

Council Had Late Session On Monday

Considerable Business Done Through, But Nothing of Much Importance Before Board.—Unemployment Situation Referred To.

It was 11 o'clock Monday night when the council rose from its regular April session, and while little if any time was wasted by the members, there is not very much to report of their activities. It was one of those nights with a lot of work and not much result.

Last month's expenditures amounted to \$960 and was passed by the finance committee. This does not include a balance of \$139 owing to James, Proctor & Redfern, and the Goodyear tire account of \$150 for fire hose purchased recently. These latter bills were passed by resolution.

The council refused to consider the bill from Durham hospital for the treatment of two local boys, the combined bills amounting to something like \$66. One was for a boy hurt while on a farm down at Arthur, the other for treatment of a boy from the same family injured when alighting from the running board of a car on the Durham Road.

Another matter which caused some discussion at the board last month was where should the Public school trustees keep their insurance policies? The council claimed they should be in the possession of the town. The school board said they had them and intended to keep them. They would, however, allow the council to have a peek at them occasionally if they so desired.

A letter from Hon. G. S. Henry, minister of education, settles the matter. He says the school board is responsible to the ratepayers only. The council has no jurisdiction over them. He thought, possibly, they should accede to the request of the council, but if they did not feel like doing so, should keep the policies in a safety deposit box. This has been done, and it looks as if the school board is ahead 1 to 0 at the end of the first period.

There was quite a lot of discussion over the R. A. Blyth account for the building of the pump-house. Blyth was present and laid any blame for necessary changes, or work not being done right, at the feet of the engineers. He had followed instructions. If the resident engineer was in the wrong he did not see why he should be penalized. He demanded interest on some slow payments, but the council did not see this. They had paid him as the estimates had come in. It was not their fault if the Toronto engineers had been slow. The matter was held over until a member of the firm of engineers is interviewed, as he will be in town in a few days.

Bylaws affecting transient traders, hawkers and peddlers were gone over, adjusted to meet statutory requirements and passed. A bylaw to license milk dealers was given a temporary hoist.

Another bylaw to deal with outside fruit dealers disposing of their wares on lots, private or otherwise, was not passed, although the council has the power to handle such matters.

That monthly bloomer, the tax roll, appeared once more, and was given its usual one month's extension.

Reported Trip to Toronto

Mayor Murdoch told the council of his trip to Toronto to interview Premier Henry regarding the unemployment situation. Conditions were not rosy in Durham, but it was a real Palace of Plenty compared with a lot of others. There were about 70 in the deputation from that many towns and the Prime Minister stressed on them all the necessity of doing everything possible for the alleviation of the financial difficulties of the working man. He urged on the delegation that all municipalities at all able to do so should go ahead with their municipal work. It was of prime importance that this should be done. On the strength of this Mayor Murdoch suggested to the council that next summer might be a good time to build our main street sidewalks. He left the idea with them to think over, as there was plenty of time before next meeting. The matter will be further discussed then in all probability.

NEWLYWEDS HONORED

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Grierson, Bentinck, was the scene of a joyous gathering last Thursday evening when between seventy-five and one hundred friends gathered to honor Mr. and Mrs. William Grierson, recently married. The evening was most pleasantly spent in games and dancing.

"I have a cold or something in my head."
"A cold, undoubtedly."

STONE PLANT MAY NOT RUN THIS YEAR

Activity at Local Crushing Plant Depends Entirely on Building Conditions, Which, at the Present, Are Not Bright.—New Highway May Help.

With the approach of spring a number of those interested are beginning to ask: "Will the stone plant run this summer?" The answer is, perhaps. For the past couple of years building conditions have been very poor. Not many buildings are going up requiring washed gravel, the kind that is made in Durham. There has also been a let-up in highway building, another source of business for the Durham plant. With construction of all kinds tied up the answer resolves itself into one whereby it may be said that the local stone plant will run if there is business; if there is no business it will not run. Which is business.

The only hope at present, so far as the Chronicle can see, is the completion of the highway between Tobermory sideroad north of town and the pavement at Chatsworth—providing the contractors will use stone from the Durham plant. Among those who claim to know, it is said the cost will be about the same if the cost of erecting mixing plants in the northern section is considered. It costs money to erect these plants and when all is said and done, a gravel highway does not compare with one made from crushed stone.

From what we learn this highway is to be completed, and the operation of the local plant is dependent upon whether or not it supplies the material. While the tenders have not been called for as yet, they will be soon. As a measure of unemployment relief it is to be hoped that Durham washed stone is specified. It means a lot to the employees in this plant and to the town and this section of country as well.

Perfect Bridge Hand Held in Durham

Frank Morlock, at Bridge Party Last Week, Held Thirteen Spades and Has Scarcely Yet Recovered from Shock.

Mr. or Mrs. Bridge Player, what would you do if you picked up your "hand" and found it contained thirteen spades? Certainly you would. And this is just what Frank Morlock did one night last week when, at a bridge party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Erben Schutz, he had the whole thirteen (count 'em) dealt him. In fact he did a lot more, that is, when he recovered from the shock and pinched himself to make sure he wasn't seeing things. For the first two or three minutes he said nothing. Words could not express the thrill that started at his toes and gradually oozed its way up through his spine and settled in his face. For the next two or three minutes his nerves got the better of him and he gave an exhibition of the "shakes" that would have done credit to an Ozark Arkansan with the ague, old man St. Vitus, or the winner of the first prize in the Irish sweepstakes.

But "Peety" finally bid it, a grand slam in spades, and made it. He is still talking about it, and now his only regret is that the rules of the game did not permit of a couple of slams and then some.

RETURNED MEN DINE AT HOLSTEIN TONIGHT

Anniversary of "Vimy Day" To Be Observed with Roast Fowl Supper and General Get Together of Men of District.—All Returned Men Welcome.

Holstein returned men are holding a gala affair tonight in the form of a "Vimy" dinner in commemoration of the battle of Vimy Ridge, the anniversary of which falls next Sunday. Sixteen years ago! How time does fly!

The dinner is set for 7.30 o'clock in the agricultural hall and the menus for the big occasion, issued from this office, would make anyone not eligible jealous with envy. In addition to the dinner there is to be a programme of toasts and addresses commemorative of the days that were spent "over there," in which joy and sorrow, work and play, will be interviewed.

It is expected there will be a good attendance from Durham. The guest speaker of the evening is the Rev. Mr. McAvoy, of Chesley, and other speakers are also expected to be present.

And after a lady has been thoroughly marcelled elsewhere she can go to Reno to permanently waive her husband—Dallas, Texas, News.

Native of Glenelg's Good Municipal Record

Thomas Whitmore, Formerly of Glenelg Township, Has Envious Municipal Record at Fort Francis, Where He Has Resided for Past Good Number of Years.

Not many of the present generation will remember Thomas Whitmore, son of Mrs. John Whitmore of Durham, but they will be interested in learning of the municipal record he has set for himself at Fort Francis, where he has lived for a great number of years. We cannot say how long it is since he left his native township, but it is easily upwards of forty, and since that time he has resided in the Northern Ontario town. During all these years he has kept in touch with affairs in this section by the weekly visits of the Chronicle, and (some other subscribers please note) it is always paid in advance.

Referring to this former Glenelgite, a recent issue of the Fort Francis Times says:

Few men in Ontario, and, we believe, only one in the District of Rainy River, can point to a record of thirty years in municipal office. It is with pleasure that the Times this week brings to its readers the record of Thomas Whitmore, of Alberton Municipality, who for the twenty-fifth time has been placed in the reeve's chair by his fellow citizens. We doubt if his record for public service can be equalled by any municipality in the Province.

It was in 1897 that Thos. Whitmore first appears in the municipal life of Alberton. In that year he headed the polls as councillor, and was again returned in '98. In that year there was a separation caused by the withdrawal of the township of McIrvine (newly formed) from the municipality of Alberton. The first reeve was Mr. Mulhern and on this board Mr. Whitmore again had a seat as councillor. In 1899 he ran as Reeve and was successful in the election. He was again returned in 1900. He withdrew from the contest in 1901 and 1902, but again in 1903 he obtained the mandate of his municipality to head the council. He was returned to office in 1904 and 1905. In 1906-7-8-9 Robert Watson was elected reeve but in 1910 Mr. Whitmore was again elected reeve. This job he held down in the successive years up to and including 1916.

Except for the year 1917, 1918 and 1922 Mr. Whitmore has been returned as head of the council up to the recent nomination, when for the twenty-fifth year he has occupied the chair at the head of the council. Many of these years he has been returned by acclamation.

In politics Reeve Whitmore is a staunch Conservative. He is of a quiet unassuming disposition, but his scrupulous honesty and integrity has won and maintained the confidence of his fellow citizens in a marked degree. He probably knows his municipality better than any other resident and no greater proof could be forthcoming that he has zealously guarded their interest than an almost continuous record of twenty-five years at the Head.

Saturday's Storm Did Little Damage

Milder Weather Intervened and Anticipated Power Tie-up Did Not Materialize.

The snow sleet and rain storm last Saturday threatened for a time to assume serious proportions, but luckily it turned warmer, and the snow and sleet turned to rain. The warm weather continued until the ice had disappeared, when it became colder. Had the sleet continued, it is possible there would have been serious tie-ups on the hydro, telegraph and telephone lines.

The storm rendered the roads very slippery, and while motoring was possible it was dangerous and numerous accidents are reported.

Down in the Harriston area and further south there was quite a heavy electric storm, with damage done to buildings in some places. Durham vicinity, as usual, escaped luckily, and to date we have heard of no damage being done.

TEMPERATURES FOR PAST WEEK

	8 a.m.	Max.	Min.	Snow
Thursday	32	34	32	18
Friday	27	36	24	—
Saturday	28	36	26	5
Sunday	26	36	24	3
Monday	16	39	8	—
Tuesday	40	48	29	—
Wednesday	35	42	34	—

OBITUARY

WILLIAM FIRTH

After an illness of some five years from heart trouble, Mr. William Firth passed away last Friday morning at the home of his sister, Mrs. J. F. Wright, College street, where he has been a patient since coming here from Detroit four years ago. He was in his 69th year, and while a sufferer over so long a period, was confined to his bed for only a little over two weeks.

The late Mr. Firth was born in York, England, within the walls of that historic city, the only walled city, we believe, in Great Britain, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Firth, former well known residents of Glenelg, and latterly of Durham. When the subject of this sketch was 9 years of age he came with his parents and other members of the family to Canada, to Hagersville, Haldimand county, and in 1878 they came to Glenelg, settling on the 3rd concession north of the Durham Road. The deceased lived here until young manhood when he took up lumbering, working in the Bruce Peninsula, and later in the larger camps in the state of Michigan. For a number of years he was connected with some of the larger companies in that state as timber cruiser, but in later years had considerable to do at the head of the mills scattered throughout the state.

Upon the decline of the lumber industry the late Mr. Firth took up carpentry work, and for a time lived in Detroit, later removing to Rochester, N.Y. Some five or six years ago his health failed him and four years ago he came to Durham. During his long illness here he had been carefully attended by his sister, Mrs. J. F. Wright, who gave him every care during his illness, ministering to his every want.

The funeral, which was private, was held from the home on College street Monday afternoon to Trinity church cemetery. The service was conducted by Rev. E. Hayes, of Wingham, who only last week gave up his duties in Durham parish, and the pallbearers were Messrs. C. H. Moffat, C. E. Watson, R. Burnett, J. Morrison, H. Allen and H. McCallum.

The late Mr. Firth is survived by one son, William, and a daughter, Elizabeth, at Traverse, Mich., and four brothers and three sisters: Messrs. Christopher, Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Major Alex., Wolverton; Ben and Sam, at Burnaby, B.C.; Mrs. Turner, Detroit; Mrs. Carothers, Toronto, and Mrs. J. F. Wright, Durham.

MISS CATHARINE McKECHNIE

The funeral of the late Miss Catharine McKechnie was held on Friday afternoon from the home of her niece, Mrs. Archie McLean, Bentinck. The service was conducted by Rev. J. Galloway, of Mulock Baptist church, interment being made in Latona cemetery. There was a large attendance of friends and relatives. During the service Mrs. Galloway sang a solo, "Jesus Wipes Away All Tears."

The pallbearers, including five of her old neighbors from Waudby, were: Messrs. John Ellison, James Ellison, James Goodwill, George Torry, Joseph McNally, Dan. McLean, Donald Stewart and Donald McDonald.

The floral tributes included wreaths from the Mulock Ladies' Aid, the Aberdeen Women's Institute and the family.

GEORGE RITCHIE

Word was received here Tuesday of the death early that morning at his home at Acton of Mr. George Ritchie, brother of Mr. Thomas Ritchie of Glenelg. He was in his eightieth year and had not been in good health for some time, being confined to his bed for the past three or four years.

The late Mr. Ritchie was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Ritchie, and was born on the Ritchie homestead at No. 9, Glenelg, now occupied by Mr. W. S. Atchison. About forty years ago he went to Acton, where he has resided ever since. He was a man held in high esteem. After moving to Acton the deceased was married to Miss Mary McLean, who died some years ago, and since then Mr. Ritchie had made his home with his son, George. Surviving are three other sons, Herbert, also at home; William, in Acton, and Daniel, in Chicago. A daughter, Miss Millie, died several years ago. Surviving also are one brother and sister, Mr. George Ritchie, of Glenelg, and Mrs. W. J. Collier, Austin, Man., who only last summer paid a visit with relatives in the East.

The funeral takes place tomorrow, (Friday) afternoon, from his late residence, with interment in Acton cemetery. Messrs. John, William and Charles Ritchie, Bentinck, are nephews.

The late Mr. Ritchie was a Conservative in politics and a member of the Presbyterian church.

Milverton Awarded Senior Championship

Local Protest as to Ineligible Players Disallowed but Fee Returned.

Milverton Seniors are the Northern Hockey League champions for the 1931-32 season. That was the decision of the executive committee of the league when the local protest was heard in Palmerston last week.

According to information received here it was another of those decisions for which the Northern League has become notorious. The Milverton team did not even trouble to enter a defense against the protest or to deposit with the League treasurer the fee necessary to a defense. This in itself should have won the protest. Then the local club forwarded with their protest affidavits absolutely proving the points covered by the protest. But in spite of all this the executive committee ruled that "owing to the lateness of the season and the difficulty of securing ice, the protest was disallowed, but the money deposited by the clubs be returned!"

What is incomprehensible to the local officials is what "the lateness of the season and the difficulty of securing ice" had to do with it. And why if the protest was lost should the money deposited be returned. The rules distinctly state that in case a protest is lost the money deposited by the protesting club is forfeited to the League. The Durham representatives who attended the hearing are more or less bewildered as to the whys and wherefores, but are strongly of the opinion that all is not as it should be in the executive circles.

ALFRED J. BULLER

A prominent citizen of Holstein for the past 22 years passed away suddenly at his home in that village last Tuesday evening in the person of Mr. Alfred J. Buller. The late Mr. Buller was sitting in his home talking to a friend, Mr. James Todd, about 8.30, apparently in his usual health, when he suddenly collapsed, passing away before medical aid could be summoned. He was in his 56th year.

The late Mr. Buller was born at Thamesville, where he received his early education, and on the death of his father when 14 years of age he took over the blacksmithing business, to which he had been apprenticed. He afterwards went into the lumber business at Komoka and 22 years ago came to Holstein, where, with Mr. Bert Brebner, he started the handle factory known as Buller & Brebner, which has since furnished employment for a number of men in the village. He was a successful business man, a good citizen, and his sudden death was a great shock to the residents of Holstein, who held him in high esteem.

Fifteen years ago he was married to Miss Gladys Kerr, of Holstein, who died two years ago this month quite suddenly in Durham hospital after only a short illness.

The passing of Mr. Buller is particularly sad in that he leaves four small children, Charles, Helen, Russel and Arthur, the eldest 15, and the youngest six years of age. Since the death of the mother, Miss Florence McMillan had charge of the home, and we understand will carry on at present until other arrangements are made.

Besides his children, the late Mr. Buller is survived by one brother, D. J. Buller, Detroit, and two sisters, Mrs. Duffus and Mrs. DeCou, of Vancouver.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon to Reid's cemetery, and was largely attended. The pallbearers were Jos. Reid, James Todd, Dr. Ellis, Clarence Fenton, James Brooks and Bert Eccles. Among the flowers were wreaths and sprays from Robert Buller, Fort William; Judge Baxter, Detroit; the Holstein factory employees and the Village.

MRS. ALEX. TRAYNOR

Word was received in town this week of the death Monday at her home at Southampton of Mrs. Alex. Traynor. The deceased would be upwards of 70 years of age.

The late Mrs. Traynor was a native of Durham, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Wright, who conducted a bake shop at the top of the hill several years ago. During the greater part of her life, and after marriage to Mr. Traynor, she lived in Bentinck, near Lamash, and with Mr. Traynor moved to Southampton last year after disposing of their farm. We have no particulars of the cause of death.

The deceased is survived by her husband, one sister, Mrs. Matthews of Markdale, and one brother, Mr. Sam Wright of Kingston. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at Southampton.

Marked Ability At I. O. D. E. Contest

Senior and Junior High School Pupils Compete in Oratorical Contest Tuesday Night.—Subjects Chosen Were Well Presented.

The town hall was taxed to capacity Tuesday night of this week by an audience that went home just a little better satisfied. The occasion was the oratorical contest by the local Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire, open to local High school pupils. To all, the contest was a great satisfaction; to many it was a revelation that among the pupils in attendance here were many embryo orators who needed only the practise to blossom forth as platform men and women of unquestioned ability.

In our last week's issue we gave a list of the subjects available in the debate. Those selected by the contestants were "Canada's Future," "History of Grey County," "The Banalities of War," "Canadian Northland," and "Abraham Lincoln."

Considering that it is a new departure, although a similar event was held some years ago, the I. O. D. E. is to be congratulated upon its success. While the entries were not heavy, only two in the Junior and three in the Senior, the material prepared by the contestants was good, and if it were made an annual affair would create such an interest that we doubt if one night would be sufficient to run off the addresses.

The Prize Winners

Mr. Allan McLean won first place in the Senior competition, the prize being a book of the poems of Dr. Henry Drummond. His subject was an address on "Canadian Northland." Miss Anderson won second place, her prize being a copy of "Les Miserables" by Victor Hugo. She spoke on "The Banalities of War."

In the junior competition Miss Alix Tobin came first and was rewarded with a copy of Pauline Johnson's book, "Flit and Feather." Her subject was "Canada's Future." Miss Elsie Connolly, in second position, and taking for her subject a "History of Durham," was given a pair of books, "Nicholas Nickleby" and "A Tale of Two Cities," by Dickens.

Entered in the senior contest, and being sufficiently close to give the judges considerable trouble, were Miss Jean Grant and Reggie Adlam, who spoke respectively on "Canadian Northland" and "Abraham Lincoln." Both received books for their addresses.

The manner in which the subjects were handled was a revelation to the older persons in the audience and showed intensive study of the subjects in hand.

Programme Given

In addition to the contest an excellent programme was presented by scholars in the school, Miss Elizabeth Harding being the pianist for the evening. The High school orchestra was on hand and kept the intermissions very lively with their popular and well executed airs. There was an instrumental by Oleda Hahn, a solo by Elizabeth Harding, Mrs. Harding playing the accompaniment, reading by Mabel Sharp, and a Dutch dance by Louise Jamieson and Olive Ball. Another solo, Lindy Lee, was given by Margaret Leith, Florence Patterson, Dorothy Taylor and Ruby Hill. The Sleepy Town Express chorus was given by eight of the students, Alma Kress, Anne Baldwin, Anna Ritchie, Jean Webster, Louise Jamieson, Genevieve Saunders, Annie Campbell and Velma Blyth.

The judges were Mrs. W. R. Alder, Rev. B. D. Armstrong and Rev. W. H. Smith, the latter announcing the decision and making a few remarks. Miss Margaret Hunter, the Regent, presented the prizes, the name of each winner being entered by Miss Marion Calder.

On behalf of the I. O. D. E. Miss Hunter thanked the judges, the audience and the contestants for the interest taken.

I. O. D. E. MEETING

The Canadian Grey Chapter I.O.D.E., held their April meeting in the town hall Tuesday evening, April 5. This meeting was held after the oratorical contest put on by the local chapter. The Regent, Miss Margaret Hunter, occupied the chair. A committee was appointed to look after the monument grounds also a committee for relief work. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. J. A. Rowland for linoleum for the kitchen at the town hall, also to Mr. Scott and Mr. Harry Kress for putting down same. The next meeting of the I. O. D. E. will be held the first week in May.