

# THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

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## REV. DR. MCKINNON GAVE UNIONIST SIDE

Moderator of General Assembly Explained Church Union From the Unionist Standpoint.

Dealing with the Unionist side of the present Church Union movement, the Rev. Dr. Clarence McKinnon, Moderator of the General Assembly, occupied the pulpit in the Presbyterian church last Sunday. His text, or rather, the subject of his discourse was taken from Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians in which the Apostle exhorted the people to unity, to put on the new man and "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

Dr. McKinnon dealt with the advantages to the country in having one united church. He referred to Scotland and the Presbyterian Church and the manner in which a church gave character to a nation. What would the Scottish people have been without the church? John Knox had done two great things at least. He had given Scotland its church, and beside each church had established a school. Referring to Canada's glorious heritage, he said our present great peril is disunion. Canadians, however, were practical, and while they might not do things according to established precedent, they got them done.

While many reasons had been given as to what had been responsible for the church union question, Dr. McKinnon said he thought the real responsibility rested with the invention of the binder. The advancing use of this farm implement had depleted the rural population, and as a result, the farms of the country were scattered over a wide area with fewer occupants. As a result of this depopulation, there were at present 28 union congregations in the Presbytery of Halifax in the East and three thousand worshipping units scattered over Canada under union conditions.

He referred to the present condition of many country churches with their smaller congregations and said that urban centres where church union would make little or no difference in present conditions should be prepared to give up something in order that rural congregations might enjoy increased advantages under the new conditions. A national church was a great preventive for future wars, and in his opinion the fact that 95 per cent of the missionaries were in favor of church union was a strong argument.

Dr. McKinnon said that the Pan-Presbyterian Council, which meets every two years and which would meet next year in Winnipeg, was prepared to recognize the new United Church. Referring to the churches in towns like Durham, he said there would be practically no change from present conditions. Under these conditions, the church would be described as a denominational congregation. In communities where the congregations united and went into the same building, this would be known as a united church.

During his discourse, the speaker referred to the co-operation at present in effect in sparsely settled communities, especially in the West. Here there was a tentative agreement between the Presbyterians and the Methodists that where one church was already established, or going to be established, the field was left to them. This was done with the object of preventing "overlapping" in missions and the erecting of more houses of worship in sparsely settled communities than they could support.

## TRINITY CHURCH OFFICIALS ELECTED MONDAY EVENING

Annual Vestry Meeting Shows Church in Good Condition.

The annual Vestry Meeting of Trinity Church was held in the auditorium of the church on Monday evening. Reports from the various organizations were satisfactory and showed the church to be in a flourishing condition despite the fact that there was a deficit in the year's finances. This was caused mostly by the payments made on the new organ purchased last year and the fact that the annual garden party, postponed once on account of bad weather, had finally to be abandoned.

Following are the officers elected: Vestry Clerk—J. Kelly. People's Warden—Jos. Crutchley. Sidersmen—S. Standen, P. Lawrence, A. Lloyd and H. Kress. Select Vestry—E. Kress, J. Schutz, G. Whitmore, J. L. Stedman, the Wardens and the Vestry Clerk. Cemetery Committee—E. Kress, J. Schutz and J. Kelly. S.S. Picnic Committee—H. Kress, J. L. Stedman, Mrs. (Rev.) Wheelon. Auditors—R. Burnett, J. L. Stedman. Lay Delegate—E. Kress. Substitute—J. Schutz.

A vote of thanks was tendered to all the officers and organizations, and it was left with the Wardens to appoint a Secretary-Treasurer.

By the Canadians At Wembley a small child asked a very big official in eager tones: "Please, sir, can you tell me what time the Australians are fed?"—Sunday Express (London).

## DURHAM U.F.O. HELD ANNUAL MEETING

Shipping Department Meeting Well Attended Friday and Officers Elected for Coming Year.

The fifth annual meeting of the Durham Live Stock Shipping Association was held in the Public Library her last Friday afternoon. The following is the personnel of the official board for 1926: President—John McGirr. Vice-President—Robert Lawson. Secretary-Treasurer—Herbert Edge. Auditors—Stewart McArthur, Wilbert Blyth. Shipper—James Lawrence.

Following the reading of the minutes, the speaker of the day, Mr. Charles McCurdy, head salesman for the U. F. O. Commission Department in the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, addressed the meeting. Mr. McCurdy opened his address by expressing his pleasure in being present and of being of service to the farmers. Next month he will have completed his sixth consecutive year, and in 1924 handled 600 more cars of stock than in any previous year. This in itself tells of his success, and the speaker intimated that he would be pleased to receive suggestions for still further improvement. He pointed to the common mistake of farmers trying to do too much, and as a result, the market was often flooded with unfinished cattle. He advocated that farmers should raise fewer cattle and finish them, adding that five finished cattle would be worth more than seven unfinished ones, would require less pasture land and work of looking after and would make less labor for the producer. Hon. J. S. Martin, the present Minister of Agriculture, said Mr. McCurdy entertained these same views.

The speaker advocated dehorning cattle and said he noticed that many more than formerly were following this practice which was compulsory for the export trade. This latter trade today had bright prospects, resulting from the wholesale slaughtering of whole herds in England owing to the prevalence of the foot and mouth disease. Canada, too, had selling advantages over other countries in that cattle from here are permitted entrance to any part of the British Isles while those from other countries must be slaughtered at port of entry.

Mr. McCurdy saw bright prospects ahead for the milk cow market for the reason that in Quebec Province they now test milk and are condemning a number of cows which will in all probability be replaced by cows from Ontario. Milk cows, according to Mr. Rogers, the export buyer, were worth as high as \$60 in England.

The speaker emphasized the safety of dealing with the U. F. O. Commissioners, as all money received for stock had to be placed in trust and could not be touched for anything but payment for stock shipped. Of \$54,000,000 handled in three years, less than \$3,000 had been lost by bad debts. To add to the farmers' safety the Government inspected the books every week.

The speaker also suggested that the local U. F. O. shipper should make arrangements to have a grader sent to Durham who would grade the hogs in the yard here and explain the whys and wherefores of his decisions. It was also suggested that there should be more co-operation of thought between the producers and the men handling the products. While the speaker knew the city end of the business, he did not know the country particulars, and he thought it would be good business for these two important branches to better understand each other.

The meeting adopted the auditor's report which showed a most successful year leaving the association in good condition financially.

## DURHAM PRESBYTERIANS NOW VOTING ON UNION

Polling Commenced Monday and Continues for Two Weeks.

The Durham Presbyterian congregation is in the midst of its voting on whether or not the local church shall enter the United Church of Canada or remain with the continuing church.

Following the services of last Sunday and the Sunday before, in which the various phases of the question were laid before the people by both sides, a congregational meeting was called for last Monday afternoon to decide on the taking of a vote. Rev. W. H. Smith was in the chair. The decision of the meeting on a standing vote was 73 to 51 in favor of taking the vote and balloting was held that same afternoon and will continue until Monday, February 2. From Tuesday to Saturday of this week, inclusive, the balloting hours are from 3 to 4 p. m. and from 7 to 8 p. m. On Monday, February 2, the vote will be taken from 4 to 5 p. m. After 5 p. m. on the last day, the votes shall be counted and the result announced at 8 p. m.

Needless to say, quite a strong interest is being shown, and all will anxiously await the result.

"Is he a nice boy?" "No, dear, I think you'll like him."—Oklahoma Whirlwind.

## OLD-TIME RESIDENT CELEBRATED BIRTHDAY

John Williams of Tisdale, Sask., Sends Greetings to Friends of Other Days.

We had a letter from Mr. John Williams of Tisdale, Sask., the other day which contained information of interest to our readers especially those who have friends in the Tisdale district. Mr. Williams celebrated his 76th birthday on January 8, and took the opportunity to renew his subscription to The Chronicle of which he has been a subscriber for many years. He compliments us on the punctuality with which it reaches him, especially since he went West 16 years ago, and we can assure him that the good feeling expressed in his letter is mutual.

Mr. Williams reports times brisk at Tisdale last summer, a contributory factor being the building of a new line by the C. P. R. which runs through the town, an undertaking which it took two years to complete. This gives Tisdale two railways, and removes considerable of the handicap the town has been working under so far as railway accommodation was concerned. The new line runs north and south, and it is rumored that the C. P. R. intends extending the road even farther north.

Mr. Williams reports the crops of the district being somewhat damaged by frost in September, but a fairly good price compensated for the loss in yield. During the Christmas week, the weather was very cold, the thermometer dropping at one time to 53 below zero. Tisdale, a town of about 800, has eight lady teachers, in its school and one principal. The number of scholars in attendance is 365. Hogs and cattle are reported in good demand, but horses are not wanted, and a good team can be had for around \$75.00. Mr. Williams says that, owing to the rapid depletion of timber, the game has pretty much deserted that locality and some farther north.

We were pleased to hear from our old friend who wishes to be remembered to his many friends in and around Durham, and extends them the compliments of the season and his best wishes for success and prosperity.

## W. A. MCGOWAN BOUGHT JACKSON MFG. CO. PLANT

Council Ratified Agreement Tuesday Night, and Plant Expected To Be in Operation in Short Time.

The Town Council met in special session Tuesday night to consider the proposal sponsored by Reeve Calder at the previous regular meeting to sell the defunct Jackson Manufacturing Company's building and plant to local interests. At the regular session, the matter was laid over for a week in order to give the Council an opportunity of getting in touch with some outside interests who had been making inquiries and incidentally to get as much money out of the proposition as possible.

Though no names had been previously mentioned, the amount offered by Reeve Calder's client, \$5000, regular session a week ago, Tuesday night the Council learned for the first time that the tender for the plant came from Mr. W. A. McGowan of the Rob Roy Mills. Mr. McGowan made the Council two offers; he would pay the town \$5000 cash; or, if they preferred, \$1,000 cash, and the balance \$1,000 yearly with interest at 6 per cent.

After considerable discussion, it was decided to accept the latter offer, the argument being that the town would be further ahead with the 6 per cent interest than if the cash proposition were accepted and the money deposited in the bank at bank interest. As the town's present interest in the plant is around \$8000, there will be a loss of \$3,000; but as the town stood to lose anyway, it was thought better to swallow it at one gulp, get the factory started and furnish further employment to the working men of the town.

We understand there are other men associated with Mr. McGowan in the deal, but he was non-committal on Wednesday when we called him up for information. There is, however, plenty of capital behind the new company to insure the plant running, and that is the main thing. The new owners will fulfil the obligations of the late company as regards employment of labor, steps will be taken to get the plant in operation as soon as the cold weather is over.

## DOGS WORRIED SHEEP; SENTENCED TO DEATH

Canines Officially Executed Yesterday for Crimes Committed Tuesday.

Three town dogs found worrying sheep on the farm of Councilor Aljoe of Glenelg paid the full penalty for their crime yesterday when they were officially shot at sunrise.

In all five sheep were killed or worried, and now it is a question of pay for the sheep. Some claim the owners of dogs that worry sheep must pay—if they are caught—while others claim that the cost comes out of the dog-tax fund of the municipality collected for that purpose.

## NO. 7 NORMANBY WON FIRST ROUND

Defeated Rocky Saugeen Debating Club Last Friday Night—Next Meeting on February 6.

Friday night last was the opening night for the interleague series of debates organized by the U. F. O. clubs for South Grey. The building was packed, and the program lengthy with enough variety to suit all tastes.

Mr. Joseph Crutchley made an excellent chairman and kept things moving. Stewart McArthur led the community singing which helped to create a pleasant atmosphere. Then followed selections by the Rocky orchestra, Messrs. R. Paddfield and Joe Davidson. The "Gazette," with its fine New Year philosophy, poetry and jokes, was awaited with mixed emotions and enjoyed by some more than others. Some of the jokes we had seen before and some not yet; some were "hot ones" and some funny. Miss Islay McKechnie made it a great success.

Mr. W. G. Firth, Secretary of the Southeast Grey Debating Society, explained certain changes made this year in the rules for debating and judging, after which the debate, the big event, was announced and proceeded with. The subject was one of local and national interest. "Resolved that the farmer makes a better legislator than a lawyer."

The affirmative was taken by the Rocky club and Harold McKechnie and Miss Kathleen Firth, after carefully defining the terms and intent of the debate, gave an interesting history of states or countries largely controlled by farmer representatives and the greater prosperity enjoyed there in comparison with other places. They stressed the fact that the farmer understood the needs of an ordinary constituency better than a lawyer, really represented a larger class and could more successfully voice their opinion. Such men usually had long and varied experience on boards and municipal councils which helped in the larger sphere of Parliament.

Mr. William Ford and Miss E. Hughes of No. 7, Normanby, upheld the negative. They replied to some assertions made by the affirmative and then contended that lawyers were better qualified as legislators because they had greater knowledge of the laws of past and their working out in actual practice until the present, saved governments much expense for legal advice and had so proven their worth and ability that almost all party leaders and premiers were lawyers.

While the judges, Rev. J. E. Peters, Mr. J. A. M. Robb and Miss Julia Weir were deciding to whom the honors should go, Mr. E. D. McGlocklin entertained the audience with some reminiscences of the good old days when he went to school at the Rocky and especially the last day, a "moving" day in his experience. A chorus was rendered by four girls of the school. Then the decision of the judges was announced in favor of the negative.

Rev. W. H. Smith then gave the "critics" address. He explained at some length the difference between merely reading an essay and stating facts which on the basis of points might win a debate and, dealing with an audience, to create a sympathetic atmosphere and carry conviction to their minds and so win a public decision. He congratulated the speakers on their presentation of the case, the few verbal mistakes made, and the evident progress they were making in public speaking. Illustrations of successful public career from such beginnings were given and comments made on the subject of debate itself.

Votes of thanks to the visitors and of congratulation to the debaters were passed after which all refreshed themselves until they were abundantly satisfied with the good things brought for a midnight lunch. If the young ladies did the cooking, they are well on the way to find a permanent place in the hearts of their fellow countrymen. It was a fine night for all the Durham crowd, and most of them would evidently like to go oftener. Here's hoping.

The next debate takes place on February 6, when the Rocky debaters visit the No. 7, Normanby school.

## ROB ROY ELEVATOR DOING BIG BUSINESS

Quite a Lot of Grain Coming in and Good Prices Being Paid.

Though the recent fire at the Rob Roy Mills plant definitely put an end to the manufacture of oatmeal and kindred products, the company's elevator is doing a big grain business this winter.

In some manner, the idea has gained credence that the burning of the mill stopped the buying of grain, but this is not so. The Rob Roy Mills is in the grain market stronger than ever as may be seen by a perusal of their advertisement on another page in this issue.

Goals to Newcastle Applicant (to magistrate)—I want some advice about my husband, sir. He left me twenty-five years ago, and I ain't seen him since. Magistrate—Well? Applicant—What about me 'aving a separation?—London Opinion.

## POPULAR YOUNG MAN DIED SATURDAY

James R. Giles Passed Away in Durham Hospital After Five Months' Illness.—Buried Monday With Full Military Honors.

After an illness of five months' duration from a complication of ailments for which he had undergone three operations, Mr. James Ronald Giles, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Giles of this place, passed away Saturday morning in Durham Hospital at the age of 28 years.

Mr. Giles' death is a particularly sad one. Only seven months ago, he was married to Miss Leila Pedlar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Pedlar, here, and the young widow has the heartfelt sympathy of the community in her sore bereavement. Two months after the marriage, he became ill, and for a time, it was thought he was progressing favorably, but as the weeks sped by, it was evident that his chances of recovery were becoming fewer. Two months ago he was taken to Durham Hospital where every care and attention was given him, but the grim reaper was not to be denied, and he calmly breathed his last about 7.30 Saturday morning.

Mr. Giles was born in Natal Colony, South Africa in 1896, where his father was engaged with the Natal Government Railways. When the mother died in 1898, Mr. Giles and his little family returned to England, and twelve years ago came to Canada, coming almost directly to Durham where they have since resided, becoming amongst our most esteemed and highly respected families.

On the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, the deceased, heading the call to duty, enlisted in the 248th Grey County Battalion and spent over two years in the service. Through a defect in his hearing, he did not get to France but effectively did his bit in England until the close of the war when he returned to Canada and to Durham.

Mr. Giles was one of the town's most popular young men, and his unostentatious manner and general likeableness made him a favorite in whatever company he might happen to be. He was a member of the Durham Citizens' Band and an expert musician, and a member of the I. O. O. F. and L. O. L. societies; and the funeral on Monday afternoon from the Methodist Church was very largely attended, a tribute to the town's respect to his memory and sympathy for those whom he had left behind to mourn. The funeral was held under the auspices of the Odd Fellows society which, with the Band and members of the Great War Veterans' Association, accompanied the funeral cortege from the house to the church.

Inside the church, and while the casket was being taken to its place in front of the pulpit, the Band played softly, "Nearer My God to Thee," and during the service, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Peters, assisted by Rev. Mr. Taylor of the Baptist Church, Mr. Bert Saunders sang beautifully "Thy Will Be Done," a favorite hymn of the deceased.

The casket was banked with many floral tributes from Durham and outside points, among which were: from parents and wife; Grey Lodge I. O. F.; Durham L. O. L.; Durham Wreath; Durham Wreath; Durham Baptist Church; War Veterans; Durham Furniture Company, of which deceased was an employee, a wreath; Mr. and Mrs. T. Daniel and Mrs. Piquet, a wreath; sprays from Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Coulls, London, the latter a sister; St. George's Church Choir, London; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Elliott, Markdale; Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Murdock, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McGirr, Young People of the Methodist Church, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Lawrence.

Following the service, the funeral cortege accompanied by the I. O. O. F., the Band and the War Veterans' proceeded to Durham cemetery where interment was made, and where the Odd Fellows and War Veterans joined in a last tribute of respect to their departed brother.

The last salute of the firing squad and "Last Post" sounded by Bugler Dempsey brought the service to a close.

The pall-bearers were six comrades, both in the Odd Fellows society and in the War Veterans, and were: E. Schenk, A. C. Kinnee, W. J. McGirr, D. Ewen, D. McCallum and James Lloyd. The members of the firing squad were: A. C. Lloyd, H. Rimmer, H. McDougall, W. Benson, A. Saunders, C. Fry, S. Trafford, A. King, and Serg. J. L. Stedman.

The service throughout was a fine tribute to the popularity of the deceased young man, and The Chronicle joins in sympathy with those who mourn.

## MEM'S CLASS

Next Sunday we shall discuss "Original Sin." Sin is apparently universal. How are we to account for it? Do we inherit sin? Is there such a thing as racial sin? Can we adequately explain sin by environment, example or education? Is sin only voluntary action? What about disposition and responsibility then?

Perhaps you can answer some or all of these questions or probably you want to ask another one. It's your chance.

## DURHAM COUPLE FIFTY YEARS MARRIED

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McMeekin Celebrated Golden Wedding on Thursday of Last Week.

A pleasing event celebrated last week took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McMeekin of this place when the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day was quietly observed by the esteemed couple at their home on Lambton Street. The celebration of the happy event was somewhat of a surprise to the bride and groom of fifty years ago as the family took it into their own hands and arranged everything unknown to their parents who had no intention of an observance of this important milestone in their lives other than to spend the day very quietly in their home.

Mr. and Mrs. McMeekin were both born in Dumfries Township near Galt, the former in 1854 and the latter in 1855. They were married on the 15th of January, 1875, at Galt by the Rev. Mr. Mason and lived there until 39 years ago when they moved to Durham where they have resided continuously ever since. Since coming to Durham, Mr. and Mrs. McMeekin have made a host of friends, and in looking back over their years of usefulness spent in the community, these kind feelings have been well earned, and it is little wonder the whole town and countryside joins in tendering congratulations and wishing them many more years of marital happiness.

To the union was born five of a family, one daughter and four sons: Mary (Mrs. Stagg), Toronto; John, at Priceville; Robert, killed in action in France in 1917; William A., Toronto; and George, in Durham. With the exception of William in Toronto, unavoidably absent, all the remaining members of the family were present at the home here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. McMeekin were the recipients of many expressions of the esteem in which they were held, the family presenting them with an address and purse of gold, Durham friends also remembering them in a tangible manner. Letters and telegrams were received from relatives and friends at a distance expressive of good wishes and regret at their inability to be present.

Besides the family mentioned, there are seven grandchildren. Mr. McMeekin has two brothers, John at Galt, and James at Stratford. Mrs. McMeekin has three sisters, two of whom, Mrs. Robert Dryden of Hamilton and Mrs. E. H. Rowles, Toronto, were present at the anniversary, and Mrs. A. Oliver of Holland, Manitoba.

During the day the venerable couple and their family were visited by many Durham friends and a most enjoyable golden wedding anniversary was spent.

For their age, both bride and groom are exceptionally well preserved, and apparently good for many years to come; at least, this is the sincere hope of their many town and country friends. Four years ago Mrs. McMeekin suffered a serious accident when she fell and broke her hip. For a time it was feared she would not recover, and later that she would never walk again. Though lame, she has recovered, is able to be about and is still young in spirit and hopes.

The celebration of a golden wedding is an event that few of us can hope to enjoy, and The Chronicle joins the community in the wish that the bride and groom of fifty years ago may be spared to enjoy many more anniversaries of their wedding day.

## 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:

Jan. 16	Max.	Min.
17	20	14
18	31	17
19	25	19
20	21	14
21	25	17
22	31	22

(\*) Below Zero.



Smilin' Charlie Says The feller who knows enough t' keep out o' court is a better lawyer than most practitioners