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FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

A SUCCESSFUL GATHERING.

Monday afternoon saw the Town Hall crowded with intelligent farmers met to take part in the work and discussions of the Institute now so popular and so useful in its many fields of activity. Pres. Jas. Allan and Secy Geo Binnie, ably supported by the Directors must have felt gratified at the success of another annual gathering.

Mr Drury, Crown Hill, spoke on "Soil Fertility and how to maintain it" and his address was very highly spoken of. Mr. Masson, Straffordville, spoke on Corn in an exhaustive way beginning with the selection of the seed, he traced very lucidly the recognized best methods of planting, cultivating, harvesting, storing, &c., as his experience had taught him. To practical farmers, and what farmer now-a-days is not, there must have been a great deal of value.

Evening Meeting.

President Allan had asked Mayor McIntyre to preside, but in his absence, the position was filled by Mr Gilbert McKechnie, who is an adept at such positions and made a very suitable opening address.

Mr Masson spoke on the "Changing conditions of Canadian Agriculture," dividing it into 3 periods. (1) The pioneer period when wood, fur, ashes, &c., were the staples. Old Ontario had outgrown this, but the worthy pioneers, now almost gone, were worthy of honor for the foundations they had laid.

(2) The Grain-growing and Selling period. A period of great prosperity owing to the waste of foreign wars (Crimean and American).

(3) The period of manufacturing, Food Products.

He dealt with the immense cheapening of transportation rates, especially by water; of the competition now from India, Argentina, Australia, Siberia, and the fertile plains of our own west, many of these areas having cheaper labor than the Ontario farmer, but a hopeful feature was the increase in home consumption of home grown products. The necessity of intelligent, intensive farming to meet these conditions was well brought out.

Mr Drury took "Farming as a Profession" and referring to the song just sung lauding the union of the "English, Irish and Scotch," said that just as 200 years ago that union was being consummated so now, Saxon, Celt and Gaul were being welded into a Canadian nation, proud to reckon themselves Canadian.

He deplored the fact that the 3 last censuses showed a decreasing number of agriculturists, an unnatural result in a country like Canada whose foundations should be laid in agriculture and then build the superstructure of National greatness.

The mistake he thought was made by the farmers themselves in under-estimating their calling. He took second place to none in his view of the farmer, and the opportunities in farm homes for the culture of head and heart was not inferior to the best city homes.

Whatever remedies might be applied he hoped never to see them tried up after the manner of unions to limit production, &c. Science could be applied to agriculture, it was a thing of infinite advancement, it was useful, honorable and had scope enough for the cleverest. There was no millionaire's portion awaiting them but a comfortable living, with a chance for physical strength, good health, pure and pleasant thoughts.

Mr Binnie spoke briefly complimenting the fine audience, the new speakers, the new subjects, and drew a rosy picture of a new Hall on the Moody corner with a public park in front of it. He showed the advantages of the Institute to farmers in many ways, and reminded the ladies that there was also a flourishing Women's Institute.

The chairman called attention to the magnitude of Institute work going on all over Ontario.

Interlarding the speeches, this fine combination rendered excellent variety of music and received many enclosures. They opened with a melodious piece "Beautiful Queen." A male quartette composed of Messrs Wm. Isaac, G. Lathan, Jas. Coieridge and Wm. Ramage rendered "Heroes and Gentlemen" with spirit, Mr. Ramage taking the solo part. In response to a hearty encore, and with Mr. John Wilson added, they gave a patriotic piece.

Following Mr. Drury, by request the choir sang "We'll Have to Mortgage the Farm," the old couple being Miss M. A. Isaac and W. Ramage. Wm. Isaac and Miss Jean Renwick sang with taste and effect the duet "Gipsy Maid," and were warmly encored.

Another repetition of the Scotch Concert was "Past 12 o'clock" the watchmen being W. Ramage and the lovers enduring such sweet parting being Miss Jean Renwick and Mr. Isaac.

Later the laughable refrain, "Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater" was sung, the adaptations showing splendid harmony, and the uproarious encore brought another rollicking piece. The other members of the choir not mentioned were Misses Sarah Isaac, Bella Lathan and Aggie Hunter. A solo "Wake! oh Wake," by Miss Jean Renwick, showed that young lady is losing none of her charm as a vocalist. Her sister Miss Agnes Renwick came up from Mt Forest to accompany her old choir mates.

Artemesia Council.

The newly elected council for the township of Artemesia, for the year 1903, met in the town hall, Fleaserton, on Monday, Jan. 12th, 1903. There were present D. McTavish, reeve; A. Muir, R. Best and T. R. McKee, councillors. After each of the above named had subscribed and made the required declaration of qualifications and of office they took their seats at the township board. The minutes of a session of Dec. 15th and special session of Dec. 29, 1902, were read and confirmed.

The following communications were presented and read, viz:—From the Mayor's bank, statement showing amount on deposit as sinking fund of \$3,284.14, on account of school debentures; C. Bellamy and W. T. McKee, applications for the office of assessor for 1903; Joseph Blackburn and R. J. Sprule, application for the office of auditor. Accounts as follows were presented, viz: the clerk for election expenses \$74.00; W. H. Thurston for ballots and poll books \$14.70; G. Thompson for balance of council won 1902 \$6.00.

By-laws No. 621, to appoint an assessor, 622, to appoint auditors, and 623, and appoint a member of the local board of health for 1903, were introduced and read finally.

Mr Muir presented by-laws No. 621, 622 and 623, read up with the names of C. W. Bellamy, assessor; Joseph Blackburn and R. J. Sprule, auditors; S. W. St. Au, as member of the local board of health for 1903. These were ordered, read, sealed and entered in by-law book.

Muir—Best—That the following accounts for election expenses be paid: Div. 1, H. D. McLoughery, \$9; Div. 2, W. J. Bellamy, \$8; T. M. Binnion, \$9; Div. 4, D. McLeod, \$9; Div. 5, Geo. Tryon, \$9; Div. 6, S. Gilbert, \$9; Div. 7, J. W. Williams, \$9; Div. 8, T. F. Thompson, \$9, being D. R. O. fees and expenses of halls etc.; W. J. Bellamy, Returning Officer, delivering ballot boxes \$5; W. H. Thurston, poll books and ballots \$14.70.—Carried.

McKenzie—Muir—That the account of Geo. Thompson for balance of commission on expenditure of 1902, \$6 and \$1.16 for wire used on bridge got from Henry C. Irwin be paid.—Carried.

Best—McKenzie—That the council furnish Samuel Kingston and T. Manders with 5 cords of stove wood, they being in indigent circumstances.—Carried.

Muir—Best—That the clerk order six copies of the Municipal World for 1903 for the members of this council and the clerk.—Carried.

Muir—McKenzie—That the clerk have the town hall insured for \$500, to some good insurance company.—Carried.

McKenzie—Best—That the grant to Samuel Allen be raised to six dollars per month, the being in very needy circumstances at present.—Carried.

Best—Muir—That this council meet on the first Monday in each month during 1903, except the month of December, which will be on the 15th of said month.—Carried.—Advance.

Egremont Council.

Council met January 12th. Members elected subscribed to the required Declaration and took their seats as follows: D. McQueen, Reeve, Wm. McCallen, C. W. Robb, Thos. Giddon, as Councillors, D. McFadden absent owing to the impossible state of the roads.

Minutes of previous meeting confirmed.

Gordon—McFadden—That By-Law No. 156 for appointing Auditors be now read a first and second time.—Carried.

Robb—Gordon—That by-law No. 156 be filed in with the names of Jno. Ross and Jno. A. Swanston, salary \$8.00 each be now read a third time, signed, sealed, etc. Carried.

McFadden—Gordon—That By-Law No. 157 for appointing Health Officers be now read a first and second time.—Carried.

Robb—Gordon—That By-Law No. 157 be filed in with the names of Jas. Renwick and Dr. Sneath, Dr. Sneath, medical Health Officer together with the reeve and clerk and Wm. Caulfield, Jno. Snelton on the Board of Health, be now signed, sealed, etc.—Carried.

The reeve reported abatments to Arthur's bridge completed, and recommended payment of \$6 for 5 piles to Mr. Arthur for said abatments; also \$2 to J. Bilton for rep. culvert Egt and Arthur townline.

McFadden—Robb—That the reeve's report be adopted and orders granted, and he receive \$4 com. fees.—Carried.

Robb—McFadden—That \$20 be placed in Dr. Brown's hands for support to Mrs. Kerr for four months.—Carried.

McFadden—Gordon—That the clerk ask for tenders for a new bridge at lot 6, con. 5, for next session of council, span to be 80 feet, width 14 ft. Applicants to furnish their own Plans and Specifications.—Carried.

Robb—McFadden—That at our next meeting of Council we receive tenders for printing. Applications for Assessor, salary to be \$60, not including selecting jurors.—Carried.

Resolved that the following acc'ts be paid: Clerk registering By-law \$2; J. A. Lambers Ballots, etc., \$5; Times Printing Co. Election supplies \$6.00; A. Mitchell, express charges 65c.; Each D. R. Officer \$8.50; Clerk distributing ballots \$3; G. B. Flynn, Bal. on printing acct. \$5; W. Woolis gravel \$2.88; W. T. Petrie use of Hall, Nomination \$8.

Gordon—Robb—That we now adjourn to meet on Wednesday, Feb. 4th to receive the Auditor's Report, and general business.—Carried.

D. ALLAN, clerk.

Bulls for Sale.

Thoroughbred Durhams.—The undersigned offers for sale, one 2 yr. old bull, first prize taker during two past years. 2 yr.-old bulls, and 1 bull calf, all from thoroughbred stock, and from first class animals. Good pedigrees furnished. Thoroughbred Berkshire Pigs for sale. JOHN ECKHARDT, Bunessan, P. O.

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BENTINCK COUNCIL.

The members elect of the Bentinck Council for the year 1903 with the exception of Mr Cronin, met at Allan Park on Monday, Jan. 12th inst., and subscribed to the declaration of qualification and took their seats at the council board, the reeve in the chair. Minutes of December meeting read and passed. By-law No. 1 for 1903 was duly passed, appointing T. Stark and J. W. Vickers Auditors, Malcolm Campbell a member of the board of health for 3 years, Robt. Grierson road commissioner for Div. No. 1, Thos. Torry for No. 2, Robt. Leslie for No. 3, and F. Cronin for No. 4. The reeve to have charge of the bridges. The old clerk and treasurer were reappointed at previous salaries. The Reeve and Auditor Vickers were instructed to enquire into the Treasurer's Sureties and report at next meeting. The sum of \$4 each was ordered to be paid to D. H. O's at last municipal election, \$2 for each polling place and place of nomination meeting, and \$3 for distributing ballot boxes. The Reeve was paid \$2 and the Treasurer \$4 for preparing financial statement. James Smith and Mrs. Finerty, Indenture, were paid their first quarterly allowance of \$8 each. The Clerk was ordered to procure 6 copies of the Municipal World for use of Council and to receive applications for the office of Assessor up to noon on Wednesday the 4th day of February next. Council adjourned to meet at the Lorne House, Elmwood, on Wednesday, the 4th of Feb. next.—Post.

Farm for Sale.

That 200 acre farm in the Township of Gleneag, known as the McRae Farm. There is about 110 acres cleared and suitable for running machinery on, and the balance is principally of hardwood timber. There is supposed to be over 2000 cords of good cordwood ready for cutting. The farm is situated about six miles from Berkley, and ten miles from Durham. On the farm is a good frame house and cedar post barn. This farm will be sold at a bargain during the next sixty days. For further information or terms of sale apply to W. CALDER, Durham.



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