the Conn correspondence of the Mount Forest Confederate. Deceased was a brother-in-law of Mrs. Robert Twanley of Bentinck.

Women are taking men's places everywhere, particularly in the barber shops.

ROCKY SAUGEEN SCHOOL HELD CLOSING CONCERT

Miss Kathleen Firth, Teacher Presented by Pupils With Writing Folio.

A goodly number of parents and friends gathered at the Rocky School house for the Christmas concert held Thursday evening, December 18.

A well rendered program was presented consisting of dialogues, duets, recitations and choruses. An amusing number was "The Singing Lesson," in which Corinne Lawrence, as the music teacher did her best to improve her pupils in the vocal art. The Britannia drill in which each participant represented a British pantomime, was well carried out. A pantomime, "Angels Shall Open the Pearly Gates," was given by three little girls dressed in white, and was a very pleasing feature.

The Rocky orchestra favored the audience with two fine violin selections. Mr. Thomas Turnbull, secretary of the school, was chairman. Santa Claus appeared at the close of the program and distributed the gifts. The teacher, Miss Kathleen Firth, was given a writing folio by her pupils. The school room and Christmas tree were fittingly decorated.

Following the program, all enjoyed a tasty lunch.

EGREMONT CHILD DEAD FROM SCARLET FEVER

Passed Away Sunday After Two Days' Illness.—Others of Family Also Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Daily of the 20th Concession of Egremont have the sympathy of the whole community in their bereavement by the death of their daughter, Mary, who passed away Sunday from scarlet fever. The young girl was taken ill only on the Thursday previous.

Mr. and Mrs. Daily, who live about seven miles from Durham, have had their own share of trouble during the past few weeks. Another daughter has been ill for the past two weeks with the same ailment, but is recovering. A son, too, was taken down with blood-poisoning last week, and while he has had a hard time with it, is now reported as improving.

The funeral of Miss Mary was held Monday to Amos cemetery, Dromore and was in charge of Rev. W. E. Curran, Methodist minister at Priceville.

The Chronicle joins in the general sympathy felt for the bereaved family.

LOCAL INDUSTRIES REMEMBERED EMPLOYES

Gifts of Turkeys, Geese and Other Remembrances Distributed by Furniture and Stone and Sand Companies.

As in previous years, the Durham Furniture Company and the Durham Stone and Sand Company made Christmas presentations of turkeys and geese to their employees, thus intimating in a tangible manner the pleasant relationship existing between employer and employee.

In the case of the Furniture Company, the single men and girls received neckties and stockings, respectively, in lieu of geese.

Both companies, Durham's largest employers of labor, have enjoyed good business this year.

At present, the Durham Furniture Company is running full, and instead of taking the usual Christmas to New Year's holiday as in years gone by, will this year be closed down on Christmas Day only. This activity, especially at a time when the furniture business generally is considered dull, will no doubt be appreciated by the public generally and the employees particularly, who have all year enjoyed steady employment. There is no question to it, the Durham Furniture Company is one of the best, in fact the best furniture factory in Ontario from a steady employment point of view.

The Durham Stone and Sand Company have also closed a most successful season, and while the plant is not now in active operation, this is caused by the cold, frosty weather conditions. The shipments this summer were considerably in advance of the estimates this spring, and shipping is still going on, though the holiday season and recent storms have, to a certain extent, cut down the output.

Durham is fortunate in having two such plants as these located in the town, industries that employ over two hundred men regularly and with no lay-offs.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE IN ANGLICAN CHURCH

Commencing at 10.30 a.m., there will be a service in Trinity Church on Christmas Day.

There are times in every man's career when he would rather have a lie told about him than the truth.

HORSE HIT BY AUTO HAD TO BE SHOT

Unfortunate Accident Near Stone Company's Plant Last Thursday Evening.

About seven o'clock last Thursday night a team of horses, owned and driven by Mr. Franklin Murdock of Bentinck, were run into by a Ford coupe driven by Mr. Cecil Blyth of Varney, and one horse was so badly injured that it had to be destroyed.

Mr. Murdock, who lives about two miles south-west from here, had come into town earlier in the day for a load of chop and was returning home about seven o'clock when the accident occurred. When in the "hollow" on Garafra Street opposite the Durham Sand and Stone Company's plant, he saw the headlights of a car coming north down the hill opposite the Miles Wilson residence. Thinking that the auto was running a little too close to his side of the road, he pulled off farther into the ditch, but the car was still too close and smashed into the high horse with such force that it set the animal back on its haunches, where it remained until the car was backed off. Seeing that the animal was badly injured, Dr. Wolfe was sent for and found that both jaws had been broken by the impact. He ordered the animal destroyed. Besides the unfortunate accident to the horse, the sleigh and harness were badly damaged, and the car considerably wrecked in front.

Mr. Blyth admitted he was in the wrong in the affair, and he and Mr. Murdock came to a satisfactory settlement last Saturday night.

VISITING RELATIVES AFTER TEN YEARS

Roy McCracken of Munson, Alberta, Arrived in Town Saturday For Two Months' Visit.

After an absence of ten years in the West, Mr. Roy McCracken arrived in town on Saturday night and for the next couple of months, will visit with his mother, Mrs. M. McCracken, and sister, Miss McCracken here.

Though it is ten years since Mr. McCracken went West, he has not been a resident of Durham since 1911. While here, Roy was engaged in the barbering business and worked for a time at the trade in Toronto, but many years ago forsook the white coat and lather for the less laborious occupation of farming.

Mr. McCracken's home town in Alberta is Munson, a short distance north of Calgary, where he is at present farming 800 acres of land. He reports a bumper crop in 1923, a poor one this year, but in true Western style, is optimistic as to the future.

We had the pleasure of a short call from him Tuesday afternoon, learned many things about the West and enjoyed his visit immensely. Though there are few familiar faces in town now that he knew thirteen years ago, he occasionally runs across some one of his acquaintances with whom he exchanges reminiscences.

We trust his visit here will be a pleasant one and can vouch for it that his many old friends will be pleased to meet him. Of course, he reads The Chronicle—every week—and thus keeps in close touch with the changes that take place in the town of his boyhood.

BADLY INJURED BY EXPLOSION OF SHELL

Mr. J. G. Firth Lost Thumb and Forefinger Saturday.

Mr. J. G. Firth of Glencel lost the thumb and forefinger of his left hand Saturday evening when a shell from which he was picking the charge exploded.

Mr. Firth was repairing his radio outfit, we understand and needed the shell for some purpose. The explosion so badly mangled his hand that when Drs. Bell and Jamieson arrived, they found it was necessary to amputate both thumb and finger. A daughter, Miss Glennie Firth, who was in the room at the time, was struck in the arm by a flying piece of the shell and slightly injured.

Mr. Firth's friends here regret his misfortune but are glad that it is no worse.

NO FANCY STITCHES

Surgeon (according to Medical Journal)—"I'll sew that scalp wound for you for \$10.00."

Patient—"Gee, doc! I just want plain sewing, not hemstitching and embroidery."

The Size Was Important

High School Girl—I would like a pair of bloomers to wear around my gymnasium.

Young Clerk—Yes. What size is your—ah—er—gymnasium.

GOOD PROGRAM AT D. H. S. COMMENCEMENT

Annual Presentation of Medals and Varied Program Witnessed by Crowded House.

To the pupils and staff of the Durham High School goes a great deal of credit for the splendid program put on on Friday night in the Town Hall, on the occasion of the High School Commencement exercises. The program was varied and well-received by a large audience that filled the hall to its limit. In fact, a great many people stood up at the back of the auditorium during the presentation of the program. Some genuine dramatic talent was displayed in the one-act play entitled, "Ici On Parle Francais." The Alabama Warblers, "warbled" very acceptably, and several group dances were very well done. The "raison d'être" of the evening was the presentation of medals and diplomas to pupils of the school. Mr. Robb, principal of the school, made an excellent chairman.

The program opened with a chorus sung by the whole school. This was followed by the presentation of medals and diplomas. Mr. Koch, of the High School Board, presented the three medals given for highest standing in the three lower forms. The first two, presented by the High School Board, were won by Seaman Havens and Marjory Ritchie. The medal for graduation from third to fourth form was won by Gertrude McCallum. This latter medal was donated by Mr. Robb. Mr. Koch in his remarks stressed the importance of these medals, and the added incentive they were to more faithful study by the pupils. He also complimented the winners upon their high standing. Miss Christine Goodchild was then called to the platform to receive from Mr. John A. Graham principal of the Public School, his medal for highest standing among the Entrance pupils writing on the High School Entrance from Durham Public School. The list of those who graduated in their Lower School work last year was a lengthy one. The diplomas were presented by Mr. John Morrison, Chairman of the High School Board, but the great majority of the names read out were not responded to as their owners were away attending college and normal school.

The presentation was followed by a vocal solo by John Dunsmoor, who was loudly encored. His rendering of Harry Lauder's masterpiece would have made that gentleman green with envy. A minute by the Senior Girls was very well done. A nice sense of time and rhythm is required for the proper execution of this sort of dance, and such was not lacking. Then the Alabama Warblers, six colored gentlemen, that is, more or less colored, delighted the audience with some southern melodies and little jazz-time. The solo parts were very ably taken by Mr. William Vollett, and the amiable George Lavelle. An amusing reading by Miss Mary Beaton was followed by Miss Bessie Smith and Miss Marjorie Pickering. Miss Katherine Lavelle not only was the able accompanist of the evening, but displayed some very fine vocal talent in a solo which preceded the staging of the play.

The skit, "Ici On Parle Francais," which, being interpreted, means, "French Spoken Here," showed excellent preparation and a great deal of talent on the part of the actors. It portrayed the misfortunes of Mr. and Mrs. Spriggins, down-at-heel gentlefolks, who had gone into the keeping of roomers in a fashionable French seaside resort. Mr. C. Elvidge, as Mr. Spriggins, displayed some fine dramatic talent. Miss L. Fairnie as Mrs. Spriggins and Miss B. Murdock, her daughter, Angelina, in love with a young Frenchman, were both good. The obstreperous maid, Miss F. Kress, kept the audience laughing, and the Spriggins family in hot water. The fiery Major Regulus Baitan, late of the Cape Coast Slayers. Mr. Edgar Clarke, was the usual fiery ex-army officer of fiction, and was the source of a good deal of annoyance to the Spriggins. Mr. J. McDonald very ably took the part of Victor Dubois, Miss Spriggins' innamorata, and very much in love with her.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close with a chorus from the School and the singing of the National Anthem.

Both students and teachers are to be heartily congratulated upon the success of the exercises and can rest assured that they will receive the support of the townspeople in future Commencements.

DEDICATED NEW CHURCH

The newly built St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Cargill, was dedicated on Tuesday last. For the past nine years the people of Catholic faith in Cargill have been holding services in the old school. The new church is a handsome structure of red brick built in Roman style with the customary spire. The interior is handsome in appearance with a fine altar. The basement is fitted with kitchen and hall and a well-equipped heating plant.

NEXT MONDAY IS NOMINATION DAY

Municipal Aspirants To Be Heard Once Again, When Air Will Be Cleared For Another Year.

So far, there hasn't been much doing in municipal politics, and as in former years, it will take nomination day to knock the uncertainty out of things and give the electors some indication of what they may expect on the 5th of next month.

So far as Durham is concerned, municipal matters are quiet, the only authentic statements coming from some of the members of the old Council who state that they are retiring this year. Mayor Smith has definitely retired, and while no positive statements have been made, it is altogether likely that Messrs. A. Bell and J. N. Murdock of last year's aldermanic board may seek the mayoralty chair. For the Reeveship, nothing definite is known, though it would be to the liking of a certain section of the electors to have W. J. McFadden oppose W. Calder for the seat at the foot of the table.

For aldermen, there is positively "nothing doing." No rumors have yet been spread as to who shall take the places of Messrs. Bell, Murdock, McFadden or Calder at the Council Board.

With the exception of Bentinck, where ex-Reeve Hunt has signified his intention of opposing Reeve McDonald, all the adjacent townships are silent and apparently awaiting nomination day for new developments. In Bentinck, however, there will surely be a contest, and a hot one, too. Mr. Hunt says that his defeat last year was a mistake. At the County Council he was the only member who stood out for economy and lone-handedly opposed salary increases to county officials at a time when money was tight and hard to get. His stand, a most unpopular one from the point of view of those looking for increased salaries, was made in the real interests of the electors of Bentinck Township, and the whole county, and he thinks his defeat was a poor reward and a strict slap in the face for the economy platform the people demanded—and voted against. There will be an interesting session at Lamash on nomination day.

In Egremont, while everything is as still, politically, as the proverbial church mouse, there will be a vote taken anyway on the commutation of Statute Labor, and Dame Rumor whispers that Councillor Ferguson may make a bid for the position of Deputy Reeve. The Reeveship and positions on the Council Board are scarcely discussed, and it may be that Reeve McEachern and the Council may be returned by acclamation. This is hardly likely, but it looks that way at present.

Faint rumors that Malcolm McInnes or Arch McCuaig would oppose the re-election of Reeve Weir were quite current, we are told, some time ago, but as nomination day draws near, even these faint whispers seem to have become fainter still.

From Normanby comes the report that Reeve Charles Holm, a candidate for the Wardenship next year, and the whole council will likely get their old positions back by the acclamation route.

That is the situation as it has been reported to us. We might prophesy from now until next Monday on the situation. We might be partly right, and we might be wholly wrong. From present indications nothing definite will be known until the 29th inst. Once the warriors get started nomination day, there's no telling what the end may be, and any prophesy on the ultimate result would be at best but a lucky guess.

HOLIDAY FOR COURIERS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

Post Office Department Issues Order Cancelling Delivery For That Date

There will be no rural mail delivery next Thursday, according to a recent decision by the post office department. This is as it should be. There are a lot of people who think that the couriers should get other holidays, too, especially Christmas Day, when nobody is particularly anxious to see the papers anyway. We believe a canvass of the whole Dominion would favor mail couriers observing all the statutory holidays.

FIRST HOCKEY OF SEASON NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT

Mount Forest O. H. A. juniors will open the hockey season in Durham rank next Saturday night when they stack up against a Durham team in an exhibition fixture. The game is called for 8 p.m.

Mount Forest has, according to reports reaching here, one of the best junior teams in this part of Ontario and will make the Durham crew step lively to hold them in check. Though an exhibition game both teams are out to win, and the spectators should experience many a thrill during the game.

INQUIRY COMMITTEE SAVED COUNTRY \$100,000

Secures Innovation in Cheese Marketing by Getting Cut in Rates Charged on Canadian Cheese Shipped For Export.

By securing a cut from two cents to one cent per pound in the differential charged between Nos. 1 and 2 Canadian cheese shipped for export, the Agricultural Inquiry Committee of the Ontario Government of which Hon. Dr. Jamieson of Durham is chairman, believes it has effected an annual saving of \$100,000 to Canadian cheese producers. After repeated representations on the subject of what the committee believed to be an unreasonably high differential, the Montreal Produce Merchants Association announced the cut.

Whereas the differential used to be only one-half cent per pound, latterly it had been two cents, under the system of grading in Montreal which graded packages Nos. 1 and 2. With the average price of cheese at the factories a fraction above 16 cents per pound, the increased differential meant heavy loss to Ontario cheese-makers. There was much suspicion, and the graders were accused of turning the grade upon the slightest cause.

The Agricultural Committee which had been probing the matter since May, found that the deductions were entirely out of proportion to the difference in value in England of Nos. 1 and 2, and the matter was brought to the attention of the Dominion authorities, the Montreal Produce Merchants' Association, and the provision Trade Association in England.

CHECKER CHAMPION WILL VISIT SHELBURNE

Newell William Banks of Detroit, Mich., champion checker player of America, will be in Shelburne on Friday, December 26, afternoon and evening and will play a series of games with local and visiting players.

It is expected that players from Dundalk, Durham, Dromore, Creemore, Collingwood, Alliston, Erin, Orangeville, Arthur, Grand Valley, Alton and other places will take part in the contest.

Mr. Banks will meet any number of players in simultaneous games in the afternoon and evening and in addition, will give an exhibition of blind-fold playing.

MEN'S CLASS

The New Year suggests to us the unknown road, the untrod way. We ask ourselves, are we on the right road? Can we be sure of it? Next Sunday we shall study, "How God Guides Men."

He has a plan for our life, a task for each. He made known His ways unto Moses. His acts unto the Children of Israel. How does He make known His ways and will unto men in modern life? It's a big question, and we all would like a satisfying answer.

Come next Sunday and bring a friend with you.

When a man looks extra happy nowadays, you can't tell whether he has just put over a big deal or whether he has solved another crossword puzzle.

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:

	Max.	Min.
Dec. 19	23	18
20	23	11
21	12	5
22	15	9
23	12	10
24	20	17

Smilin' Charlie Says



The difference in our girls o' to-day and th' girls o' grandmother's day is that our girls do th' things that grandmother wished she could do ---