

Charges Investigated by Dept. Representative

Unsatisfactory Conditions As Dealt With in Recent Issue of the Chronicle Cause of Departmental Representative Being Sent From Toronto.—Charges in This Newspaper Against Board Seem to Have Been Well Founded, But Prompt Attention to All Applications Is Promised For the Future.

As a result of recent charges in the Chronicle to the effect that the Grey County Pensions Board was not functioning properly and which seem to have been well founded, an inspector from the Old Age Pensions Commission from Toronto visited the county last week and met with the members of the local Board in an effort to clear up the situation. The following from last Thursday's issue of the Owen Sound Sun-Times is self explanatory and will be of interest to residents in all parts of the county. The Sun-Times article follows:

Some interesting information was given to the Daily Sun-Times by Mr. Charles H. Green, one of the Chief Inspectors in the employ of the Old Age Pension Board of Ontario, both as regards the operation of the Act and the large amounts of money which are being paid out annually to the aged people of the province.

Mr. Green, who is a former well known resident of Southampton, and at one time was a candidate for the Ontario Legislature in North Bruce, came to Owen Sound for the purpose of attending a special meeting of the Old Age Pensions Board for Grey County, having been sent here by Hon. Dr. Jamieson, Chairman of the Provincial Board, to look carefully into the manner in which the business in this county has been administered since the Act came into force. His information was that the Board was to meet in Owen Sound on Wednesday, but on his arrival found that the meeting was set for Thursday and he was compelled to remain over.

During the course of his conversation with the Sun-Times reference was made to the publication in the Durham Chronicle a few weeks ago of certain facts which reflected on the work of the Board, and had no hesitation in saying that Grey county compared most unfavorably with any other county in the province. In fact he intimated that the reason he was here was for the very purpose of stating the position of the Provincial Board as it affected the Grey County Board and hinted that he might have some plain things to say, but hoped that there would be a complete understanding when he left that the business would receive prompt attention in future.

Mr. Green stated that the Board had made payments to some parties in the county of as high as \$100 due to the fact that the necessary papers, which had been passed by the county board, had not been forwarded to the head office at Toronto, thus depriving deserving pensioners of their money during that time. Mention was made of a number of applications from Hanover, passed by the County Board several months ago, which have still to be received at the Toronto office, and another instance was cited where the Provincial Board had investigated a case in Grey county where it was found that they were really in excellent financial circumstances and when the facts were presented they admitted that they were well-to-do, and paid back all pension monies to the Board and in spite of the fact that they were cancelled in Toronto they were still on the county books.

Mr. Green cited the latter case to show that more care should be taken in the investigation of all cases, and if this is not the case all sorts of evils are liable to creep in, and they have to be watched very carefully. Great care has to be taken in dealing with the applications in order to eliminate municipal and political influence, and he expressed the opinion that the clause providing for the payment of 20 per cent of the pensions by the municipality or corporation as being protective in many ways, as it tends to caution on the part of the local boards. He is also of the opinion that permanent boards will give better service than those from the



TOURS THE UNITED STATES

Sir Philip Sassoon, said to be one of the richest bachelors in the world, and formerly Under Secretary of State for Air in the British Cabinet, has arrived on these shores to make a lecturing tour of the principal cities in Canada and the United States. He is an ardent aviation enthusiast and was at one time the youngest member of the British Parliament.

municipal council which are constantly changing.

Some interesting figures were given showing the large sums of money which are being paid out for old age pensions in the province. For the past eleven months, ending September 30, the sum of \$5,883,536.92, of which the federal government at Ottawa paid 50 per cent, the province 30 and the municipalities 20 per cent, had been disbursed. Although there are 33,009 pensioners receiving aid every month, and the average amount being paid is \$19 to each pensioner. In September the total amount paid was \$653,128.24.

In Grey county there are at the present time 383 pensioners on the roll, and the amount paid to them during the last 10 months was \$66,592.20. In Bruce county there are 308 on the roll, and in the same 10 months there was paid the sum of \$49,472.45. In Simcoe county there are no less than 1,061 pensioners on the roll, and they were paid a total for the ten months of \$160,049.20. Mr. Green did not have the statistics with him from Owen Sound, but he stated that there were fewer pensioners from this city compared to population than any other city in the province. He was not sure whether this was a credit to the city or otherwise.

Met Board on Thursday
Mr. Green met the County of Grey Board at the court house on Thursday afternoon and went very fully into matters in connection with the work of this Board which has not been as satisfactory as it might have been. Full explanations were made with regard to the delays in putting through some of the applications for pensions, and a number of matters on which the Board was not quite clear were fully explained by Mr. Green, with the result that the Board will in future have a much better understanding of their duties. Mr. Green was assured by the Board that every application will in future receive the fullest investigation and that the business will be kept right up to date.

FALL CENSUS COMPLETED

The semi-annual census of highway traffic was completed here Tuesday night, the same officials as formerly, Messrs. R. Aljoe and W. N. Whitmore being in charge. The report shows that during the seven days ending Tuesday night 2,363 vehicles had passed McClimont's Corners, two miles south of town. This, we understand, is a considerable advance over the same period last fall, but about one-third lower than last July.

WINTER SCHEDULE TO START ON MONDAY

Durham rural mail routes Nos. 1 and 2 commence their winter schedule next Monday and will leave the local post office at 9 o'clock in the morning instead of 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

DURHAM CLUB MEETING WAS HELD LAST WEEK

The annual meeting of the Durham Club of Toronto was held Monday, September 22 at the home of the president, Mrs. Dawson. Mrs. Scarf, the work secretary reported a total of 157 articles made and sent to the Durham hospital, among them being fourteen flannellette gowns for the babies.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Donaldson; Vice-President, Mrs. Crowther; Treasurer, Mrs. Barker; Secretary, Miss Robson; Work Secretary, Mrs. Scarf; Social Convener, Mrs. Fentiman. The next meeting will be held Monday, October 20, at the home of Mrs. Crowther, 634 St. Clarens Ave., one street east of Lansdowne. Take College or Harbord car to Lansdowne and Lappin Ave. and come. Strangers may feel sure of a warm welcome.

LEADS BRITISH LABORITES

Miss Sue Lawrence, Parliamentary Secretary in the British Ministry of Health, who has been entrusted with the ticklish task of steering this year's conference of the British Labor Party through troubled waters. She sounded one of the keynote of the new platform by charging that the House of Lords has been obstructing the work of Premier MacDonald.

GRAND LODGE OFFICIAL VISITS DURHAM LODGE

District Deputy Grand Master Harry Zinn of Shelburne, Paid His Official Visit to Local Masonic Lodge on Tuesday Night.—Banquet Followed Pleasant Hour Spent in Lodge Room.

The official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master to Durham Lodge No. 306, A.F. & A.M., took place on Tuesday evening and the visit was the occasion for a larger than average attendance of the members. In addition there were many visitors and as a result there was a crowded lodge room when Rt. W. Bro. Harry Zinn of Shelburne entered in his official capacity of representative of the Grand Master in Grey District. As he is a former Hanover boy, where his father still resides, many of the Hanover brethren took advantage of the occasion to fraternize with the Durham brethren. Members of the craft were also present from Shelburne, Markdale, Wingham and other lodges.

Following the business meeting the assemblage repaired to the banquet room where a sumptuous repast of roast chicken, with accessories and dessert was served, this in turn being followed by a couple of hours in short addresses, vocal and instrumental selections and social intercourse. The programme was in charge of D. McCallum, W.M. of Durham Lodge, who made a good toastmaster and handled the lengthy programme with promptness and despatch. The usual toasts of the craft were proposed and responded to by the local and visiting brethren and a genuinely pleasant evening came to a close shortly after 10 o'clock.

A feature of the evening was a presentation to Bro. James Burt, who last Friday attained his 93rd birthday. He is one of the most active members of the lodge, attends every meeting, and has been a member of Durham lodge for the past 55 years. Bro. Burt fittingly responded for the mark of esteem.

DROMORE RESIDENTS HONORED AT BANQUET

Mrs. Renwick and Miss Agnes Renwick Soon to Take Up Residence in Durham.—Fittingly Remembered by Friends.

On Tuesday afternoon, October 7, the Dromore Women's Institute held a banquet in honor of Mrs. Renwick and Miss Agnes Renwick, who are soon to leave that community and take up residence in Durham.

About four o'clock nearly fifty ladies sat down to a three-course meal. Grape fruit as an appetizer whetted the appetites for the roast chicken and other good things which followed. When all had been satisfied with food and dainties a pleasant hour was spent around the tables.

Mrs. F. C. Hopkins presided and the following toasts were given "The King" by Mrs. Honeyman; "Home and Country" by Miss Bessie Drimie; "Our Guests, Mrs. Renwick and Miss Agnes" by Mrs. James Wilson. All were responded to in a suitable manner. Miss Renwick in responding to the toast to the guests, thanked the ladies for their kindness, stating that this would be something she would always remember. In a review of the Institute life in this place many interesting events were recalled and appreciation of the value of the society to its members was expressed. The audience sang "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow".

Mrs. A. Milne then read an address to the Renwick family. Mr. and Mrs. Renwick were presented with an electric toaster, Miss Agnes with an electric bed-room lamp and Mrs. R. Renwick, Jr., of Durham, a former member of this society and a guest here for the day, was presented with a similar lamp and an address read by Mrs. R. Taylor. Though taken by surprise all replied suitably, thanking the society for the gifts and the kindness shown. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung and a very pleasant afternoon was over.

Dr. Sneath, who has always been a good friend of the W. I. and who has given his time on many occasions to address the ladies, was also remembered by them in the presentation of an address and an electric table lamp.

As a community, Dromore is very sorry to lose these good people. They have been active in almost every worthy activity of the community and their places will be very difficult to fill, but best wishes follow them to their new home in Durham.

LIFE OF MINERS TOLD IN PICTURES

Representatives of Delaware & Hudson Coal Company Entertained Audience in Town Hall Last Wednesday Night.

The local coal dealer, J. N. Murdock, representative in Durham for the Delaware & Hudson Coal Company, had representatives of the company in town Wednesday night of last week exhibiting motion pictures of life in the anthracite district of Scranton and Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania.

From those who were in attendance we learn that the screen depictions were very interesting and instructive and besides showing scenes in the mines, gave the story of the life of the average miner and his family. Views were shown of the interior of the mines, the methods employed in "shootings" the coal, loading it and bringing it to the surface, the grading, sizing and loading for shipment.

The picture exhibited is now touring the larger centres in Ontario and Mr. Murdock considers himself very lucky that he was able to secure it for Durham.

South Grey Teachers Held Annual Meeting

Held Sessions in Durham High School Thursday and Friday of Last Week With Record Attendance.—Many Good Addresses Listened to With Interest, and a Great Deal of Business Done Through in the Two Days at Their Disposal.—Meet Next Year at Dumdalk.

Thursday and Friday of last week was "Teachers' Day" in Durham, the annual meeting of the South Grey Institute being held in Durham High school. There was a record attendance, with very few absentees, and during the two days the convention was held, every hour was full of addresses, business and discussion. In fact the meeting was still going strong when the second day was drawing to a close and many felt another two days' time could have been fully utilized. The weather was ideal. In those good old days that have long passed into oblivion, an influx of teachers into a town meant rain. No teacher would dare attend the convention without his customary umbrella, and in those days the county dominees were known as the "Umbrella brigade". Not so last Thursday and Friday, which were beautiful days, warm and sunny, and quite warm. It was ideal weather for a drive, and as a result the teachers of the riding not only came out in full force, but as well had a most pleasant outing.

The first session was opened at 10 a.m. Thursday, the initial procedure being the conducting of devotional exercises by Rev. H. S. Fiddes of the Queen Street United Church, Durham. In a short address following the opening prayer and scripture reading Mr. Fiddes delivered a short address, dwelling principally on three influences in the life of the child—the home, the school and the church. In the home the child is under the influence of a mother's love and teaching and the father's guidance; the school teaches him about himself, his duties, and gives him the lessons that help him to become a useful citizen; the church teaches him of God and his duties to his fellow man.

Addresses of Welcome

The addresses of welcome were given by Mayor Hunter on behalf of the town, who expressed the pleasure it gave the citizens to entertain the South Grey teachers, and who also made fitting reference to his old teacher, Mr. Thomas Allan, who retired from active duties a few years ago. Mr. John Morrison, for the High School Board further stressed the welcome of the citizens and the Board, as did also Mr. T. M. McFadden.

The usual routine business such as the reading of the minutes, the receiving of the auditors' report and the payment of fees over, an address on "What High School Expects of High School Entrance Pupils," was given by Mr. J. A. Robb, principal of Durham High school.

High School Entrance Requirements

Mr. Robb stated there were many who advocated doing away with written examinations on the entrance to High school examinations and in the lower forms. He did not agree with this, and expressed the opinion that the written examination is a much better test of a pupil's knowledge than anything else yet tried. The High school Inspectors make a specialty of examining the lower forms in reading, writing and spelling, and blame the Public school for any weakness in these subjects. Until recent years these subjects were on the High school course, but now they are no longer on the course.

Important subjects such as reading, writing and spelling should continue in Form I, according to Mr. Robb, who also stated there is a lack of accuracy in the simple rules and vulgar fractions. Aim at speed and accuracy in these mechanical operations before proceeding to more advanced questions. The time spent by a pupil at High school should be regarded as a period of preparation for good citizenship.

Honored Departed Teachers

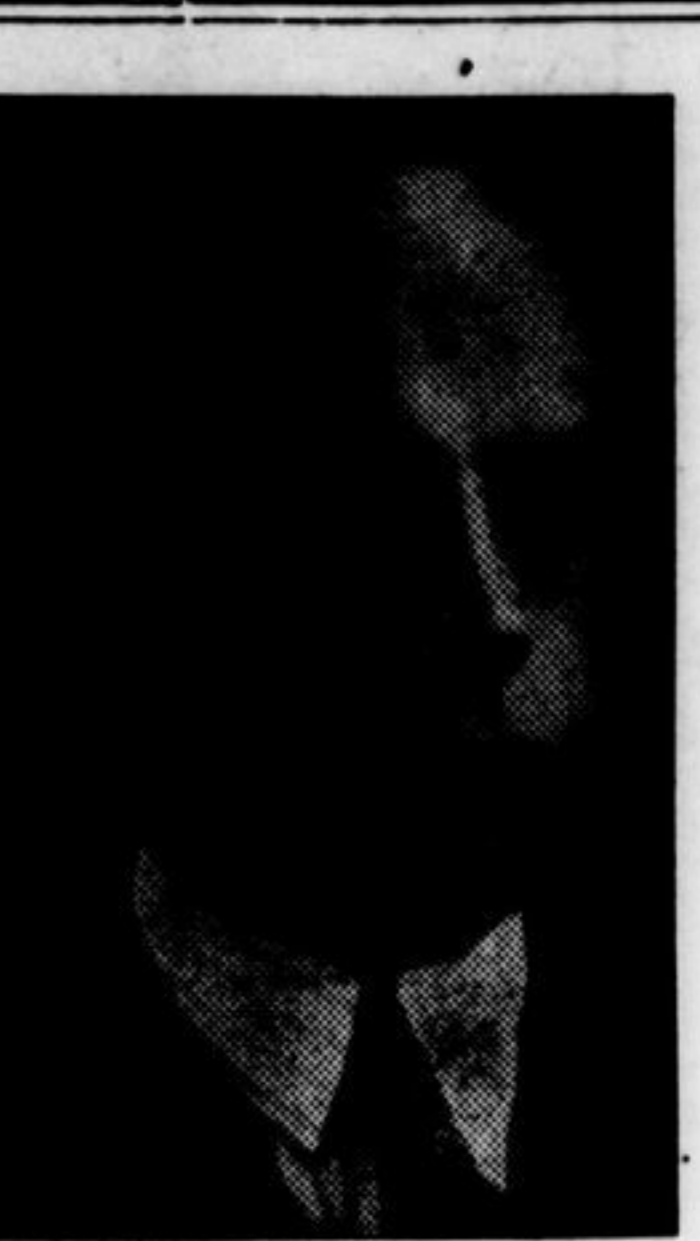
Within the past two months two well known and respected teachers of South Grey had passed away in the persons of Mr. Donald McDonald and Miss Sarah Fulton. Mr. McDonald began his career about 1870 and taught in several schools in South Grey for nearly 30 years until blindness forced him to give up his profession. Miss Fulton taught for a long period in the vicinity of Markdale. She was an exemplary young woman and her death was much regretted.

South Grey Teachers' Institute had placed a wreath on each grave of these departed fellow teachers, and as a further mark of their esteem the secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the friends and relatives conveying the sympathy of the teachers.

The President's Address

Mr. Irvin B. Sharpe of No. 3 Bentinck (Allan Park), the president of the Institute spoke on "Brightness and Dullness in Pupils". There is more trouble with these extremes than with all the rest of the school he said. The work can be done so easily and so soon by the bright pupils that they have time to turn their active minds to some new mischief. The dull ones are often backward because they are not interested. So many are not in the class they should be in. Some are ahead and some are behind. The reason for the difference in children in many cases is some physical defect in eyesight or hearing, adenoids, or some ailment unknown by the pupil, parents or teacher. Medical examination of all pupils is needed.

"Entrance Arithmetic" was dealt with by Mr. E. A. Ruttle of Dumdalk Public school, who, as an examiner in this subject finds too much inaccuracy in the simple rules of adding, subtraction, multiplying and dividing. He advised more drill and fewer stated questions.



QUEBEC'S NEW TREASURER

Hon. Gordon Scott of Montreal, who has been appointed Provincial Treasurer of Quebec. He succeeds the Hon. Mr. McMaster, who has resigned owing to ill-health.

He favored the use of a diagram in any question where a diagram could be used and warned against the folly of memorizing rules in arithmetic without the reason being well understood. Let the pupil work the question himself without outside help and work on the blackboard as much as possible.

Mr. William McDonald of the Chesley Enterprise was present with his well known handbook of past Entrance examination papers. He was called upon and gave some interesting reminiscences of his teaching days. He put in a plea for better composition in newspaper articles. Know your subject, he stressed. Evangeline was written by Longfellow, an American poet who never saw Nova Scotia or an Acadian. Lalla Rookh was written by Moore and he never was in India, and the poet Dante wrote Inferno and never saw hell, although he wrote so much about it.

Community singing, led by J. A. Magee and Miss Jean Harding, was a variation in the programme.

Toronto Teacher Spoke

C. E. Marke, B.A., D.Paed., of Toronto Normal School, spoke on "Some Teacher Requirements Not in the Curriculum." He felt he was not a stranger as the president, Mr. Sharpe, was one of his Normal school boys and he saw a few other teachers he recognized.

One requirement he mentioned to ensure a teacher's success was "Do a little bit more than you are paid for." You will some time be paid more and perhaps in a way you had not expected. A teacher must be healthy. You need physical health to be a success. There should be periodical health examinations, the same as are given to insurance policy holders by the big insurance companies.

A teacher should continue to be a learner. There are so many opportunities to help a learner now. There are also moral requirements expected in every teacher. A teacher should always remember that example is better than precept. The teacher should be higher morally than the everyday world. Some teachers, and even some preachers and some women and girls smoke and use cigarettes. Each should ask himself: "Should I, as a teacher do this?" Does this help my influence for good among the young boys and girls entrusted to my care?

Teachers should be public-spirited. Have the courage of your convictions in all moral questions even if you seem to be in the minority. Do not be a hermit in this busy world in which you have to live for some time. Have a hobby if you wish to keep young. In other words have an avocation as well as a vocation.

Teachers should have professional spirit. Have a pride in your work as teacher. Be loyal to your profession. If there is no respect for the teaching profession by the teachers engaged you cannot expect outsiders to respect your profession.

"Entrance Grammar" was introduced by Mr. Magee of Hanover. Grammar is a reasoning subject, not a memory subject. The sentence should be the unit in language in teaching grammar. The child who can analyze a sentence well and reaches it by reasonable conclusions will have no difficulty in passing the Entrance examination in Grammar.

Friday's Session

The session of the second day opened with an address by Miss J. M. Weir of Durham High school, who took her hearers with her to Europe, where the speaker enjoyed an extensive tour this summer. She dealt with that part of the trip which began with the landing at La Havre, France, and explained the customs, laws, and the use of the passport in foreign travel.

The fresh, green fields, with roads unfenced, passing through fields where grain is grown on each side of the roadway right up to the road, and dealt also with the French manner of meals, the compartment system of train travel, the ancient and modern classes of hotels at which her party stayed.

She described that part of France drained by the Seine toward the north and along the Rhone river toward the south of France.

Miss Weir took her audience through the walled city of Avignon, the place of residence of seven French popes, along the road built by Emperor Aurelius when he travelled from Avignon to Rome, then to Genoa in Italy, on to Pisa with its leaning tower, the bay of Leghorn where Shelley was drowned, and to Rome, the capital.

The party took the Apennin Way, which leads from Rome to southern Italy and then, turning toward the north, they passed through Florence with its profusion of flowers and view of the glistening white mountains of Carrara marble. Then on to Venice (Continued on page 1)

Winter's First Touch Due About Nov. 7

Canada's Long-Distance Champion Weather Forecaster Says Winter Will be Over in February.—Gives Interesting View with Guy S. Cunliffe, Staff Writer on Toronto Mail and Empire.

Unless his planets, his delvings in the past and his deductions should fall him, the northern hemisphere—Ontario included—is in for its first touch of Winter on or about the seventh of November, followed by a quite mild spell leading up to Winter's first real onslaught about November 22, it was pronounced by the Oracle of Owen Sound.

For years it was the Sage of Chatsworth who made such predictions, but now the Oracle of Owen Sound must speak. For the Sage of Chatsworth is no more. That quiet little village, nestled in the hills nine miles from Owen Sound, where most of the main street is occupied with wide-lawned houses bright with late geraniums, has lost its most colorful figure.

Not that J. B. Bowes is dead. Far from it, as was amply demonstrated by a brief chat with the picturesque predictor, champion long range weather forecaster of Ontario, if not indeed of all Canada.

The firm grip of his one hand, the keen, laughing eyes facing you directly out of the spare, almost ascetic face, and the militarily close-trimmed white moustache, form ample basis for astonishment when one learns his age passed the three-score and ten mark three years ago. He falls short of one's mental vision of a sage by not having a beard. But he makes up for it in other ways.

Must Be Re-christened

In any event he won't have to live up to mental visions of sages much longer, for he has got to be re-christened. You can't call a man the Sage of Chatsworth when he doesn't even live in Chatsworth. And J. B. Bowes for the past year has had his dwelling place, and the sawmill by which he gains a living, not in Chatsworth, but a mile or so outside of Owen Sound.

So it seems fitting at this juncture to introduce the Oracle of Owen Sound to carry on the traditions so well established by the Chatsworth sage. But under whatever title he stands, he will still be the same old "J.B." known far and wide, in this district directly and elsewhere through the press, equally for his genial kindness, the shrewdness of his philosophy and the uncanny high percentage of accuracy of his "long-distance weather forecasts" as he himself terms them.

And "long distance" is right. He usually makes up his predictions about this time of year and they chart general weather conditions in the northern hemisphere from 12 to 14 months ahead. And he told The Mail and Empire that he could just as easily make up his forecasts 100 years ahead, and for any part of the world, provided he was supplied with the necessary data.

After finding his white cottage in Chatsworth shuttered and silent, the writer sped through the lake breeze freshened outskirts of Owen Sound, up two of the steepest and most tortuous hills in Northwestern Ontario, and finally discovered the quiet, rustic retreat of the Oracle of Owen Sound.

Build House Themselves

Turning off the highway, one notices a modest, but attractive house, its fresh grey concrete and stucco and unpainted doors evidencing the final stages of completion. Mr. Bowes and his son did most of the work of building it themselves, receiving the minimum of assistance from necessary skilled workers. Then down a short but steep and rutty road that slopes to the edge of the Pottawatonic river, a quiet, lovely stream as confidently undisturbed as the Oracle himself. Perhaps an alternate title could be created for him of the Pundit of the Pottawatonic.

At the bottom of the slope the ramshackle buildings of the sawmill, gray with age and lack of paint, lean against one another with the familiarity of old friends. Down another, smaller slope covered with sawdust, through a worn door, and there is "J. B." himself, a worn but comfortable hat upon his head and in his hand a hammer, with which he moulds an iron substitute for the hand lost by an accident victim in Lindsay. The Lindsay Rotary Club is buying it.

The Oracle is a man of wide talents, for in addition to his proficiency as long range weather predictor and sawmill operator, he is an adept at the fashioning of artificial hands and similar appliances. It is only a sideline, almost a hobby with him, but he has turned out more than \$16,000 worth of such devices in the 50 years he has been at it. It was 50 years ago almost to a day that he was forced to make one for himself after his left hand was blown off while he was blasting stones on his father's farm near Pinkerton, Ont.

Father Evolved Method

It was J. B.'s father who really evolved the unique method of gauging weather in advance which has brought so much notoriety to the Pundit of the Pottawatonic. Mr. Bowes' grandfather, interestingly enough bought grain for the British Government during the Crimean War and was a comparatively wealthy citizen of Dalkeith, Scotland.

His son, after spending a sizeable portion of his inheritance travelling round the world, settled down to teach school and do a little farming near Pinkerton. He got the notion he could do up on the weather in advance, and set up as a weather data for many years.

Checking this data with the weather data from the British, United States and Australian weather bureaus in previous years and the accuracy of his forecasts was established. He issued his forecasts 12 months in advance.

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