

DURHAM CHRONICLE

W. IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor

Thursday, April 12, 1923.

HIGH TENDER GETS CONTRACT

The letting of the contract for the manufacture of the 1923 motor license plates for the Highways Department has caused no small amount of controversy, both on the street and during the past session in the House. Mr. Biggs, the head of the department, does not pretend to deny that the firm making the highest tender secured the contract, but attempts to clear himself on the fact that the markers accepted by the Department were better than those called for in the specifications. The fact that the other firms had tendered on the contract and had lived up to the "specifications" laid down by Mr. Biggs, does not seem to have made any difference. Instead of calling for new tenders and giving all the tenderers the benefit of the U.F.O. pre-election policy "equal rights to all and special privileges to none," Mr. Biggs passed the contract out to a company in which it is alleged he has more than a friendly interest. The end is not yet, neither in the House nor on the street, and it will be worth watching to see how the present investigation develops. Last week's Kincaid Reporter has the following to say:

"They certainly are making an awful holler about 1 1/2 cents per pair on the auto markers that the government are selling this year. It would appear that tenders were called for and a number of firms bid. The lowest price was 1 1/2 cents by the St. Thomas Metal Sign Co., and the highest price was 23 cents by the Canadian Color Type Co., of Hamilton. The latter got the contract, and at a little questioning match in which Col. Lennox, M.P.P., was present and took a hand, he tried to infer that there had been favoritism shown in the awarding of the contract. Mr. Lennox even went as far as producing documents from the office of the Provincial Secretary showing that the charter for the successful company had been given to the Hon. F. C. Biggs in 1920 'for delivery.' Surely Mr. Lennox was not trying to leave the impression that the Minister had anything to do with this company. It is true the Minister did not deny the insinuation. He remarked that the election would be fought out on the O.T. A. and not the cost of markers. It's true that it cost the people of the Province \$30,000 more for markers than it should. It's a pity that it hadn't gone into the treasury of the government instead of into the pockets of shareholders of the Canadian Color Type Company, the charter of which was handed to the Minister whose department had the awarding of the contract. Eleven and a half cents per set of markers is a mere trifle to the average automobile owner, but \$30,000 divided among the shareholders of the Canadian Color Type Company is a neat pick-up from the Hon. Mr. Biggs, who had the charter 'for delivery.' Now if such a transaction occurred in the days of the old line party governments we would cry graft, but such a cry against a Minister of the U.F.O. Government will not be tolerated. That Biggs boy is a smooth one. It's too bad his deals are always being looked into."

TRUSTEES FAVOR ADOLESCENT ACT.

At the meeting of the Ontario Educational Association held last week in Toronto, the Trustees and Ratepayers' Association discussed the Adolescent School Attendance Act at considerable length on Tuesday and went on record with a resolution calling for its enforcement. The bulk of the trustees present were quite convinced that some form of compulsory school attendance of this sort is necessary if the children of the country are to have the same educational opportunities as those of the cities. In some of the rural communities the Adolescent Act is not looked upon with favor, as the larger boys and girls affected by the Act are needed for services at home, and amendment of the Act within certain limits is already under consideration by the education department.

The establishment of Consolidated Schools received strong support in the same section of the Association. This, though differing from the opinions of many country ratepayers, is significant of a growing tendency in favor of the Consolidated Schools. Coming, not from teachers and professors, but from the ratepayers and trustees themselves, the work may have a leavening influence and gradually grow and develop until the end is accomplished. Consolidated Schools are already established in parts of the West and from what we can learn of the work they are doing we are forced to believe they are

generally a success.

It is not our intention to study out the pros and cons of the matter, as it is of little direct personal interest. Since the trustees and ratepayers, which means practically the bulk of the people, are beginning to consider the question seriously, we may leave it to them to bring about a solution, but it may require time.

A SENSIBLE TAX METHOD

Meaford taxes are payable in four installments a year with a six per cent. discount allowed for payment in advance. The first installment is due the 23rd of this month and some have already paid the full year's taxes and saved the discount. This is an improvement, on the method here, which penalizes a man five per cent. if his taxes are not paid at the dates fixed. The allowing of a discount for prompt payment is the only sensible method and the Town Council would do well to wake up to the idea at once rather than continue the practice already too long in vogue. The town fathers will tell you it doesn't make any difference, but it does make a difference. In the one case the taxpayer looks upon the discount as a reward for prompt payment; in the other as a punishment for neglect or perhaps an oversight. Our method is absolutely wrong.

THE SCALES ARE O. K.

The Blyth's Gomers oracle got a little more bile off his stomach last week when he told Review readers about the poor guess he made on the weight of his eighteen hogs. He, of course, couldn't be wrong, and, by innuendo, put the blame on the weighmaster.

Not satisfied at the thought of shouldering the whole charge he would make his readers believe there was great dissatisfaction at the injustice farmers had to put up with. Since then, we made it our business to ask a number of farmers how they felt towards our town weighmaster and in not a single instance was there a complaint made. The scales are tested regularly by the Government Inspector and certificates issued as to their correctness.

There is no doubt about it, buyers and sellers depending on the town scales will get just and honest weight. The difference between what the scale said and the owner's guess was a mere lack of judgment on the guessing ability of the owner of the pigs. Judgments as well as weigh scales need to be balanced up occasionally. The scales are all right. What then?

ENTERTAINED BY RADIO

Mr. Albert Kress, who is attending the Kincaid High school, was in town over the holiday. Over a year ago we referred to his effort to make a radiophone but were then unable to report much success. He abandoned the first one and made another, from which he got results, but his range was too limited and he tried again. The third machine is now in operation in his father's furniture store here and during the past couple of weeks many have been delighted in listening to concerts, entertainments, and speeches delivered in far away places.

The writer had the pleasure of hearing a musical program in Pittsburg a few evenings ago and parts of it were as distinct as if we had been in the hall in which it was given. The novelty is being much enjoyed and some of the young people have been entertained till after midnight, when waves were picked up from Memphis, Chicago and other distant cities.

KENNEDY-MARSHALL

College St. Presbyterian Church, Toronto, was the scene of a quiet and pretty wedding on Saturday, April 7, at three in the afternoon, when Marion, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. M. Marshall, Durham, Ont., was married to Mr. William Kennedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy, Riverview.

The bride wore her travelling suit of navy tricotine with hat to match and wore the groom's gift, a string of pearls. Her corsage bouquet was of opelia roses and lily of the valley.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. E. A. Earchman, a friend of the bride's family, the bride being given in marriage by her brother-in-law, Mr. Ivan Edwards.

After the ceremony a buffet luncheon was served at the home of the bride's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Edwards, 1216 Ossington Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy left later for a short honeymoon and on their return will reside at Shelburne.

DURHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

E. Cameron, B.A., B.Th., Pastor
Sunday, April 15, 1923
11.00 A.M.—"Objections to Revival."
7.00 P.M.—"The Valley of Decision"
Evangelist Rev. Alex. Torrie, B.A., of Toronto will conduct special services in the Church April 24 to May 6.

TORY U. F. O. REPLIES TO GRIT BACKSLIDERS

In recent issues The Chronicle has published two letters from former "Grit" supporters who had jumped the fence into the U.F.O. pasture in 1919 and again at the recent Dominion election. From a perusal of their contributions one would think they were not very well satisfied with the United Farmer movement, especially along political lines. This week, we have a change for our readers. Our contributor on this occasion is just a plain "U.F.O." and while he does not mention his former love, we think he was one of the several who jumped the fence out of the Tory corral and, from his letter, is in no hurry to come back. Our friend of the Drury-Forker-Crerer combination says:

"I have just been pondering over last week's issue of The Chronicle and read a write-up from 'Another Old Grit U. F. O.' who seems to be badly disappointed because he assisted in electing the U.F.O. Government to power in the year 1919. Is this old-time Grit, whoever he may be, blind to the fact that during the present session of the Ontario Government they are almost daily passing bills in favor of the farmer? Is he also blind to the fact that the embargo on Canadian cattle to the Old Country has been lifted? Will this alone not doubly pay him for voting for the U.F.O. Government?"

"It almost drives me to anger when I hear farmers talking like this old-time Grit, who can see no good the present Government has done, and sit back and pick holes in it. It reminds me of years ago when the Patrons of Industry came in force, how the farmers all went marching and rejoicing with their eyes and their mouths wide open, to join this organization, thinking they were going to harvest a fortune in a short time, but because they failed to do so they cast it at their feet and walked over the top of it and it has never been heard of since. But if they had only stuck what they might have accomplished in all these years! Why, we might to-day have been the head beetlers of our country, but, instead, we have at the head of us a few big moneyed fellows who are dragging us along with our nose almost to the ground.

"Is it that the farmer does not take time to think or look over the point of his nose and see what is going on? The farmers' movement is not intended to harm the town or city dweller, but simply after an equal bite of the good things that are going. We advise this old-time Grit to stick to his guns and carry the U. F. O. banner on to victory, or he may some day arouse from his slumber, pull the wool from his eyes and find that he has been swamped by all the other classes, who have organized and beaten him to a finish."

BOOTS, TEA AND WHISKEY

The Orillia Packet notes the discovery of an account for various provisions purchased in 1867—the year of Confederation. They included a pair of boots at 75c., a pound of tea at \$1.00, and a half-pound of tea at 45c.

That a pound of tea should cost more than a pair of boots seems rather strange to us at the present time, but it is doubtless explained by the difficulties of transportation during that period. Boots were a home product.

More than half a century earlier in the Gazette and Oracle of 1799, advertisements appear which quote the price of tea in Toronto at 19s. per Z for Hyson, 14s. for Souchong, and 8s. for Bohea. Even if the New York shilling of sevenpence halfpenny was meant, these articles would range from \$1.20 up to \$2.85 per lb.

But beverages were not all priced accordingly. Even in the Orillia account of 1867, there was itemized a half-gallon of whiskey at 60c. It was sold as a matter of course along with "other groceries." Times have changed when the price of whiskey at a Government Dispensary is today \$4.25 per quart.

In the "good old days" 75c. would buy a pair of boots, three-quarters of a pound of tea, or five pints of whiskey. No doubt it lay between the boots and the whiskey as to which gave the most "kick" for the money.

BORN

Croft.—In Durham, on April 7, to Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Croft, a daughter (Jessie Elizabeth).

Fry.—In Durham, on April 4, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Fry, a son.

Ridout.—At Toronto, on March 30, 1923, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Ridout (nee Gladys Search), 58 Humberstone Ave., Toronto, a son (Norman Allan).

Seymour.—In Pekin, North China, on April 4, 1923, to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Seymour, a son (Charles Elmer, Jr.).

Watson.—In Durham, April 9, to Mr. and Mrs. Adam Watson, a daughter.

USE AND VALUE OF MARL AS FARM FERTILIZER

Marl is of such agricultural importance that Dr. F. T. Shutt, the Dominion Chemist, in his last annual report says that he feels warranted in again calling attention to its value as a cheap and excellent amendment for soils in need of lime. As yet, farmers in Canada have not, he considers, fully realized its worth. In many districts marl is procurable at a minimum of expense, possibly at the cost of digging and hauling—making it by far the cheapest form of lime for agricultural purposes. Marl usually occurs in beds of a few inches to several feet in thickness on old lake bottoms, frequently overlaid by swamp muck or peaty deposit. Some fifty samples were sent in to be examined at the Dominion Experimental Farms laboratory at Ottawa during the year with which the report deals and the results of the analyses are all given. These samples came from far away Yukon and from nearly all the provinces. An analysis is necessary only to determine the actual composition of any particular sample, as marl can be identified and distinguished by its giving a copious effervescence on the addition of a little strong vinegar or other acid.

When freshly dug, marl is usually a greyish, pasty mass. On drying it becomes lighter in color, forming lumps which can be easily crushed. As to its application, on light and sandy soils from two to five tons per acre may be supplied. On heavy clay loams and mucks, from five to twenty tons is the required amount. No reasonable excess, Dr. Shutt says is likely to prove harmful. The application may be made in spring or fall, scattering on the ploughed land and harrowing in. Broadcasted on pastures and meadows, the influence of marl is to encourage more particularly the growth of clovers.

MAN'S FOUR STAGES

Man born of woman is little permissiveness and generally green. His life may be divided into four parts. As he starts, his stomach is full of pains, blackberry balsam and paregoric and he winds up the first period by stealing green apples and fishing on Sunday. The second term commencing at 15 rapidly passes into the smart aleck, fever, when he learns to wear standing collars, smoke cigarettes, call his father the old man and go with the girls. At 21 he has bankrupted his father and blown in every cent of his own; he finds a woman who is fool enough to marry him and she takes in washing till she is called away. The last period he lives around with his children, tells of the big things he did when he was a boy and finally goes under, making a momentary bubble on the sea of humanity and is soon forgotten.

HOUSEHOLD SUGGESTIONS

If before extracting the juice from lemons you will place them in the warming closet for a few minutes, you will be surprised at the extra amount of juice you will get.

If you are troubled with insomnia try drinking a cup of cocoa or a little clam broth just before retiring. Hot milk also has a tendency to calm the nerves and induce sleep.

Remove fresh meat immediately from the box or paper in which it is sent home by the butcher or the paper will absorb the juices. Put it on a clean plate.

DURHAM MARKET

Corrected April 5, 1923.

Live hogs.....	\$10.00
Wheat.....	\$1.10 @ 1.12
Oats.....	48 @ 50
Barley.....	68 @ 70
Buckwheat.....	70 @ 72
Peas.....	1.35 @ 1.40
Hay.....	10.00 @ 12.00
Butter.....	.35
Eggs.....	.22
Potatoes, per bag.....	.40
Hides.....	.36
Sheepskins.....	.75

VETERAN STAR THEATRE

Open Friday and Saturday Evenings
TWO SHOWS: 8 and 9 P.M.

THIS WEEK
Big Super Special
"The Game of Life"

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Miss Marjorie Montgomery and Mr. Alvin Nichol of the O. A. C. Guelph, spent Easter with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Brown and daughter Jessie, and Mrs. Brown's sister, Miss Lizzie Byers, of Parry Sound, were in town a few days renewing old acquaintances. While here Mrs. Brown disposed of the Byers property to Mr. Doyle Braithwaite.

Miss Jemima Lawrence, teacher near Gorrie, returned to her duties Monday after spending the holiday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lawrence, in town.

Miss Jessie Derby of Niagara-on-the-Lake spent over the week-end with her sister, Mrs. James Kerr, at Varney.

Miss Katie L. Kerr of Fergus spent over the Easter holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Kerr, at Varney.

Mrs. Dennett, who spent several weeks near Markdale, has returned to town.

Miss Amy Kelly is spending a couple of weeks with friends in Hamilton and Toronto.

Mr. Arthur Ramage of North Bay is visiting his parents here for a few days.

Miss Edna McNaughton of Walkerton has accepted a position as stenographer with Barrister Curgey for a time.

BUG-HOUSE BEEF BUYER HAD GOOD TIME AT INGERSOLL SALE

Things can go wrong, even at an auction sale. A rather sad yet humorous story comes to light from a rural district in the vicinity of Ingersoll, where a well known auctioneer was holding a sale of farm stock and implements.

A stranger wearing a mackinaw coat was observed in the crowd. No one knew him, nor did anyone pay much attention to him until the auctioneer commenced to offer the cows. The stranger bought the first one, the second one and so on until he had secured the first six put up. Then he turned around and bought five calves in succession.

The curiosity of the crowd became manifest. Some talked and questioned him. He told a strange story as to his intentions with the cattle and then the truth came to light. He had escaped from a mental institution.

The sale started all over again and all went well.

CRIPPLED BY RHEUMATISM

Began to Improve After Taking "Fruit-a-lives"

The Medicine Made From Fruit
You can get rid of Rheumatism. You can be free of pain—of swollen hands and feet—of aching arms, legs and back.

"Fruit-a-lives" will drive the cause of Rheumatism out of the system and give you permanent relief.

"For over three years, I was confined to bed with Rheumatism. Finally I decided to try 'Fruit-a-lives'. Before using half a box, I noticed improvement. I continued taking 'Fruit-a-lives' improving all the time. I can now walk about two miles and do chores around the place."

ALEX. MUNRO, Lorne, Ont.

50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or from Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

An efficient furniture polish is made of three parts linseed oil and one part spirits of turpentine.

Before you wish to do fine sewing or use silk floss, wash the hands in alum water. It will make them smooth.

Camphor sometimes removes from linen fruit stains that have successfully resisted any other remedy.

You can keep apples fresh and sound for any length of time by packing them in sawdust.

There are many pretty signs of spring but the first elbows are not included in the list.

BATTERIES

Stored Recharged Rebuilt and Cared For.

We Know How

NOBLE'S GARAGE
DURHAM

**The People's Mills
Prices for Flour and Feed**

Sovereign Flour.....	\$3.60
Eclipse Flour.....	3.40
White Lily Pastry Flour.....	3.20
Bran.....	1.50
Shorts.....	1.60
Feed Flour (middlings).....	2.10
Mixed Chop.....	1.85
Oat Chop.....	1.75
Crimped Oats.....	1.75
Blatchford's Calf Meal.....	1.10
Custom Chopping, per 100 lbs.....	.07

OUR FLOUR IS GUARANTEED

These Prices are at the Mill, and Strictly Cash
Highest Price Paid for Wheat delivered at the Mill
Goods Delivered in Town Every Afternoon
Phone 8, Night or Day.

JOHN MCGOWAN

The People's Mill Durham, Ont.

SPRING IS HERE

And with its arrival comes the old, old story of renovation. It's easy if you visit our store. In Dyes alone we have a big selection.

OTHER HOUSEHOLD AND TOILET NECESSITIES TOO

Diamond Dyes for Wool or Cotton
Dyola Dyes. Rit. Sunset Dyes.
Twink for Tinting (Dyes & Cleans at same time)
Straw Hat Dye
COLORITE in 16 different shades.

S. MacBETH DRUGGIST and STATIONER