

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.

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.

Durham, Ontario, Thursday, March 28, 1929

OUR COUNTY PAVEMENT

For the present the county paving scheme from the main street intersection east to the corporation limits is up in the air and a special meeting of the County Council has been called to see what is to be done. The County at first insisted that Durham forego her county grant for twenty years if the pavement was built. Then it was reduced to seventeen, then twelve, and finally until the paving work was paid for, the town being charged five per cent interest on the money cost. As all these agreements have to be signed and passed by the Ontario Government before the latter will pay its share, the refusal of the Government to enter the agreement has held up the work for a time.

The Government will not agree, and rightly so, with the plan of the rural reeves, who are in the majority in the Council, to make Durham pay interest on the money spent for the building of the pavement. They take the stand that as Durham has to pay a County Rate each year, the withholding of the grant and the charging of interest means that while the town is required to pay into the county road-building scheme it would be getting no benefit from it. The Government has no objection to the county withholding Durham's annual grant "for a reasonable number of years" but will not agree that she should pay interest.

The stand looks to be a good one, is of considerable interest to those rural centres which have county paving programmes in view, and shows that the Government does not intend that the smaller urban centres shall not be given a fair deal in the matter of road building just because they have the minority representation in the County Council.

THE ROYAL ARMS

The restoration of the Royal Arms, recently removed, to the postal delivery rigs and mail trucks may mean anything or nothing. The Royal insignia should never have been removed in the first place, and the removal proved unpopular. Canadians are still British, and while the Royal Arms on post-office equipment may not be of any particular benefit it most certainly does no harm. It is just a case of sentiment and the powers that be would be well advised to let well enough alone.

THAT HYDRO REFUND

Our esteemed Hanover contemporary THE POST still thinks it is right in its editorial anent the Hydro of two weeks ago, but does not refer to the principal objection we took to its article: the inference that the Hydro was "playing politics" when it made its customary rebate to the municipalities. Last week THE POST referred to the fact that the Hydro Commission was \$110,000 too high in its estimates as to the cost of running the Georgian Bay system, "which certainly justifies our claim that they erred on the side of generosity in setting the original rate . . . but when Hanover gets a credit of over \$5,125, it looks like too much of a good thing. Surely they can estimate more accurately than that."

With THE POST's opinion regarding the correctness of the Commission's estimate we have no desire to interfere. If that newspaper thinks that the Commission or any other body can tell within a few thousand dollars the amount required to run the Georgian Bay Hydro-Electric system for a year, it most certainly should have that privilege. This is a free country and a man may think as he pleases. Personally, we can find no serious fault with the estimate being about one hundred thousand dollars higher than necessary. We doubt if any business of like magnitude, public or private, would come very much closer. So long as the Hydro Commission deals fairly with the municipalities and refunds the excess money collected there is not likely to be any great stampe of the patrons.

THE POST further disagrees with the Commission as to the amount of balance required for the Hanover system, some thirty thousand dollars, and thinks this is out of all proportion to the amount necessary. This may be true. We do not know. We would take it, though, that the Commission is merely making each municipality stand on its own feet and that the amount of surplus would represent approximately the amount it would take to reimburse the Government, which has guaranteed the bonds, should the Hanover system, or any other system in Ontario, in some mysterious manner become defunct. Rather than handle this money in the hands of the various municipalities. During the first few years the Hydro is in a town there is a deficit, and we feel it is only fair to the municipalities and the Government that guaranteed their bonds, that now, with approximately thirteen-twentieths of the twenty-year period gone, each municipality should have enough surplus to insure the liquidation of its hydro debt when it comes due. This surplus is necessary if the hydro system is to remain solvent, and who, more than the municipalities themselves, should have the investing of this accumulated surplus?

GOSSIPING CONDEMNED

The average citizen hates a gossip like poison, but up at Owen Sound they have gone one better and County Crown Attorney Dyre and a coroner's jury have placed themselves on record in a criticism of this nefarious practice. The censure arose out of the recent suicide of an Owen Sound lady. Circumstances surrounding her death made it imperative that an inquest be held.

The woman in question was driven to commit the rash act because, according to the Owen Sound Sun-Times, "it was revealed in the evidence that only

after a neighbor, a Mrs. Cook, had told Mrs. Boddy that another woman had told her that it would not be hard to get her (the dead woman's) husband on a string, that the unfortunate woman with this preying on her mind, went to the drug store and purchased the poison, and later took three of the deadly tablets." The Mrs. Cook referred to admitted in the witness box that she had told Mrs. Boddy what had been attributed to her but "did not think she had done any harm."

The action of the Crown Attorney, the Coroner and the Jury in severely criticising this sort of gossiping is to be commended, and it is to be hoped that we will in the future have more of it in our courts. There are too many people who delight in carrying tales of a kind about men and women, and even if they be true, a person with any respect for himself or his sex would be well advised to hold his tongue.

Women, especially, seem the target for this kind of abuse, and generally suffer most. A man may sow his wild oats, reform, and get back into society. Not so with the woman or the young girl. Once branded, there is no escape for her. It would therefore seem that it is high time for the law to step in and, as those lines in "The Mikado" suggest, "make the punishment fit the crime."

In the present age of commercialism, and the continuous hustle necessary to make a living, it is a puzzle to us how some people find time to mind other folks' business.

It may truthfully be said that her character is a woman's only asset. She may be wholly innocent of some misconduct with which she has been connected by some busybody, but, innocent or guilty, must pay the price. It is therefore all the more necessary that the law should assist her in keeping her good name.

A WAIL FROM COLLINGWOOD

Out in Collingwood the BULLETIN "sees red" every time the Hydro is mentioned and we clip the following from its last week's issue:

"Over in south Grey the Hanover Post, in reference to the recently announced rebates to the municipalities by the Ontario Hydro Commission, mildly intimated that the course pursued suggested the playing of politics. Immediately the Durham REVIEW hops to the mat in defense of the Commission, and speaks a la Toronto GLOBE to which the merest semblance of criticism of its pet scheme is little short of les majeste. That hydro is a valuable asset is admitted, but just why everyone should extol or defend its autocratic methods with any paroxysm of joy is difficult to understand."

We might tell our friend of the BULLETIN what he probably already knows: that sarcasm doesn't advance a man or a newspaper very far in an argument. At the same time we would point out that his last sentence is probably conclusive proof that the CHRONICLE was right in its defense of the Hydro system. If "everybody" is extolling or defending its autocratic methods, surely "everybody" cannot be wrong and "the few" right. We can sympathize with our friend in Collingwood in his wrath, as it is apparent that favorable mention of the Hydro not only makes him see red but on occasions prevents him from seeing at all. It was the CHRONICLE that defended the Hydro, not the REVIEW.

We claim no inside knowledge of the workings of Hydro, and contrary to the insinuation of the BULLETIN do not always see eye to eye with the action of the Commission, but never yet have we had to resort to sarcasm to further our argument. If the CHRONICLE is wrong in its argument, then it is up to the BULLETIN to point it out—we have not yet reached that stage where we cannot be corrected. One thing we do know, however. Since the inception of the Hydro in Durham, we have enjoyed a first-class twenty-four-hour service, practically free from interruptions, and at a price that we could not have enjoyed under any other system. What more can we ask?

The BULLETIN wonders why everyone should extol or defend the Hydro; the CHRONICLE in turn wonders why the few who seem to be always knocking it seem so determined to persist. The Hydro is not at all perfect, nothing is; but, gauged by its performance it is at least entitled to decent consideration at the hands of a lot of people who, by their assertions, would lead one to believe that they knew more about running this gigantic system with its intricate financing than those who have been entrusted with the job.

The CHRONICLE is not, however, suffering from an attack of exaggerated ego. We are perfectly willing to allow the BULLETIN or any other newspaper or individual to have its own views without yelling lese majeste, confident in the fact that we are at least on the side with the overwhelming majority and possibly as nearly correct as our opponents.

We might also add that it will be a sorry day for Hydro and the smaller centres when it passes out of the hands of a central control system and is turned over to the various municipalities to manipulate as they see fit. Each municipality will inculcate on its own private schedule of rules and regulations, and in a short time there will be dissensions and differences second only to the Tower of Babel episode.

Hydro in Ontario is a big thing, a good thing, and the envy of the whole world; as such it has to be ruled with an iron hand if it is to succeed. Results show that we have the cheapest power in the world, that the municipalities are being fairly dealt with, and so long as these conditions remain there is little chance of very much dissatisfaction so far as the patrons are concerned. And as time goes on this power will be cheaper, will ultimately penetrate the sideroads and concessions of our rural sections and make this province the envy of every rural dweller in America.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Flesherton is to have an Old Home Week next August, and one of Ye Editor's old-time schoolmates says the first thing we have to do is sing him an old song—something about "baseball as mentioned in the Bible." Evidently he has heard of our performance in the Odd Fellows' choir at the Baptist church here two weeks ago.

Arthur ENTERPRISE-NEWS, in its "Twenty Years Ago" column announces that "Fred Ritchie of Durham has secured a position in the store of Tindale Bros."

Mr. Robb is clear enough in his hint to the United States that Canada will have to adopt retaliatory measures if the United States tariff against Canadian goods is placed too high, says the FINANCIAL POST. All well and good, but we believe the day of hinting is past and should be replaced with action.

CHURCHES

SWINTON PARK
Notwithstanding the condition of the roads we are having fine attendances at church. May this continue.
Service next Sabbath D.V. at 2.30. Everyone invited.

PRICEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. J. Corry, Minister
On Easter Sabbath let everyone plan to attend church. Services at 11 o'clock and 7.30 p.m. Sabbath school at 10 o'clock.

"Full Attendance Day" at church will be held on Sabbath, April 7, when everyone is expected to attend church. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered. Please make this a record attendance day.

KNOX Y. W. A.
The Knox Young Women's Auxiliary was entertained at the home of Misses Mary and Daisy Mather for their regular monthly social and work meeting on Monday evening, March 25th. About 25 ladies were present and a very enjoyable evening was spent. At the close of the meeting lunch was served.

HELD UNION MEETING
The young people of the Baptist and Presbyterian churches fraternized last Monday night in the schoolroom of the latter church and spent a most enjoyable evening together. The programme was supplied by the Baptist Young People and consisted of solos, duets and readings, as well as by speeches dealing with the Easter season by Mr. W. Moffet and Rev. W. Spencer. Following the programme there was a pleasant hour spent in games, the evening being brought to a close with the serving of an excellent luncheon.

PRESBYTERIAN W. M. S.
The monthly meeting of the W. M. S. of Durham Presbyterian church was held at the home of Mrs. J. Hepburn on Friday afternoon of last week, the President, Mrs. (Rev.) E. D. Armstrong, presiding. The meeting was opened with hymn 212, after which Mrs. S. Patterson led in prayer and Miss E. Calder read the scripture lesson. It being the Easter meeting; roll call was answered by a text on the Resurrection. Mrs. N. McCannell read an Easter message while Mrs. Armstrong followed with a helpful talk. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the Visitors' Report by Mrs. J. Hepburn, a very good one, was given. The report of the secretary, Mrs. J. F. Grant, was also very interesting. Correspondence was dealt with and a delegate appointed to attend the provincial convention at Hamilton. Mrs. W. Kellar read the scripture lesson from the study book on "The Persians and Hungarians in Canada." Mrs. A. Derby read a splendid paper on "The Church and Its Mission." Mrs. Derby, Mrs. Ledingham and Mrs. Armstrong led in prayer. Hymn 223 was sung and the meeting closed by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison.

QUEEN STREET CHURCH W. M. S.
The W. M. S. of Queen Street church held the March meeting at the home of Mrs. Twamley. There was a good attendance and a very interesting and instructive program. Mrs. McCrae, the President, took charge of the opening and business part of the meeting. "How firm a foundation" was sung, followed by prayer by Mrs. Groves. Plans for the Easter Thankoffering were made which is to be held in the church basement on April 11th. Mrs. (Rev.) W. H. Smith has kindly consented to give the report of the Toronto Conference Branch held in Toronto recently.

Mrs. Twamley took charge of the remainder of the meeting. Four heralds responded for different countries in the Watch Tower. Mrs. Twamley read a leaflet "Preparation for the Easter Thankoffering Meeting." Mrs. Groves read the devotional leaflet, "Judge Makin", after which Mrs. Twamley offered prayer. The topic for study was "The Oriental Work in Canada," which was divided into sections and very interesting accounts of it read by Mrs. Wolfe, Mrs. Fiddes and Mrs. Wiggins. Arguments for and against Oriental Immigration were given, making clear the magnitude of this great problem. There are approximately seventy thousand Orientals in Canada now. An outline of the service that the United Church is rendering to these people was also given. The meeting was closed by singing "Lord, hithi for all mankind we pray" and prayer by Mrs. McCrae.

NEW GOODS for Easter

LADIES! You'll need a new pair of Hose for Easter. Why not make them Holeproof. The shades have changed this year. Come and see the new ones.
The \$1.00 silk Holeproof is a real silk and we guarantee the wearing qualities.
The \$1.50 full fashioned Holeproof is a real fine silk with chic ankle.
The \$2.00 service weight full-fashioned Holeproof is a heavy silk with wonderful wearing qualities.

All new designs in Silk Scarves
New Silk and Kid Gloves
New Silk Underwear

SPECIAL!
Ladies' Purses for Easter
Reg. up to \$2. for \$1.19
If you are thinking of a new purse, see these.

New Coat and Dress Flowers
Come and see our Easter display of Rabbits, Bunnies, Chocolate Eggs and Novelties.

Cut Flowers and Potted Plants

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

CHOIR ENTERTAINED

The social evening put on by the Presbyterian choir in the basement of the church last Thursday evening was one of the most pleasant gatherings held in town for some time. During the evening a good programme was given, the entertainment opening with a selection by the choir. There was a piano solo by Miss Leah McComb, a violin solo by Mrs. C. Howell, duets by Mrs. McFadden and Miss Weir, and solos by Mrs. McFadden, Mrs. A. W. H. Lauder, Miss Elizabeth Harding, Mr. A. G. McComb and Mr. E. S. MacArthur. Miss Sharp gave a humorous reading, and Mrs. MacArthur a reading in Scotch dialect that contained much dry wit and was enthusiastically received.

The piece de resistance was the appearance of the 18-piece orchestra. This was, of course, intended as a burlesque, and it well filled the intention. The orchestra was equipped with everything from the back of the room by Mrs. J. H. Harding, to the numerous kazoo—and the music was good. A violin, a concertina, tambourine, and other instruments which could not be identified from the back of the room were there, and when they all got going the "volume" was immense. This imported orchestra was under the personal charge and instruction of the great Italian composer and leader, Professor Tobasco Mueresco McFaddini Rexallis, and the manner with which he executed the gyrations necessary to extract the pianissimo, double forte and crash-bang notes from his orchestral collection would make Thaviu turn green with envy.

The programme over the remainder of the evening was spent in social intercourse and lunch, the crowd being divided off into "automobile" groups

and compelled to write a poem on the car they represented. The Ford won out.


QUEEN STREET A. O. T. S. CLASS

The A. O. T. S. Class held their monthly meeting on Tuesday night in the basement of the church. Mrs. Slack, the President, presided. In opening, a hymn was sung, after which Mrs. Fiddes offered prayer. Blanche Traynor read the scripture lesson, found in the 1st chapter of Hebrews. Mr. Fiddes then gave a splendid Bible talk dealing with the 11th and 12th chapters of Hebrews. The closing thought was that if we keep our minds fixed on Jesus, and always to Him, we shall be like Him.

Business of the class was then discussed and as Miss Kinnee wished to resign, Eunice Moon was elected pianist of the class.
This being "Music" night, the numbers on the program were along this line. Mrs. Padfield gave a talk upon "The Educative Value of Music". She explained how music trains the ear and eye; acts as an incentive to other arts; trains the student to concentrate; and encourages high ideals. Therefore an active part throughout it. Studies of two composers, Bach and Beethoven were given by Elizabeth Kinnee and Mary McFadden, respectively. Miss Fraser then played one of Beethoven's Sonatas. Other musical numbers were a solo by Margaret Lawrence, and a guitar selection by Clifford Moon.
After singing a hymn, the meeting was closed by all repeating the Mizpah benediction.

Read The Chronicle ads on page 7.

EASTER OFFERINGS



Have you seen our hats that just arrived this week priced at

\$2.95

Never have there been such rare bargains shown in millinery before. All the newest straws for Misses and Matron. These rarely sell under \$6.00.

The Childrens' Hats are priced at \$1.75 and \$1.95.

Hopkins' Millinery

Phone 147. Main Street.



Stock Up For the Winter!

Spring Coal Delivery is now solicited

ATTRACTIVE PRICES FOR EARLY BUYERS

April and May delivery prices are as follows:
Nut and Egg . . . \$14.75
Stove \$15.00
A discount of 50c. per ton will be allowed for cash.

Bituminous Coal and Coke always on hand.

Let us quote you.

W. Calder Estate

M. Grieg Calder, Manager
PHONE 29 DURHAM

MOVIE

CHARLIE MURRAY IS AT HIS BEST

That veteran, eternally edian of the stage, screen fame, Charlie Murray, new heights in First National's "Head Man" at the Star Friday and Saturday. Not that Murray, Luc and other notable comedians and other notable comedians do not in riotous behavior, that laughter. The burlesque however, are part of a story, and they are so effective contrast to some and paths.

Larry Kent, the attractive leading man, and Loretta and beautiful little leading lady, are part of the story, and they are so enacted by character who roars of mirth. Notable

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