

May Every Joy and Happiness Be Yours This Merry Christmas Season

WELL-KNOWN FARMER PASSED AWAY SUDDENLY

Mr. Joseph Atkinson Died Wednesday Night After Brief Illness.

A death that came with startling suddenness, so far as the general public was concerned, was that of Mr. Joseph Atkinson, a prosperous and well-known farmer of the second Concession of Glenelg, who passed away about 10 o'clock last night after a short illness. Though confined to his bed only since last Friday, he has been a sufferer for some time past from uremic poisoning, although pneumonia was the immediate cause of death.

Mr. Atkinson was in his 60th year, and was born in York County in 1864, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Atkinson, pioneers of Glenelg. When ten years of age he came with his parents to the farm on which he has resided ever since. Mr. Atkinson was a careful farmer, a good, honest, hard-working man, and one who commanded the respect of all with whom he came in contact, and his sudden passing away will be regretted by a host of friends.

In 1889 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Weir, sister of Mr. William Weir, a former Reeve of Glenelg Township, who, with a family of four daughters and one son, mourns the loss of a kind and affectionate husband and father. The family are, Annie (Mrs. Joseph Patterson), Toronto; Eva (Mrs. William Ector), Elbow, Sask.; James J., Durham, and Emma and Margaret at home.

Mr. Atkinson was a lifelong Anglican and for fourteen years was one of the wardens in Trinity church, here. In or out of office, he was an indefatigable worker in the affairs of the church and we can assure the sorrowing family that his labors were always appreciated by both Rector and congregation. In politics he was a Conservative, though he was by no means narrow in his political views and would always stand up for what he himself thought was right, and at the same time allowing others the same privilege.

The funeral, awaiting the arrival of Mrs. Ector from the West, will be held from his late residence on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be made in Trinity cemetery, and the services will be in charge of his rector, the Rev. J. H. Whelan.

Besides his family, Mr. Atkinson leaves two brothers and one sister: James and W. J. in Toronto, and Mrs. John Davis of Poplar, Manitoulin Island. A brother, Thomas, died some years ago.

To the sorrowing family and relatives The Chronicle extends sympathy in their hour of trial.

NUCLEUS FOR TOWN PARK AT MEADOW WEST OF TOWN

"Old Beaver Meadow" and Surrounding Property Would Make An Ideal Pleasure Ground.

Since buying the property known as the "old beaver meadow" west of town, Mr. J. Levine has made considerable improvement in the surroundings and has cleaned up the property so that it has been pointed out to us as an ideal spot for a town park and summer camping ground. The grounds are situated straight west on Lambton street and are just outside the corporation.

During the past couple of years Mr. Levine has had men engaged in taking out the timber and has also a sawmill on the property for converting the timber into lumber. During the past summer he has had men and teams engaged in cleaning up the whole plot of several acres, and has left enough trees on the property for shade purposes.

The property is situated on the bank of the river and would no doubt make an ideal park for present and future generations to enjoy themselves in.

DURHAM GIRL MARRIED

Miss Katie Kelsey Married Monday In Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kelsey received word to-day that their daughter, Catherine E., had been married on Monday to Mr. James Wellington Lamb. The ceremony was performed in the Cowan street Presbyterian church, Toronto.

COUNCIL OF 1923 DID MUCH GOOD WORK

Final Meeting of Year Held Saturday Night.—Mayor Complimented On His Courtesy of Past Year.—Reeve Currey Also Given Expression of Goodwill of Retiring Council.

The winding-up meeting of the 1923 Council was held on Saturday night in the Council Chamber, when a good deal of business was cleaned up and important reports received and adopted.

As Reeve Currey has arranged to take over a legal business at Newmarket and has disposed of his business here, he will not be a candidate for next year's municipal honors.

Towards the close of the session a resolution of appreciation of Reeve Currey's services during the year was placed on record, to which the members of the Council spoke briefly. Everything during the past year had gone on harmoniously and with no friction of any sort, was the keynote of the remarks made by members. It was further noted that a considerable amount of good work had been done during the year and it was gratifying to know that all previous records had been broken in the payment of taxes. Never in the history of Durham, it was stated, had so little taxes been unpaid at this period of the year.

Dr. Hutton gave an exhaustive report for the year as Medical Officer of Health. For the general benefit of the ratepayers its publication was authorized in the local press, and appears elsewhere in this issue.

Dr. Smith was also remembered by the Council, who placed on record their appreciation of his courteous and impartial conduct during the past year as Mayor. The general harmony of the year's proceedings was the dominating feature of the remarks made by members of the Council.

In the Council meeting Monday the usual number of accounts, this month amounting to \$186.50, were passed by the Finance Committee and payment recommended.

Mr. John A. Graham addressed the Council on behalf of the hospital asking a rebate on taxes, which was granted on motion of Councillors Bell and Murdock, school and local improvement taxes excepted.

The mayor was authorized to communicate with Procter, Redfern & Company and arrange for a member of the firm to be present at a public meeting to be held before the election.

The Fire and Light Committee was authorized to put in a street light at the C. P. R. crossing at George street.

HIS HAT IS IN THE RING

Mr. W. Calder Will Run For the 1924 Reeveship.

Like President Coolidge, Hiram Johnston, La Follette and others, Mr. W. Calder called up The Chronicle last night and told us to announce that his "hat is in the ring" and that he will be Willie-on-the-job for the Reeveship for the 1924 season. In announcing that he had thrown his hat into the circle Mr. Calder didn't say whether or not it was that old "kelly" he has worn at the curling rink for the past few score years, or that it would be a brand new sky-piece that he would toss in for the natives to scrap over.

Unlike the trio named at the head of this epistle, Mr. Calder is not running for any little thing like the presidency of the United States; it is to be the king of Durham that he aims at, and he is getting his warning note sounded in time.

So far, this is the only municipal stir we hear locally and whether or not Mr. Calder will be opposed we do not know. The Council and the Mayoralty are just about where they usually are, and will, we suppose, remain so until nomination day.

In the townships around us, however, there are rumors of the wars that are to be fought on the 7th of January. Bentinck is, we are told, likely to have a contest, and so is Glenelg and Egremont. Nothing so far as we can learn seems to be stirring down in Normanby, but, like Durham and Mr. Micawber, something may "turn up" at the last moment.

DELIGHTFUL WEATHER, SAYS NORTHERN ONT. SUBSCRIBER

A letter from Mr. Thomas Whitmore, Fort Frances, containing remittance, reports delightful weather, with no snow. The cold at first hovered around 20 degrees above, but turned milder and continued to time of writing on December 11. Water is unusually low. Mr. Whitmore says he had a fine crop of wheat, but hay was light.

REEVE CURREY LEAVING; GOES TO NEWMARKET

Popular Durham Barrister and Last Year's Reeve Has Disposed of Business Here.—Leaves To-morrow.

The numerous friends of Reeve and Mrs. A. B. Currey will regret to learn of their departure from Durham. Only last Friday Mr. Currey completed a deal by which he sold his legal practice here to Mr. Chas. Middlebro of Owen Sound, who takes possession this week. At the same time Mr. Currey concluded the taking over of a legal practice at Newmarket and will leave tomorrow to his new field.

Before coming to Durham, Mr. Currey was a resident of Hanover. He came here early in May, 1919, though it was not until September, 1920, that Mrs. Currey took up her residence in this town.

Mr. Currey first formed a partnership with the late J. P. Telford, and after the latter's death in 1920 he purchased his share of the business and continued the practice up to the present.

Since coming to Durham Mr. Currey has proved himself a citizen alive to the best interests of the town and community and whatever he did in a public way we believe he did it in an unselfish manner and with no thought of reward for himself. In 1923 he was Reeve of the town and the year just closed has been a record one on the local Council board in that the petty scraps of former years were missing and the Council accomplished a maximum of legislation with the minimum of squabbling.

Mrs. Currey, too, has proved herself a popular member of the town's society and we feel sure all will regret to see her depart.

Mr. and Mrs. Currey have been good citizens and we very much regret that they have seen fit to sever their connections with the place. This, however, does not deter us from expressing the hope that they will enjoy success in their new field, in which they are already well acquainted, Mr. Currey having been born and brought up four miles from that town and Mrs. Currey a native of Keswick.

UPPER AIR IS BLESSED WITH SUMMER WEATHER

Varsity Scientists Believe Frigid Temperature Ends 37 Miles Above Earth's Surface.

Just slightly over 37 miles above the surface of the earth there is a region of perpetual summer, according to the conclusions of two famous English meteorologists, which were discussed at a physics seminar of the Western University at London, Ontario, this past week. The subject was presented by Dr. R. C. Dearnley, head of the department, and is not, however, committed to the most startling physical theory advanced in recent years.

According to the theory, and as already proved by actual experiments, the temperature of the upper air decreases the further away any given strata is from the earth's surface. Mountains covered with snow at the equator are well known and are visible proof of a condition of perpetual winter as low as five miles above the sea level.

But the English scientists' theory presented by Dr. Dearnley is that at 60 kilometers (37 miles) above the earth's surface low temperatures cease and an even temperature of about 80 degrees (summer heat) is maintained the year round.

These conclusions were reached after a long series of observations on meteorites, or "falling stars."

"I have an open mind on the matter," Dr. Dearnley pointed out. "But if the theory is found to be acceptable, then we must restate our ideas as regards interspatial temperatures. It will be to science what the passing of the Santa Claus tradition is to children."

Scientists hold that absolute zero exists between the planets and outside the atmospheric envelope of the earth. But the possibility of even summer temperatures in the upper reaches of the earth's air might lead to the inference of summer heat beyond.

RESPONSIBLE FOR CARS LEFT IN HIS CARE

Garagemen May Be Held Liable, According To Recent Decision.

Judge Fisher of Orangeville has ruled that a garageowner is responsible for an automobile left in his premises over night or undergoing repairs. This decision was handed out in a case Noble vs Savage, and tried at Orangeville two weeks ago.

Some time ago a man named Savage, of Orangeville, left a car in the care of Noble's Garage, Durham, for repairs, the major one being the replacing of a hind end. Noble completed the job, and was given a cheque by Savage, who runs one of the Orangeville hotels, in payment. Noble cashed the cheque, but in the meantime, Savage stopped payment on the ground that while in Noble's care the top of his car had become torn and damaged to the extent of the bill, \$43.00.

The trial came off a couple of weeks ago at Orangeville and the judge in the case gave Noble judgment for \$28.00 against a bill of \$35.00 allowing Savage \$15.00 for his torn top. Barrister Currey of Durham prosecuted for Noble for payment of the bill and, we are told asked what would happen if a man had a car in storage in a garage and it was destroyed by fire. We are told the judge held that the garageman would be responsible.

These are the facts as we have been given them, and we must confess that our knowledge of the law was pretty much at fault. We were always of the opinion that when a man stored his car in a garage over night it was at his own risk from fire or other causes for damage beyond the control of the garage owner but the decision in the Orangeville case would seem to show that we are altogether wrong.

METHODIST S.S. CONCERT DREW CAPACITY HOUSE

Standing Room Only Sign Hung Out Long Before Performance Began.—A Good Concert.

The Methodist Sunday school anniversary was held last night and was one of the best we ever attended in connection with that organization. The program was lengthy, consisting of over 25 numbers comprising choruses, recitations, dialogues and drills, and concluded with a pantomime that was really a credit to the five girls who took part, as well as to Miss Cora Wilson, who had the training of them. To us it was the best number on the program and from the rapt attention of the audience while being rendered we are sure that everybody enjoyed it to the fullest extent. The movements were made in response to the singing of "Sweet Hour of Prayer," most beautifully rendered by Mr. Benson. Spectacular but amusing numbers were "Boys In Frogland," "The Fairy Drill," "The Snow Brigade," "Punk Lyceum," "The Whistling Chorus" and the "Spring Drill." The farmyard scene in which clever make-ups were shown of cows, sheep, pigs and poultry were presented, was an amusing and pleasing number.

Amongst the individual entertainers, Wilma Smith, May Miles, and Wilda Pedlar were highly applauded. Every number was good, but time and space forbid a full report.

The orchestra was in attendance and gave a number of selections that were warmly applauded. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Peters, was an efficient chairman.

Nothing shows better than a mixed program the character of a Durham audience and the kind of entertainments they really appreciate and enjoy. All the numbers were interesting and fully enjoyed but most of them were in the lighter vein.

It was when the pantomime was being given that everyone sat in perfect silence to witness the actions of the performers and listen to the rendering of the sacred solo which timed the motions of the entertainers. While a Durham audience enjoys the lighter kind of entertainment, we rejoice to see their real appreciation of the good and inspiring numbers.

At the close the children were treated to nuts and candies.

BAPTIST ANNIVERSARY WAS WELL ATTENDED

Large Congregations Greet Special Preacher Morning and Evening.

The anniversary services of the Durham and Glenelg Baptist churches was held last Sunday and were perhaps the most successful in quite a long time.

The preacher for the day was Rev. J. G. Brown, B.A., D.D., of McMaster University and he delivered strong sermons both morning and evening.

At the evening service, an augmented choir rendered an excellent musical program and the closing of the Methodist church for this service crowded the main auditorium so that the Sunday school room also had to be used.

Mr. Brown chose as his text the second verse of the 39th chapter of Genesis, and from it showed what the spirit of God in a young man can do in helping him to overcome temptation and evil. He is a clear, forceful speaker and his sermon on Sunday night was what might almost be termed a number of "business" reasons why a man should be a Christian.

Joseph, the boy who was sold into Egypt by his brethren, rose to be the king of his master's household; his master was a pagan, yet the spirit of God so evident in Joseph inspired confidence. After his commitment to prison, Joseph's godliness again raised him to be next to the Pharaohs in the government of Egypt—they trusted him. Mr. Brown said that the same thing obtained to-day. No matter how bad a man was, he always trusted and admired a godly man. It was not the work of a preacher to go out and convert people—Christians themselves should so live their lives that they would show a shining example to all mankind.

Mr. Brown's sermon was right to the point and was, we think, one of the most convincing we have ever listened to.

MOTOR TRUCKS TO PAY HEAVIER TAX SOON

Hon. G. S. Henry, Minister of Highways For Ontario, Gives Hint In Address At Toronto.

"I am not going too far when I warn truck owners, particularly the owners of heavy trucks, that when the laws are revised and the tariff changed, they are going to have to pay a considerably higher percentage towards maintenance of the highways than they are to-day," said Hon. George S. Henry, minister of public works and highways for Ontario, who on Monday night in Toronto addressed the Ontario Motor Truck Owners' Association on motor truck transportation and its relation to highway construction and maintenance.

Speaking of the possibility of a tax on gasoline the minister said: "Everyone likes to pay his own way. Would not the gasoline tax be a very equitable way of levying on motorists generally? But the Government has not considered it as yet."

Mr. Henry said that the question came home to the people in two ways—the cost of highways and the effect on the railway in which the public generally were shareholders. This railway was having very serious deficits and was likely to continue to have them.

"It is a question, therefore," said the speaker, "how far the highways department should encourage competition of trucks against the railway."

The total revenue of the province from motor vehicles was approximately \$4,300,000, of which \$590,000 came from trucks. Approximately 95 per cent. of the total revenue came from light trucks and passenger vehicles, while from 4,700 trucks varying from three to eight tons' capacity the total revenue was but \$140,000.

"It is patent that we are spending a lot of money for highways that will carry these heavy trucks and they are contributing less than two per cent. of our revenue, yet 25 per cent. of the total expenditure on roads has been to make them of sufficient strength to carry these heavy trucks," he said.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN DURHAM CHURCHES

ANGLICAN Sunday, December 23, 1923.

Morning Prayer, 11 a.m. Processional Hymn 58 (Franconia). Venite (Garrett), Psalms 110, 111, 112, 113, Gloria (Humphrey), Te Deum (Oakley), Jubilate (Henley), Hymn 286 (Wareham), Hymn 432 (Love Divine).

Anthem—"Sleep Holy Babe" (Caswell), Recessional 70 (Nearer Home). Sermon, "In the Fullness of Time." Evensong, 7 p. m.

Processional, 527 (Nativity), Ps. 110, 132, Gloria (Humphrey), Magnificat (Barnaby), Nunc Dimittis (Fulton), Hymn 712 (Irby), Hymn 80 (St. Louis).

Sermon, "No Room In the Inn." Anthem, "We Have Seen His Star In the East" (Simper). Vesper Amen (Greek Liturgy); Carols, "Sleep Holy Night," "The First Nowell," Recessional 66 (St. Stephen).

Christmas Day Services. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion at 10.30 a. m.

Processional, 72 (Adeste Fidelis); Kyrie (Mendelssohn); Gloria Tibi (Phillips), Hymn 73 (Mendelssohn), Hymn 233 (Unde et Memores), Sanctus (Plummer), Gloria in Excelsis (Plummer), Recessional, 75 (Winchester Old).

BAPTIST Sunday, December 23, 1923.

Rev. James Taylor, Pastor. Sermons, Morning at 11 a.m. and Evening at 7 p.m. by the pastor. Special Christmas music.

METHODIST Sunday, December 23, 1923.

Morning.—Sermon: "To Bethlehem With the Shepherds." Music—Anthem, "Behold I Bring," (Simper); Male Quartette, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus"; Anthem: "The First Christmas Morn" (Newton).

Evening.—Sermon—"To Bethlehem With the Wise Men." Music: Male Quartette with violin obligato, "Silent Night, Hallowed Night." Anthem: "Shepherds of Bethlehem" (Judson). Duet: "No Room At the Inn" (sung by Mrs. Hay and Mrs. Benson). Anthem: "The Shepherd's Dream" (Geibel).

PRESBYTERIAN Sunday, December 23, 1923.

Sermon.—Morning—"No Room for Christ." Music—Anthem: "O Come All Ye Faithful" (Novello). Anthem: "Christmas" (Shelley).

Evening.—Sermon—"The One Above All." Music—Special Christmas Cantata, "The Christmas Adoration" by Carrie B. Adams.

KILLED THE FATTED CALF; IT WEIGHED 300 POUNDS

Pail-fed Bovine Weighed 500 Pounds On the Hoof.

The calf that was slaughtered for the prodigal son away back in the Tut-ankh-amenian days had nothing on the one that was sent to the block last Tuesday by Mrs. Miles Wilson. When dressed, the scales said it registered 292 pounds which, to our notion is a pretty good calf for four months of age. Before introduced to the butcher and standing alone in its glory, the calf weighed 500 pounds. The calf was pail-fed, and, according to Mr. Wilson, is as nothing to the one he is going to feed himself in the near future when he gets time.

We do not know whether or not this constitutes a record, but would like to hear from any of our readers who has one to beat it.

PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERTAINED TUESDAY NIGHT

The Christmas Sunday school entertainment in connection with the Presbyterian church was held in the church Tuesday night and was quite an interesting and brilliant affair. It consisted of choruses by the children, an organ instrumental by Miss Kathleen Milne, a duet by Miss Esther McComb and Miss Beulah Stonehouse, and a large number of stereopticon views on "The Birth of Christ and the Other Wise Men."

The attendance was good and the program much enjoyed. The chair was ably filled by the superintendent Mr. H. J. Snell.