

Xmas Gifts

Call at MacFarlane's and see the magnificent Display of Handpainted Glass ware.

Four-Piece Table Sets
Sugars and Creams

Rose Bowls

Cracker Jars

Water Sets

Toilet Sets

Vases

Etc.

WE HAVE THE GOODS

They only require to be seen to be appreciated. Any piece laid aside for you. No deposit required.

MacFarlane & Co.

Druggists and Booksellers

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

W. IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.
DURHAM, DECEMBER 12, 1907

SANCTUM SIFTINGS.

The Council met on Friday night in an adjourned meeting and gave the Local Option By-law its third reading. This means a vote of the electors on the first Monday in January, with a probability that the bars will be closed after the first of May 1908.

During this agitation the Chronicle has said very little about the question personally, but a number of contributions have been published from the pen of Mr. Farquharson who is the editor of the temperance literature in behalf of opponents of the open bar. To pass the By-law will require the legal three-fifths vote. Some consider this an unequal contest and unfair to the advocates of temperance reform.

The Chronicle never found fault with it, however, believing that such a question should be passed with a strong majority, provided it will take a similar majority to repeal the act when once put in force. If it require three-fifths of the vote to put an act into force it would be only reasonable to expect such act to be repealed on a majority of similar magnitude. Under the three-fifths clause it is hard to pass a by-law, but in fairness to both sides it should take the same vote to bring about a repeal.

The liquor men themselves are largely to blame for the present condition of things. They did not keep hotel according to the authority vested in them through the licenses granted. In many cases they overstepped their rights in defiance of the law, and in this way they brought discredit on the business as well as themselves. They violated the law under license and it is nothing more than natural to expect they will violate the law under the restrictions of local option.

On the other hand the temperance people must not expect smooth sailing as soon as local option comes into effect in a municipality. The travelling public must be provided with accommodation. When the bar, the great source of revenue to the hotels, is cut off they will be in none too good a mood to cater to the public demands. If they remain in the business the charges for accommodation must be increased at once. At the present cost of provisions there is little or no profit

from the table at twenty-five cents a meal. Indeed we'll venture to say that many a hungry man sits down to a meal and carries away more than his quarter's worth. The increased price for accommodation which must follow the abolition of the bar will pinch many an advocate of temperance who was never noted for his liberality at any time. They all admit this now, but will they all take kindly to the changed condition of things when the time comes to pay 30, 40 or 50 cents for a meal, and the same price for a night's accommodation?

The writer is not in favor of drunkenness, nor in excessive drinking, neither is he in favor of doing injury to the town by furnishing poor accommodation to the travelling public. The uncertainty as to the turn things may take in the event of changed conditions has caused us to act with caution rather than to float an opinion not thoroughly matured.

The news received here on Monday of the death in England of Mr. W. K. Flesher touched the hearts of his old surviving friends. Mr. Flesher, the founder and for many years one of the most prominent citizens of this village, filled a large place in the life of the community. In the early days of settlement he was postmaster, magistrate, druggist and sometimes even doctor. In matters of dispute his advice was often sought and frequently had the effect of oil upon troubled waters. He was genial in disposition, benevolent in heart, and a man of strictest integrity. In early municipal life he exerted a great influence in the affairs of Artemesia Township, of which he was reeve for fifteen years, seven of which he was warden of the County. On the public platform he was a fluent and fascinating speaker, having the ability to hold an audience with racy and pleasing anecdotes woven into his addresses. From municipal office he stepped to the parliamentary arena and for a number of years was the Conservative representative for East Grey in the House of Commons. The position has been held since his retirement, as many of our readers know, by his son-in-law, Dr. T. S. Sproule. Over thirty years ago Mr. Flesher affiliated with Prince Arthur Lodge A. F. & A. M. here, and has been for a number of years an honorary member of the lodge.

The deceased, who we learn was 80 years of age, is survived by his highly esteemed widow, who now lives in Markdale; one son, John, in Australia; and three daughters, Mrs. Ainslie, St. Catharines; Mrs. Sproule, Markdale; and Miss Ida in England.—Flesherton Correspondent.

SERVES THE PEOPLE RIGHT.

Mr. Cochrane writing to the Review last week in defence of the Council's action or rather inaction in regard to disposing of the Cream Separator Works to a number of prospective purchasers has this to say regarding one of his colleagues at the Council Board:—"I told you, Sir, it was a regular bedlam, all talking at the one time, with the voice of my old friend Tom towering above all the others; it just seemed as if his tongue was balanced on a pivot and going like the devil at both ends. Nothing short of a charge of shot could have stopped it. It was he who set the heather in a blaze and it's still a-burning."

We take it that Mr. Cochrane does not consider it an evidence of weight for a man's tongue to wag too freely. It all depends whether he is right or wrong in the opinions expressed; he is evidently wrong in Mr. Cochrane's opinion, and if dangerously wrong he shouldn't be on the Council Board. Some times a man is run into a position for fun to the detriment of the whole community, a practice that should never for a moment be indulged in. The man who wants to get there is not always the best man, and it is just here that the elector should be able to discriminate. An honest elector may be deceived once, but when he finds out his error he shouldn't repeat it. The electors make the Councils, and if they play with their franchise it serves them right to get bitten.

It Isn't our Bob.

A letter from Mr. Harry Aldred of Summerberry, Sask., says:—"I can assure you and the friends of Durham and vicinity that the Robert Braithwaite shot at Grentell a short time ago, was not our friend of the Garafraxa Road." By the same mail we received a letter from Mr. Charles Braithwaite of Indian Head stating:—"The deceased is not the Robert Braithwaite who left Durham for Yellow Grass some three or four years ago. He is still quite hale and hearty and hopes to pay Durham a visit in the near future."

Taxes—Final Notice.

The last payment of taxes is due on Thursday, the 12th of December. Ratepayers will have up to that date or the morning of the 16th of December to pay their taxes. After that date the roll will be handed to the Collector with 3% added.
By Order.

LOCAL OPTION AND DRUNKENNESS.

(By Rev. Wm. Farquharson.)

Drunkenness is a vice that arises from the desire to enjoy the deepest satisfaction of our nature without possessing the inner life from which alone that joy can spring. Failing to reach the nether springs and draw from thence the living water, it steepens the abused body in sensuous enjoyment and cheats the mind with the seeming consciousness of increased power and brilliancy. In its earliest and simplest form it is akin to all in art, literature and religion that soothes the mind, rouses the feelings, or moves to tears, without awakening to noble and practical activity. When the sin is finished the drunkard appears in all his fleshiness, grouped according to the Apostle Paul with fornicators, adulterers, effeminate, thieves, covetous, revilers and extortioners. Its fascination is in the glory which it counterfeits, the illusions with which it deceives. Its curse is the residuum of a wasted life, the grapes of gall whose clusters are bitter. At the beginning it flatters its votaries with a sense of clearer vision, increased power and fuller joy. At the last the mask falls off, the balmination vanishes, the castles so gorgeous melt "into air, into thin air," and the beauty, which in the intoxicating excitement seemed so fair, in the light of sober reality is seen to be but common clay. Drink is a deceiver, ever luring man to lie with the swine and at the same time deluding him with thought that that is his rest and his home.

Starting thus with promises that are deceitful, it keeps up the appearance of truthfulness by a renewal of false hopes, which only prepare the way for a fresh harvest of sorrow. Since one stimulation failed to satisfy it must be repeated, but what was enough yesterday falls short to-day, and what serves to-day is insufficient for to-morrow. With this continued strain the nerves are shattered, the body weakened and the man degraded from the noble vessel that plows the main to the water soaked derelict that floats at the mercy of wind and tide, a menace to every craft that sails the sea.

That doom of worthlessness no man on that pathway can escape. There is a hunger of the soul that no potion of Circe can satisfy, a longing for reality in sad contrast to that life of hollowness. To assuage that hunger men seek the balm of human fellowship. They drink together, tell their stories and join in laughter, but the hunger is not satisfied, the spectre will not be charmed, and in their deepest soul is heard the croak of doom, the Raven's croak—"Never more." Never more is there a return of the manliness which has been sacrificed at the shrine of the false deceiver.

How then is the tyranny to be broken and the man once more set free? Evidently there must be an awakening of that inner life which all the intoxicating course has been trampling in the mire. It is needless to say that the ashes of that life are not to be revived by any application of force. No mere prohibition can provide that which alone can quench the soul's insatiable thirst. Chaining a dog will not make him kind though it may prevent him from biting, and keeping a man from drinking will not awaken the soul that is dead or bring back the love that is lost. The way to the Father's house must be opened through the breaking up of the fountains in the man's own soul. Only when he arises and comes to his Father does he win the victory over self. To enter on that course may be as the very cutting off of a right hand or the plucking out of a right eye, to continue in it may be as a daily dying, but it is the path of blessedness whose end is peace. The message of hope is the gospel of salvation, and the power that lifts is not the arm of flesh but the spirit of the living God.

In how far then may Local Option be depended on to help in this battle? Let no man be deceived. Neither Local Option nor any other law will work an immediate or magical cure. The man who is determined to drink will still succeed in getting what his heart is set upon. Even the inexperienced will not be absolutely safe, for "stolen water is sweet," and some under like circumstances have been ensnared by the curiosity of finding whether they could pull the wires so as to procure the drink. The only class such a measure is likely to help are those who want to be helped. Some who know their helplessness ask our assistance by placing the drink where, when the craving is upon them, they will not find it. Parents and friends are eager to foster a new spirit, to create an atmosphere so steeped with the spirit of Christianity that the youth may be attracted by things that are lovely and of good report. To all desirous of being helped the law is calculated to be a blessing. It will be the occasion of giving the fallen the chance again to take his feet, of awakening noble self respect in some who had lost it, and of helping others to a taste of the joy of making glad the hearts of those near and dear to them. To secure these blessings there is needed not only a law but a moral

and spiritual awakening. Give not only your vote for Local Option, but yield yourselves as servants to righteousness unto sanctification.

LOCAL OPTION AND WASHER-WOMEN.

(By Rev. Farquhar Williamson.)

DEAR MR. EDITOR:—I am glad you have given a chance to show the evils of Local Option, and I hasten to furnish a few arguments.

Some officious person has sent me a paper called The Pioneer, evidently thinking that I needed more reading matter, which you will agree with me is absurd seeing I subscribe regularly to your valuable paper. Unlike the Chronicle this paper is most one-sided and I can't find a single straightforward argument against Local Option in the whole of it. It is just full of "facts" all of which seem to favor Local Option, and surely it is not fair to try and ram "facts" down the throat of people who don't want facts but "arguments."

Any thoughtful person can see for himself from the facts in this paper that the enforcement of Local Option is going to strike at the very foundations of our social fabric.

One illustration will show what I mean and perhaps warn some before it is too late of the condition of things that will be experienced if Local Option succeeds. On page 3, in the column referring to conditions in Owen Sound is this item,—

"A lady went to six different women who had been accustomed to go out washing, and could not get them to come for her. Four of them told her, 'I do not have to do washing since Local Option came.'"

Now Mr. Editor, Everybody knows (and when I say 'Everybody' of course I mean in the sense the society papers use it, that is the upper ten whom the rest of mankind were created to serve) that it is a hard enough matter now to get satisfactory washerwomen, so what will it be if we get Local Option. Anyone who has studied the matter at all know that society is indebted very largely to the bar room for the supply of washerwomen. Women are so curiously constituted that once they are married and have a young family to look after they would sooner stay at home and do so than go out following the very useful avocation of washerwoman. When, however, the husband and father spends his wages in the bar room and privation stares the children in the face, she is glad to leave them, to look after themselves, to earn money at the wash tub, and thus a great want of society is supplied. If space permitted I would like to enlarge this beautiful picture which can be seen to best advantage in the large cities. The young mother taking her baby with her on the early car going off to her day's work and returning after six o'clock, with both mother and babe sufficiently worn out to enjoy sleep under conditions that would make sleep otherwise impossible. When the baby gets a few years older and others have arrived, see the advantage it is to that child to be initiated into household cares and have all the frivolity taken out of it, at an age when other children are wasting their time in play. Then when in a few more years she becomes a woman herself if as a result of the above she is delicate see how much work this means for doctors and for hospitals, etc. I might enlarge, but merely want to point out incidentally that if this class were removed lots of useful charities and the Children's Aid Society would find their occupation gone, and the good people who love to help this sort of work might have to turn their attention to heathen lands to find an outlet for their charities.

There are many other almost equally important questions I might ask, such as: Where are the sweat shop men going to get people to work for starvation wages if the supply made by the bar rooms are cut off? Where are the manufacturers going to get children who should be at school to work for them if their fathers don't drink? Perhaps the one question will be a sufficient one for this time. How are we to get the washing done? You may think this is not a very serious question but it is more so than appears now, because there will be more washing to do if Local Option is enforced. When money is not spent in drink it will mean more white dresses for the babies and more light blouses for the wives and older girls, and this will mean more washing to do and make our question still more difficult to solve.

Surely, Mr. Editor, enough has been said to show you that you should exert your influence to get all who would rather see their wives washing for other people to vote against Local Option. Could you not get these liberal minded ministers who don't oppose in the bar room to get still further in their encouragement of the trade by getting more of their young men to patronize the bar and it will only be a few years till some of the healthy young ladies of their congregations will help to solve this difficulty by going out washing.

Order Early FOR Christmas

THE wise shopper is buying Xmas things now, avoiding the "last minute" rush, and getting First Pick in every line.

BE WISE

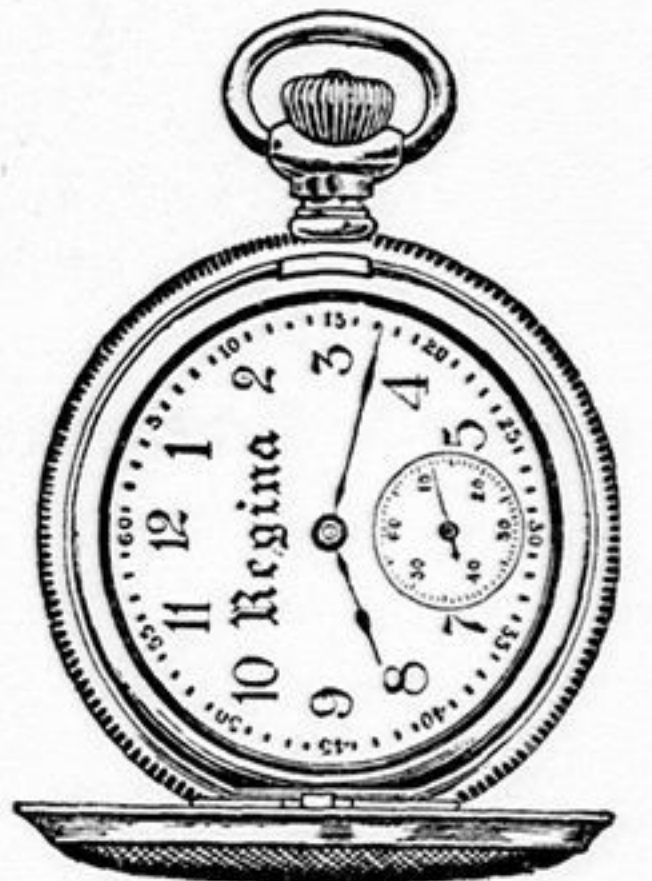
Come now To-Day
Pick out what you want and lay it away; or we will take good care of it for you until wanted.
WE have our full assortment of holiday goods now on Display.

James R. Gun & Co.,

Druggists, Durham

DON'T FORGET THAT XMAS PRESENT

Remember, both HE and SHE expect something pretty nice this Xmas and Webster's High-Class Display will certainly meet with their approval. Our display of Watches, Chains, Locket, Bracelets and Rings could not possibly be better. The latter, we challenge any Jeweller this side of Toronto to compete with.



Xmas

Presents

Silverware!

Webster's has been known all over the country for High-Class Silverware and we are proud to say our Xmas stock is better than ever before. We consider it a favor rather than a trouble to show these goods, so bring along your friends anytime.

Repairing a Specialty
PERCY G. A. WEBSTER
Opposite Post Office. Optician

Watchmaker
JEWELLER

Optician

"THE HOUSE OF QUALITY"

H. H. Mockler, - - Durham, Ontario

Only Ten Shopping Days Left before Christmas!!

Our store has been making extensive preparations and the Goods which have been carefully selected early in this season so as to get the best choice, are now in stock and ready for your inspection.

Ladies' Ready-to-wear Silk waists

Those who have bought waists from us during the past season and those who saw our exhibit at the fall fair in September have some idea of the character of the waists we sell. Our stock of these goods for Xmas Eclipses All Previous Showings. Taffeta Silk, in Black, White, Cream and colors handsomely trimmed and perfectly made. Priced at \$4.00 and up.

New Leather Goods

Belts, Chateline, Bags, Squaw Bags, Vanity Bags of the Finest selected Leathers, Walrus, Seal, Morocco and Calf made by the celebrated Toronto firm of Julian Sale Co. This is a new department for us and the prices are extensively low. Belts 25c and up. Bags 50c and up.

Large Importation of Fancy Handkerchiefs

More Handkerchiefs than ever this year. Linen, Lawn, Lace Trimmed and Embroidered, mourning Handkerchiefs, Children's in fancy boxes, besides many beautiful novelties in boxes for Ladies and Gentlemen.

500 Fine Fancy Lace Trimmed and Embroidered Handkerchiefs for 5c each. Fancy Boxes containing Three Children's Handkerchiefs only 15c per box.

Wait till you see our Ladies' Fancy Collars

We never attempted to show so large an assortment—all New designs and materials, so rich and beautiful and such a variety that it would take a page to describe them. They're in, however, and you may see them for the asking. Prices 25c to \$2.00.

You want to see

The Nicest Goods FOR XMAS

We have them

H. H. MOCKLER