

The Durham Chronicle

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association
Circulation for 12 months, 1,400.
PRICE—5c. per copy: \$2.00 per year in advance, to the United States \$2.50 per year in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES
JUDICIAL, LEGAL, OFFICIAL AND GOVERNMENT NOTICES—12c. per count line for first insertion, and 6c. per line for each subsequent insertion.

CLASSIFIED SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS
1/2c. per word each insertion, with four consecutive insertions for the price of three; a discount of 33 1/3 per cent allowed for cash with order. Minimum charge, 25c. cash with order, and 35c. if charged.

Where the object is the benefit or convenience of any person or number of persons—is advertising, and it will be treated as such. If no instructions accompany the notice advising us whom to charge it to, it will be charged to the person phoning or sending it in.

Advertisements ordered for insertion "until forbidden" and those sent without written instructions, will appear until written orders are received for their discontinuance. FRANK IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.

Whoever is afraid of submitting any question, civil or religious to the test of free discussion, is more in love with his own opinion than with the Truth.—WATSON.

Thursday, February 28, 1929

"PRIVATE" COUNCIL MEETINGS

We noticed last week in one of our exchanges that a complaint has recently come out of Kirkland Lake complaining that the Town Council of that place excluded the press from one of its meetings and held what was described as a "private" meeting. The Kirkland Lake News resented the action of the Council, but beyond putting up a kick about it, has done nothing.

If we read the Municipal Act correctly, any meeting of the Town Council that is held behind locked doors, or doors closed to the public, is illegal and the Council can be brought to task for its action. It is also illegal to exclude the press from any of these meetings, and if the News had insisted on its rights it could have demanded entrance and, being refused, could have made it rather interesting for the Councillors. Council meetings are public business, of public interest, and the public cannot be excluded.

A newspaper editor or reporter has at least the same privilege of attending any Council meeting as any other citizen. They simply cannot be excluded. Usually, the press has a special table supplied for the reporters. We have known of reporters who gave garbled or unfair reports of Council meetings to be debarred from occupying the press table, but that was as far as the Council could go. They could not prevent the reporter from attending the meeting and reporting it any more than they could prevent a citizen from attending and making notes of the proceedings.

It is only rarely that we hear of a newspaper abusing a privilege at a Council meeting. Generally, if a public body like a Town Council is fair to the press, it is fair to them. There are some public officials who cannot stand criticism and this is usually the cause of the trouble. Newspapers, and especially the weekly ones, are no rubber stamp. They run their own show, have their own ideas, and cannot be bullied into keeping quiet if they think they should speak out in meeting.

No, a Town Council cannot exclude the press, or any other citizen from its business meetings.

COMPANIONATE MARRIAGES

The more the question is analyzed the less is to be seen in this new idea from the United States called the "companionate" marriage. It appears to be little removed from the present system in vogue in Russia, where very recently a couple were married, decided they were not suited or satisfied, and obtained a divorce all in the short space of twenty-five minutes. Companionate marriage looks to us too much like the method used in present-day business. Any girl or woman, man or boy who would submit to it are offering themselves on the understanding "if I don't suit after a trial, turn me loose." We do not think there is anything to be alarmed about, as no self-respecting man or woman would care to be wed on the "satisfaction guaranteed" principle, and even in the great United States where the natives boast that they are willing to try anything once the better class of its youth are not taking advantage of this new style. A companionate marriage even there is unique and of sufficient rareness to still command a front page, two-column head in the metropolitan newspapers.

This new idea will never command much popularity in Canada but it is of interest to learn the attitude of the United States Protestant churches from a report recently issued by a committee appointed to look into the matter, and who spent a year's survey of the situation before making public their findings. We give below the high lights only of the report, which is too lengthy to publish in full:

The chief danger of companionate marriage is that it puts sex desire first.

The growth of a cynical attitude toward love, such as that which now appears in most current literature, strikes at our civilization.

The Christian ideal of marriage can make no compromise with lax sex relations.

Divorce, even when allowed by the church, must be looked upon as a tragic and humiliating failure.

The expediency at the present time of Federal legislation for uniform divorce laws is debatable.

Too many pastors are careless about safeguarding the marriages they celebrate.

The word "companionate" is so rich in meaning that it should not be degraded by being fastened to a form of trial marriage.

Every church should be a kind of clinic to which people might come for guidance, sympathy, friendship, and the help of God.

Very early marriages should be discouraged, and runaway marriages should never be performed knowingly.

The church appeals to "marrying parsons"—the men who intrigue for weddings and who are manifestly commercial—to discontinue their traffic. The

Committee also recommends discipline where persuasion is unavailing.

The last paragraph appears to us to be the important one. The "marrying parsons" are a nuisance to the church and a danger to the youth of the land. The ceremony of marriage is a most sacred one and for an ordained minister of any church to make a business of it, in the meaning of the term which we intend, does not speak very well for his Christianity or his sense of duty to his fellow-men.

This is a feature of the Protestant church that should be dealt with, and soon. Anglican and Roman Catholic clergymen always have been very particular in the joining together of divorced people, and we have known cases where marriage which has been refused by the former church has been performed without question by the ministerial representation of another body.

So far as we can see the present companionate marriage is but a passing fad that the younger people themselves will soon see through. They are nothing new, as we have today people who are living together as common law man and wife who seem to get along very well. This does not alter the fact that they would have been as amicable had they been married in the usual manner. A companionate marriage means simply that two people decide to live together until one of them gets huffed, and then the ceremony is all off. They may appeal to the younger element who are devising some means to get a "kick" out of life, but as the years pile up around them it is more than likely they will very much regret that they were not married in accordance with the laws of the land and the better class of society so they could spend their declining years at peace with themselves and their children.

TORONTO ASSERTED ITSELF

The elections last Saturday in Toronto caused about as much interest throughout Ontario as in the city in which they were held. Generally, it was felt that the unseating of W. A. Summerville from the Board of Control because his taxes were in arrears when he was elected last New Year's, was rather childish. Legally, he could not be elected, but the greater number of the people in the province felt that this was but another instance in which "the law is an ass." Evidently the electors in Toronto shared the opinion, for they elected Summerville by about 10,500 votes over his nearest opponent.

Municipal law is a funny thing. It will unseat a man for being in arrears of taxes, but countenances the holding of a seat on the Council Board by a man who owns no property at all. In a few years there may be a law passed that will require a non-property owner to show that he is not behind in his rent, his hydro bill or his car payments before he can be declared eligible to hold office. As the laws stand at present it is hardly fair to the property owner.

REFORM YOURSELF

The world at present is full of reformers but they do not seem to be getting anywhere. Perhaps it was always so, but they were not noticed for the possible reason that their business was not run on the same commercial basis as it is today. The most prolific reformer has been by all odds the one who pointed out the defects of religion in the orthodox churches, and was starting out on a campaign to invent one that was, to use the term of a well-known advertiser, "100 per cent pure."

We were rather interested in an answer given by the Rev. W. A. Cameron to an inquirer about the scripture passage in Proverbs which says that the man who sees only things far away is a fool, and compares it with the verse in Second Peter where it is stated that the man who can see only things that are near is blind.

These statements are both true, according to the Toronto divine, who points to the folly of having one's eyes in the ends of the earth and not seeing the things that are near as illustrated often in matters of personal ambition.

This folly is often seen in certain types of reformers. They go about preaching the universal brotherhood of man—an excellent doctrine, but they forget that it would mean each man being a real brother to every other man, and that they must begin with themselves and with their neighbors. "Nothing is more absurd," concludes Rev. Cameron, "than the way in which some people advocate the universal brotherhood by being cantankerous and snobby to everybody about them."

The big trouble with the average reformer lies in that he wants to reform you to his manner of thinking and is peeved and crabby if you have a mind of your own.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

We hope the signs of Spring, so evident the fore part of the week are not a premonition of backward weather. When Spring starts to spring we want it to keep springing and not take springhalt.

We notice that our old friend, Eddie Allan, sporting editor of the Mail and Empire, Toronto, and a former resident, has been going great guns in the big curling bonspiel at Toronto. The rink on which he played captured the Ryle-Birks trophy last Friday, and again on Monday were successful in winning the Royal York trophy in a bonspiel that lasted over a week. In the Star, Lou Marsh says: "Eddie Allan, sporting editor of the Mail and Empire, says that from now on he is going to have a good time." Just leave that to Eddie—he will have a good time anywhere, even when he has to work.

Southampton votes on hydro on Tuesday, March 11. It is nobody's business but their own, but we would advise them to "watch their step" before they vote the hydro out. A well known car manufacturer carries an advertising slogan, "Ask the man who owns one" as his conclusive evidence of superiority. We would say to Southampton, or any other municipality voting on hydro: "Ask the town which has it." Power and light users both in Canada and other countries have had experience with the private and public interests. Southampton voters, in our opinion, and after a thirteen-year experience with Ontario Hydro, will make the biggest blunder of their lives if they fail to carry Hydro.

Mulock (Our Own Correspondent)

The late Mrs. William Lunney who has been a resident of Bentinck township for the past 37 years passed away at her home here Sunday, February 17, at one o'clock after an illness of some months. She was a patient sufferer and has been tenderly cared for by her daughter, Margaret. Among a host of friends the loss of Mrs. Lunney is keenly felt and she will be missed for her bright, cheerful disposition and one whose life was filled with good deeds and kindness to all in need of them. It is however, in the home and by the bereaved husband and daughter that her loss will be most keenly felt.

The late Mrs. Lunney's maiden name was Elizabeth Warren, daughter of Joseph Warren. She was born in Wallace Township, County of Perth, near Palmerston, in which vicinity she lived till 37 years ago. In 1876 she was married to Alex. Stinson and to them were born a large family of eight children, five of whom survive: Milton and Robert Stinson, of Crichton, Sask.; James and Allan of Peace River District, Alta, and Mrs. Brinage (Sadie) of Detroit.

In 1892 she was married to Mr. Wm. Lunney and came to Bentinck in which Township she has lived ever since. This union was blessed with a family of three sons and one daughter, two sons who died in infancy, Arthur of Crichton, Sask. and Margaret, at home. Besides the bereaved husband and family, five brothers and three sisters also mourn her demise, Peter and Matthew Warren and Mrs. H. I. Kirke of New Westminster, B.C., John of Rouleau, Sask., Allan of Pickford, Mich., Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Anthony and Joseph of Palmerston. One sister preceded her only last December.

Until coming to Bentinck, she was a member of the Palmerston Anglican church and since has attended the Baptist church, Mulock. She has been a faithful member of the Ladies' Aid since organized in 1920.

The funeral, which took place from the home to the place of interment in Durham cemetery, was attended by a large number of friends and neighbors. Rev. H. Crickington officiated at the house and grave. In his sermon he paid a warm and glowing tribute to the departed friend, alluding to her noble and womanly character: a faithful wife, loving mother, devoted friend and a patient sufferer, filled with a Christian spirit worthy of emulation. Two favorite hymns of the deceased were sung, "Safe in the arms of Jesus," and "Shall we gather at the river." Many beautiful floral tributes were banked upon the casket bearing silent testimony to the respect in which the late Mrs. Lunney was held. The flower bearers were Howard, Laverne, John McCullum, Melvin Adams, John McDonald, Clifford Honess, Archie McCuaig, Keith Lunney. The pall bearers were Messrs. Thomas and Spence Hopkins, Neil McCullum, Reginald Sharpe, Findlay McCuaig, Joseph Porter, Ivan Walker, and Thomas Stinson. To the bereaved ones upon whom the shadows of sorrow, desolation and loneliness now fall, we extend deepest sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil McLean, Sask., and son Neil Douglas, were guests at the home of Mr. Donald McDonald.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Brown was opened to about 50 members of the B. Y. P. U. on the evening of February 15, with Mr. Geo. Brown, the president, in charge. After the usual opening exercises, the main part of the evening was occupied by progressive crokinole, which was indulged in and enjoyed by all. The ladies' prize went to Miss Sarah McLean, while Mr. John Coult captured the gentlemen's prize after several interesting contests. Lunch was served and candy passed around. At the close Mr. John McDonald moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Brown and George, which was seconded by Mr. Elton Adams and responded to by all members. The meeting closed by all repeating the Lord's prayer.

The many friends of Miss Mary McCullum are pleased to know she is able to be among us, and may she speedily recover her usual health.

Skating by the young people of Mulock and Ebenezer is indulged in at the open air rink at Mr. Fred Torry's. All report having a good time.

Mr. Reg. Sharpe is attending juror duties in Owen Sound this week.

We are pleased to know Mrs. Philip McDonald is able to be home after her recent operation for appendicitis in Durham hospital recently.

Glenglg Council

Council met February 9th with the members all present and the Reeve in the chair.

The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted as read.

Communications from Dr. Carefoot re indigents (held over); from Mr. T. S. Cooper a statement of receipts and expenditures re School Fairs.

By-law 710, providing for expenditure on roads and bridges for 1929 was passed.

From Ontario Townships Roads Association re membership and convention; from Minister of Highways re Good Roads Association Annual Convention; from R. C. Muir, Department of Highways, acknowledging receipts in detail from Road Superintendent, Mr. T. Turnbull, showing work and expenditure on roads in 1928; also By-law No. 711 appointing Patrolmen, Sheep Inspectors and Weed Inspectors for 1929. The Weed Inspectors are as follows: Ward 1, Thos. V. Bell; Ward 2, John Stodhart; Ward 3, Frank Meigher; Ward 4, Hugh Vaughan Jr.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Alder left last week on a trip to the Pacific coast. Mrs. H. Dalgarno was in Toronto last week attending the Spring Millinery Opening.

Miss Blanche Murdoch spent over the week-end with Miss Ellen Marshall, Mount Forest.

Miss Eva Adam returned home Saturday after spending a three weeks' vacation with her sister, Mrs. A. S. Switzer, in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Smith, with Mrs. Griffin and two children of Toronto, spent the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bryan. Mrs. Smith remained to help care for her father, who is in poor health.

Mayor Murdoch, Reeve Bell and Councillor Noble went to Toronto yesterday to interview Hon. George S. Henry, Minister of Highways, and to make arrangements whereby the Provincial Government will pay for half of the 20-foot strip in the connecting link pavement to be put down here next summer.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

The Administrator of the Estate of Joseph Sealey offers for sale by Public Auction at the HAHN HOUSE, DURHAM, on

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1929 at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the property of the deceased, known as

Parts of Lots Numbers Fifty-eight and Fifty-nine, both in the Second Concession, East of the Garafraxa Road in the Township of Glenelg, County of Grey. On the property is a good brick house, stable and well. The property will be offered for sale subject to a reserve bid.

Terms of Sale as Follows: Twenty per cent of the purchase price to be paid down on the date of sale and signing of agreement. The balance in fifteen days.

Dated at Durham this 22nd day of February, D.A. 1929.

For further particulars apply to LUCAS & HENRY, Solicitors for the Administrator, or to HENRY ECKHARDT, R.R. No. 1, Priceville, Administrator. J. O'NEIL, Auctioneer.

HYDRO WORKMEN HAD BUSY NIGHT

Short Circuit in Transformers at Sand & Gravel Company's Plant Put Hydro Out of Commission Early on Tuesday Morning.

The Eugenia hydro system was dead west of Durham about an hour early Tuesday morning but with the exception of the nightwatchmen and a few night workers not many knew anything about it. The power was off between 2 and 3 o'clock and the local hydro men, Messrs. W. Munro and C. Elvidge had a busy time until morning.

The break in service was caused by a short circuit at the Sand & Gravel plant in town, when the high wind played havoc with the lead-in lines on the 22,000 volt service, burnt off an insulator and did some other minor damage. While the interference was not sufficient to kick the switch at the power house, it was heavy enough to let the operators know that something was wrong and the local hydro men were aroused and the power shut off while repairs were made. For a few minutes it was a brilliant sight down at the plant, and one would have imagined that the whole southern end of the town was on fire.

The damage done was small, however, and was soon noticed by employees of the plant who are working at nights in order to keep up with their shipments of stone.

Drug Store Clerk (excitedly): "Oh, sir, there's a Scotchman out there who wants to buy ten cents' worth of poison to commit suicide. How can I save him?"

The Boss: "Tell him it'll cost twenty cents."

This Week's SPECIALS
Ladies' Silk and Wool Hose. Reg. \$1.00, per pair 69c.

Don't buy a Radio until you see the NEW VICTOR
It is all electric and will be much lower in price.

The Variety Store
R. L. Saunders, Prop.
PHONE 4 DURHAM

DON'T MISS IT
"Craberry Corners"
A COMEDY-DRAMA IN 4 ACTS
presented by the A. O. T. S. Class of Queen St. United Church in the Town Hall, Durham Friday, March 8, 1929 at 8 p. m.
All local cast of twelve persons
ADMISSION: Adults 35c. Children 25c. All Seats Reserved Plan at Variety Store

CHURCHES
SOCIAL EVENING BY B. Y. P. U.
The Baptist Young People's Union held a social evening for the members of the Union and congregation Monday evening, when a most enjoyable evening was spent at which seemed to enjoy themselves. It announced that those desiring to full part in the evening's festivity should attend dressed in old-costume and as a result many of now antique wearing apparel thirty years ago was resurrected, the attic gave the gathering a medieval appearance, and added to the hilarity of the occasion.

Twp. of Bentinck
RECEIPTS
To Cash balance
Taxes, 1927
Taxes, 1928
Money borrowed
Debentures sold
Grant Dept. of Highways
County Treasurer, Legislative grant
Non-resident tax and arrears
W. J. Emke, Hydro debt
Miscellaneous

ASSETS
Cash balance on hand
Uncollected taxes
Estimated grant
Machinery
Township Hall

J. & GEN. DURHAM
Clean of Me
Regul