

In Other Communities

Taken From Our Exchanges About People of Your Acquaintance.

Moved to Durham

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pike who recently disposed of their business here to Mr. D. J. Lamont have opened up a restaurant in Durham.—Mount Forest Confederate.

Successful in Music Examinations

In the recent Conservatory of Music examinations held in Guelph as a centre for this district, Miss Alberta Gibson passed with honors her junior year in violin, and Miss Ila McCrae with honors her junior piano.—Mount Forest Confederate.

Pays for Traffic Violation

A Walkertonian who drove to Hanover on Saturday afternoon with a small coupe and was caught by the Chief of Police there with four perched in one seat and all riding with last year's markers at the brow and stern of their roadship, pleaded guilty on Thursday to a violation of the Highway Traffic Act, and settled with justice by paying a nominal sum.—Walkerton Herald-Times.

Reaches Three-Quarter Century Mark

Mr. Wm. Tracy the veteran marble cutter of Walkerton, who has been chiselling inscriptions to perpetuate the memory of the departed for over half a century, was surprised while listening in on Tuesday last to hear his 75th birthday being broadcasted from the Wingham station together with a message of congratulation being sent him over the air. That it may be long before he will need a monument himself, is the hope of his many friends.—Walkerton Herald-Times.

Refund Pay

Members of Kincardine Public Utilities Commission have been drawing \$5 each per meeting for the last two years, but now have to repay the amounts received because the council failed to pass a by-law authorizing such a remuneration. One would think that enough public spirited men could be found in Kincardine to serve on the commission without pay.—Walkerton Herald-Times.

Sailing Season May Open April 1st

Prospect that navigation on the Great Lakes might be opened for the season within a month and possibly in two weeks was seen with the announcement on Saturday that vessels of the Imperial Oil fleet will be ready to sail in that time. There is only 14 inches of ice in Fort William harbor, according to word reaching here, and this is expected to break up within a fortnight. Marine officials of the company believe the ships will leave harbor about April 1 but an effort will be made to have them placed in service by March 15.—Collingwood Bulletin.

Palmerston Arena in Difficulty

The problems of the Palmerston rink are the problems of the people of Palmerston because this rink was constructed purely as a community undertaking by people who subscribed for stock, with no thought of obtaining any return for their investment, but for the purpose of supplying a place for healthy recreation during the winter months.

We learn that to make certain payments which have to be made, the di-

rectors will borrow on the security of their own notes.

The directors are merely shareholders of the rink who, by serving on the board, are giving a little more than the ordinary shareholder and should not, simply because they hold office, be required to assume extra financial burdens.

The unseasonable winter weather has had much to do with the present financial condition of the Arena. Coupled with this is the fact that receipts from hockey have fallen from the usual standard. But knowing the causes does not help to solve the problem of financing.—Palmerston Spectator.

Too Much Stress on Winning

The man in charge of athletics at Ohio State University, pronounced by Hugh Fullerton, the highest type of coach, gave up a profession to devote himself to his work, because he felt he could best serve his age in this way. He puts into his coaching a philosophy he thinks applies to most tasks in life, to prepare as well as possible, to do one's best, and then be content. "We do not lay too much stress on winning," he says.

This fall innumerable games will be marred by a frenzied desire to win. The defeated will charge the winners with cheating, will lose their tempers. Insulting speeches will be made. Public contests will be marred by the unsportsmanlike attitude of the onlookers, who will show as much pleasure over a poor play on the part of their opponents as over a winning play by the side they favor. Of course this is babyish. Games played in this spirit instead of being a training for life, are a positive injury.

Do your best in the games you play, but do not lay too much stress on winning. One who learns to accept defeat without depression or resentment, has learned one of life's most important lessons. If you can make some advance along this line this year, your education will be progressing.—Walkerton Telescope.

TREATING GUMBO LANDS

Throughout the West are areas of clay lands which, on account of certain peculiarities, require special treatment during cultivation. Two extensive areas in Saskatchewan are found in the plains centering on Regina and what is known as the Goose Lake country. The soil is distinctly grey when air dry, but appears a dark brown when wet. It is very heavy and plastic when wet, but under proper treatment granulates readily to an excellent tilth. Although this type of soil is generally known among farmers as "gumbo" the term is more properly applied to the hard intractable clay, which is darker in color and bakes badly, which is usually found along creek and river bottoms.

In the cultivation of these clay lands it is not possible to operate with the usual type of farm implements. Implements which have a shearing action when passing through the soil do not scour and quickly become clogged particularly if the soil be moist. Disk ploughs are preferred to the usual type of mould-board plough as these can be cleaned readily.

The soil is very fertile and absorbs and retains water readily. It is particularly adapted to wheat production, although all crops adapted to the climate can be grown successfully.

Indian Money Goes A Long Way

Wilfred Eggleston Tells Interesting Story of How Dominion Government "Pays Treaty" to Saskatchewan Indians and Those Farther North, in Last Issue of Toronto Star Weekly.

Inspector Murison of the Indian affairs department, went so far into the wilds of northern Saskatchewan last summer "paying treaty" that he came to a tribe which has to pay a dollar a pound for flour—\$100 per sack!

Yet, in three months' travel along those distant waterways he did not encounter a solitary "long-haired" Indian. Nor of the 2,405 to whom he handed the \$5, \$10 or \$15 coming to them as "treaty payment" did he meet a single pagan Indian.

Every one was a professing Christian—either an Anglican or a Roman Catholic.

Inspector Murison's official report of his voyages by canoe and "put-put" into the pine and poplar solitudes hundreds of miles north of the wheat prairies rests among the files of the Indian affairs department at Ottawa. It is a business man's document, and concentrates on the economic life of the Indian, his food supplies, his requests for exchanging a barren rocky reservation for another one on which potatoes might be grown, the legal size of fish nets, and the protection of the Indian from the bootlegger.

Only between the lines do you see the hundreds of miles of adventure and romance, in company with a scarlet and gold policeman and a medical officer, his slender craft laden with over \$12,000 in legal—crisp new one dollar bills—his four dusky canoe-men from the Pas. He never speaks of the dangerous rapids, hardly ever of the treacherous winds and storms. Once, at a critical moment, their engine fails, and they have to take it all to pieces and put in new gaskets. Flies and mosquitoes are not once mentioned in his report, though for day after day they must have been the highlight of the trip.

Despite all hazards and unforeseen weather conditions, the treaty-paying party travels on a strict schedule. Six months before Inspector Murison leaves Prince Albert on June 12 the superintendent at Ottawa has said that on June 15 treaty will be paid at Lake La Plonge, on June 27 at Peter Pond Lake, on July 10 at Lac la Ronge, on July 19 at Pelican Narrows, and so forth. The word goes forth to the scattered tribes of the wilderness of poplar and pine, and on the day set for them to gather along his route they are all camped there, ready to receive the small annuity which the "Great White Father" promised them when they signed a treaty twenty-five years ago.

Inspector Murison comes back from his 2,000-mile canoe trip through northern Saskatchewan impressed most of all with the swift trend of the times, the dying-out of the old ways and the need for new. The Indian's age-old means of making his own living from the stream and forest is falling. The fish and game will not last forever for food, nor will the pelt of the fur-bearing animal suffice for the other needs of clothing, flour, tobacco, tea, which the country does not supply. The Indian must be slowly converted from a hunter and trapper into a farmer, else he will soon be unable to support himself.

That is the text of the inspector's report.

Far North Farming

The Indians on the western part of the area are already making strides toward an agricultural life. At Canoe Lake, which the inspector reached one week after leaving Prince Albert, "even of the Indians have gardens in which they grow potatoes, turnips, carrots, onions—even rhubarb." They raised 653 bags of potatoes last year, "and I found several families still using potatoes at the time of my visit."

Canoe Lake sounds like a stock farm rather than a wild Indian outpost. "They have 12 horses, five colts, and four milk cows."

A week later, having travelled another hundred miles north-west the inspector comes to the Clear Lake band at Buffalo River, with more gardening. "They have some open land here, and have about 10 acres cultivated, principally potatoes. They stored 1,484 bushels of potatoes last fall, and I found several families had a supply of them left. Their live stock includes 27 geldings and mares, 19 cows, 10 steers and 10 young cattle." This was the most ambitious settlement encountered.

"Five quite helpless people came to my notice while visiting this band, including Augustine Catarat, a blind man unable to walk, who crawls on his hands and knees. In addition to regular rations he receives goods to the value of \$11.25 from the Hudson's Bay Co., which takes care of his case.

By June 29 Murison has gone 500 miles in a north-westerly direction

from Prince Albert, but he still comes to the occasional domestic animal. "Four cows and one steer are owned by Albert Peche, at Garson Lake, and one cow by Jasque Lemaigne at Portage la Loche. They have five horses altogether."

Travelling early and late to make up time lost through storms, keeping on schedule at whatever cost, Inspector Murison's party sweeps back across the map. On July 3 they are at Shagwaw, at the northern tip of Ile a la Crose, but gardens are non-existent up there. The Indians live entirely on meat and fish. On July 10 they reach Lac la Ronge. "These Indians do not possess any horses or cattle. Their mode of transportation in the summer is by canoe and in the winter by dog-train."

Stanley Mission is close by Lac la Ronge, and Inspector Murison leaves reports of Indian welfare to note: "We camped near the Indian village in close proximity to the Stanley Anglican church. This church is very interesting, inasmuch as it is reputed to be one of the oldest in western Canada, being built over 86 years ago. It is beautifully situated on a point facing the Churchill river. I counted 29 stained glass windows."

"I am informed that these windows, together with the pews, which are hand-carved, were brought from England by sailing vessel to Hudson Bay, and from thence up the river several hundred miles to this point by York boat."

The church is in splendid state of preservation, considering its age, but I noted that a considerable number of the windows are broken and need replacing. This, the clergyman informed me, could be done at a cost of approximately \$100, but the people are not in a position to put up the money."

At Pelican Narrows Inspector Murison "paid off" Peter Ballentine's band. He writes: "I also attended the trial of Albert Rat, who was charged with stealing a trap. The case was dismissed."

Here he came into the gardening country again. There were 36 plots, and the crop the year before had consisted of 696 bushels of potatoes, 45 bushels of turnips, and 23 bushels of carrots.

Flour \$100 a Sack

Leaving the Churchill river, close to the site of the famous Indian Falls hydraulic plant, which supplies light, heat and power for Flin-Flon, Inspector Murison travelled a couple of hundred miles north to Du Brochet, the "farthest north" of his trip. He paid off the "Barren Lands" Indians, who come south to that point twice a year, once in late July for their treaty money, and again at Christmas for church services.

At Du Brochet, flour was \$32 a hundred; had recently been \$40, and the Barren Lands natives reported that at Windy Lake, their regular trading place, it was \$100 a sack. The inspector remarks that the Indian didn't often get flour in his diet at that price.

Returning along Reindeer Lake, and again taking up the course of the Churchill river, the party reached Pukatawagan on August 11, the last point at which treaty was paid. Here again the Indians were all hunters and trappers, no gardens being cultivated.

"While at this point," writes Inspector Murison, "I received reliable information to the effect that these Indians have been indulging very freely in the use of intoxicating liquors. The liquor is brought in by unprincipled, independent traders from the town of Cold Lake. These men are well known."

"While ostensibly they pose as traders, in reality their stock of useful articles is very limited, and is only used to camouflage their real occupation as bootleggers of liquor. The Indians of this band are a fine appearing lot. They are cleanly in appearance, and hitherto have been leading very creditable lives, and I feel that, before the drink habit gets too strong a hold on them, stringent methods should be instituted to put down the traffic in intoxicants. It should be a very easy matter for an enforcement officer to get information which would lead to the conviction of the bootleggers, as they have to travel for practically a day and a half by canoe in order to reach Pukatawagan, and their activities are limited to a large extent to the trapping season, when the Indians have valuable furs to exchange, which these men can easily convert into cash."

Among the many recommendations which Inspector Murison forwarded with his report was that such implements of production as plows, spades, hoes, etc., be supplied to those bands, with suitable land for gardening.

Another was that the size of the legal fishing mesh on the big lakes be reduced from 5 inches to 4 1-2. The Indians represented that unless this were done they would have great difficulty getting food for the winter.

Still another was that the regulation compelling the Indian to catch his fish for dog feed daily be cancelled, so as to permit him to hang, dry, and store fish caught at other seasons.

Many reservations surveyed for these Indian in the past turn out to be

wastes of rock and pine, quite useless for any purpose. Now that the Indian is abandoning trap and line for the potato patch, he discovers he has accepted worthless property, and is asking for substitutions of arable land for these rock wastes. Inspector Murison heartily approves these transfers.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

Quebec Nuisance Tax

A meal tax is being instituted in the province of Quebec. On every meal in hotels and restaurants a tax of 5 per cent is being levied when the price is 15c or more. It is said that 60 per cent of the meals sold in Quebec province cost 25 cents and thus the tax will not weigh heavily on the greater portion of the population. But what about the tourist and the commercial traveller? A nuisance tax such as this will not be conducive to good humor on the part of the pleasure seeker who is out for a holiday. It has not been made clear whether the railways must collect the tax on their dining cars while they are passing through the province. If the dining cars are restaurants under the meaning of the act it will be preferable to dine in New Brunswick or Ontario. Just how the Quebec government is going to guard against evasion of its new nuisance tax is not clear. It would be necessary to have an auditor in every hotel dining room and every restaurant to make certain a few or many people are not paying their bills without also paying their tax. But all this is Quebec's business; not ours. Our concern is that Ontario will not become so hard pressed for revenue that this province will go into the eat-in houses to impose a tax; the amusement tax is nuisance enough.—Alliston Herald.

Attend to Small Debts

The nations are concerned with the cancellation of war debts as a means of a solution of the present economic stress. Little attention is paid, however, to the small debts, and this, we maintain, is of vital importance to the return of better times.

A movement urging the payment of small debts throughout the country, if supported, would have a marked effect. Small debts appear negligible to the individual who owes them, but added up, they would total to an immense sum. Fifty cents, a dollar, two dollars or ten dollars in themselves are small sums, but if a merchant has many such debts on his books he is often embarrassed for ready cash. Pay your small debts promptly and the fellow who owes you will be able to pay you—everyone will benefit and Old Man Depression will be given a severe jolt.

Here's how the Kitchener Record figures it out:

"To illustrate: Bill Jones, passing Sam Smith's haberdashery, sees just the necktie he wants on display in the window. He goes in and buys it. It costs \$1.50 but because Sam is a good friend he says 'Charge it.' He needs the ready cash in his pocket to carry him through the rest of the day. Tomorrow he will run in again and pay Sam. Tomorrow he forgets and so for a long stretch of tomorrows.

"Hundreds of thousands of small debts are contracted in this way at gents' furnishing stores, hardware stores, jewelry shops, flower shops, etc. The merchant hesitates to press for the bill, fearing to offend a good customer. 'Everybody who owes a small bill

ranging from \$1 to \$10 knows what he owes, but he does not realize that his failure to pay along with failures of others of his kind contributes heavily to the present economic depression. Payment of these small bills would put thousands of dollars back into business with far-reaching effect in the way of better business conditions."—Listowel Banner.

Something About Stealing

In view of the fact that a religious publication in Toronto recently stirred up quite a controversy when it declared that a starving man was justified in stealing a loaf of bread and later a federal member affirmed that if he were starving he would steal a sheep, the following story of "Golden Rule" Jones, a recent Mayor of Toledo, which appeared in the "Readers Digest," proves interesting.

Sam Jones, Mayor of Toledo, used to preside in Police court once in a while. One day, in a winter of widespread destruction they brought before him a man arrested for stealing a loaf of bread, the accused man made no defence other than he could get neither job or food and his family was hungry.

"I've got to punish you," said the Mayor. "The law makes no exception. You stole, not from the community which is responsible for these conditions, but from an individual. I can do nothing but sentence you to a fine of ten dollars." The Mayor was reaching into his pocket as he added "ten dollars and here is the money to pay your fine."

The Mayor turned and from a chair took up the big white sombrero that Toledo knew so well and tossed the ten-dollar bill into it. "Furthermore I am going to fine every person in this room fifty cents, or as much thereof as he happens to have with him for living in a town where a man has to steal in order to eat. Here, Mr. Bailiff, (handing the hat to the court officer), go through the court room and collect these fines and give them to the defendant."—Arthur Enterprise.

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