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HOLSTEIN LEADER

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Community Circle met on Monday evening, Feb. 13th. The meeting took the form of a skating party. It was well attended. After the party, all went to the United Church where lunch was served by Aura McGuire's group. The meeting closed with the National Anthem.

Mr. and Mrs. Beley of Hamilton, spent the week-end with Mrs. Beley's mother, Mrs. Drumm.

Miss Ruby Kerr of Toronto, spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Jordan, who has not been well. We hope for her a speedy recovery.

Miss Elsie Reid of Guelph and Mr. V. Dryden of Galt, were visitors with Mrs. Brebner and Mrs. T. J. Reid on Sunday.

Rev. Robert Honeyman of Durham preached morning and evening in the Presbyterian church on Sunday.

Mrs. Pike spent the week-end in Mount Forest visiting friends.

Miss Audrey Brown and her friend of Mt. Forest visited the former's mother, Mrs. J. W. Brown, Tuesday evening.

The United Church are putting on a play entitled "Mother Mine" in the A. R. Hall on evening of February 24.

The At Home of the Women's Institute will be held in Agricultural Hall on Thursday evening, Feb. 16. A good program is being provided. Lunch will be served. Come and enjoy an evening's fun.

The W.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church met at the home of Mrs. Frank Love on Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. There was a good attendance, the president, Mrs. Geo. Aitken presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. Aitken. The scripture lesson, Col. 1, was led alternately by Mrs. Aitken, followed by short prayers by Mrs. Switzer, Mrs. Jas. Nicholson and Mrs. James Smith. A reading from the life of Dr. Jonathan Goforth was given by Mrs. Bert Eccles, and a chapter from the Study Book on India, read by Mrs. W. Aitken. Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. C. McDougall sang a duet. Mrs. Love and her assistants served a dainty lunch.

DROMORE

The annual meeting of Amos church will be held in the basement of the church on Monday afternoon of this week.

Mr. Jas. Bunston and Arthur Eccles are going to Owen Sound this week as jury men.

Amos Young People will hold their meeting on Monday evening of this week at the home of Miss Dorothy McNulty.

Mr. Frank Adams and Leslie spent the week with an old school boy who used to go No. 13, who is down here on a visit from the West in person of Mr. Watt Renwick at the old home on the corner.

A successful crokinole social was held on Friday, evening last at the home of Mr and Mrs Alex Milne, when Frank Hopkins was the winner in the men's class and Mrs. Robt. Taylor was the winning lady.

The young people of this community are having lots of sport this winter, skating and playing hockey on their rink, and lots of fun shovelling off snow and had a game with the boys from the 16th con. Also so one with the boys at the Lake.

The sympathy of this community goes out at this time to Mrs. Willie Eccles owing to the recent death of her father, Mr. R. Lindsay near Durham.

Mr. Jas. Bunston has traded their farm on the 16th for a larger farm two miles south of Dundalk and intends moving with his wife and family around the first of March to their new farm.

DROMORE W. I. AT HOME
 The Dromore W. I. at Home will be held in Russell Hall on March 3rd. A good program including a play followed by a dance. Lucky tickets will be drawn. Admission 25c and 10c. Everybody Welcome.

DROMORE P. Y. S.
 Amos Young People's Society met at the home of Dorothy McNulty with a good attendance. The usual business part of the meeting followed the singing of the first hymn. Miss Bessie Drimie led the scripture, after which Mr. Kaye led in prayer. The missionary topic was read by Miss Russell Taylor and other readings were given by Dorothy and Alex Taylor. L. Eccles sang a solo.

The devotional part of the meeting was closed with the misap benediction. During the social hour which followed Florence Clark gave a humorous reading and Betty Taylor and June Small sang a duet. Games and contests were held, after which lunch was served.

OBITUARY

THE LATE ROBERT RENWICK

Last week we made a brief reference to the passing of this worthy Durham and Egremont pioneer, after a lengthy and useful life, in which he fearlessly and well served his God and his fellow men. His health had been failing for some months, the death of his life partner last October being a severe blow, and the last week or two, he had been bedfast.

The late Mr. Renwick was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland in 1852 and when a mere child of three years, crossed the ocean to Canada with his parents. The family settled at Port Credit and later went to Georgetown, where his father had a blacksmith and wagon shop.

Later they moved to Ferguson, and in the summer of 1860, came to Durham. Their first home here was on Elgin St. South; then for years they lived in a house at corner of Garafra and Saddle sts. opposite the present Ford Garage.

He attended the frame public school just north of the Public Library, and school days over, went to work for a farmer for \$3 a month with homemade clothes provided. He attended Hampden church, Rev. Patrick Greig then being the minister. He next worked a short time with Andrew Lindsay in Glenelg, and in 1866, the year of the Fenian Raid, was working in Smith's tannery. He could well recall the excitement prevailing at that time when word came from Owen Sound that the Fenians were going to come with a gunboat; the summons for the soldiers to prepare, and the commandeering of a wagon to convey them to Owen Sound.

When 14 years old, he went to work in Shield's sawmill, Yeovil, rented by Mr. Romains. The family eventually went to Holstein, then moved to Dromore district about 1870. There he worked for three years with a Mr. McCarty, with whom he finished his trade as a wagon maker. At the end of three years he purchased McCarty's business, and started making nearly everything a man would need—wagons, sleighs, washtubs, churns, window sash, doors, etc. In the year 1871, his mill was burned, but he promptly rebuilt, and continued in the milling business at Dromore until fifteen years ago, when he sold out to Mr. Thos. Johnston.

Mr. Renwick in 1875 chose as his bride Jane Hastie, daughter of the late James and Agnes Hastie, who proved a loyal helpmate to him for over sixty years, until her death four months ago. On New Year's day, 1936, they celebrated their diamond anniversary in Durham, surrounded by their family and friends. The family of six sons and two daughters are: Robert of Durham; James, teacher at Westlock, Alta; Hugh, of the Civil Service, Ottawa; Lewis, Manager of the Bank of Commerce, Palmerston; John of Toronto; Dr. Edgar, dentist of Lakefield; Miss Agnes, at home; Mrs. P. C. Litzter (Jean) of Vegreville, Alta. Also surviving are one sister, Mrs. Norris (Eliza) of Toronto and four brothers: William and Christopher of Toronto, Walter of Irma, Alberta, James of Dakota.

After giving up business in Dromore, Mr. Renwick retired from active life, and devoted much of his time in spring and summer months to his fine garden there. Eight years ago they moved to Durham, which has since been their home, and here also he cultivated a splendid garden.

When nineteen years of age, Mr. Renwick joined the church. Shortly after he became interested in Sunday School work, and ever since has been a life of devoted service to His Master. For over fifty years he was Sunday School Supt. of Amos Church, and since 1902, an elder in the church until his removal to Durham, since when he has been an elder in Durham Presbyterian Church. He was also a trustee and treasurer of Dromore school for many years.

All his life the deceased was an earnest temperance man. When the Temperance Society was organized in 1874 at Dromore he was made recording secretary, and his future bride, Jane Hastie, was also in office. It was first known as "the Sons of Temperance" and later became "the Good Templars." The members canvassed Egremont tp. for the voting on the Scott Act. Among the enterprises was the erection of a community hall, which proved a great gathering place for the young people and a good choir was organized.

While widely and popularly known far beyond the bounds of his adopted township, Mr. Renwick never sought a public life. He was a man who loved his home life and surroundings, and leaves a family who maintain his high principles and precepts.

After a private service in the home the funeral service was held in the Presbyterian church, the pastor Rev. S. W. Hirtle preaching a message of comfort to the bereaved, and paying tribute to the deceased's long life of service in the Master's work.

Beautiful flowers came from the family; from personal friends, the elders and managers of the Presbyterian church, and the Civil Service, Ottawa. The pall bearers were five grandsons: George, Robert, William and Herbert Renwick of Toronto and Durham; Robert Renwick, of Palmerston; and a nephew, Clarence Renwick of Irma, Alberta. Interment was made in Durham cemetery.

The relatives and friends from a distance were: Mr. P. C. Litzter of Vegreville, Alta.; Walter Renwick and son Clarence of Irma, Alta.; Hugh Renwick, Ottawa; Mr and Mrs John Renwick and George Renwick of Toronto; Mr and Mrs Geo. Cushnie and Mrs. Ernest of Mount Forest.

KNOX CORNERS

Our pastor gave his message on Sunday from the scripture passage, "Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity," Ephesians 6:24. He spoke of Pope Plus of his passing and at some length of Father Cabot who labored faithfully for years among the Indians at Cape Croker and was loved and respected by them and by those of other denominations who came in contact with him. Mr. Kaye knew him personally, and of his great love and service to these humble people.

Perhaps we are partial to our own denominations but let us not forget the words of Jesus, "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold" and of His rebuke to the disciples "He that is not against me is on my part" when they turned away the man who followed not with them. God who knows the hearts of men is the judge and He makes no mistakes. There were a number of boys and girls present on Sunday and the subject of Mr. Kaye's talk for them was "Helping one another."

Mr and Mrs David Marshall visited on Sunday with Mr and Mrs Wm. Marshall. We spent Sunday evening very pleasantly at the McAlister home. The meeting of the W.M.S. was in the church on Wednesday afternoon, Feb 8th with an attendance of 13. Opened by singing hymn 376 and Mrs Marshall, Sr. led in prayer. Mrs Harold Watson read the scripture lesson. The study was on India. Mrs R. J. Marshall read of its vast population and different forms of religions, but Christianity is increasing faster than the population. Mrs Wilton read of the mighty Christian influence pervading this great land. Mrs Harold Watson read of the Blis and of their crude and humble ways of living Mrs Wilfred Peter read of typical happenings in an Indian village. Miss Margaret Marshall read of the strange customs of the people. The roll call was answered by scripture verses on "Serve." Decided that we contribute for a Life Membership this year. Miss T. E. Byers closed the meeting with prayer.

Mrs Stanley Mountain and Susie Marshall visited on Friday afternoon with Mrs Wm. Marshall while the men had a wood-bee. We were glad to spend the afternoon with them.

Mr and Mrs Stanley Mountain visited recently with Mr and Mrs W. Charlton in Bentinck.

Bren Gun Contract Hotly Attacked

MISS MACPHAIL'S WEEKLY LETTER

We have had a week of it! A week of guns—machine guns—Bren machine guns—"big guns!" They rat-a-tat-tatted, volley after volley all through the week, until one's head reeled. It was a fearful war, with attack and counter-attack. We are temporarily resting behind the lines but will move in again on Monday.

But, to digress. There will not be an election in 1939; that's my guess. There were many indications that the government was contemplating going to the country this year—increased estimates for public works, Mr Mackenzie King's habit of going to the country not later than the fourth year, the United States, Brit-

ish and Canadian trade treaties providing the issue. But the whole picture has been changed.

The fall of governmental Spain, the increasing pressure of Germany on Czechoslovakia, the demands of Italy, their effect on the economic and international relations of the democracies so that they no longer can be offered as an election issue. Some other issue must be found. Some solution for economic problems offered. Time allowed for the smoke and sound of the Bren guns to clear away. How ineffective the trade treaties are in absorbing Canada's surplus cattle was well brought out in a question by Mark Senn, Cons. member for Haldimand. He asked the Min. of Agriculture, Mr. Gardiner if the quota of 60,000 cattle allowed for the United States under the treaty, for the first 3 months of 1937 had already been filled. He asked if the 60,000 allowed in included Mexican as well as Canadian cattle. Mr. Gardiner replied that the quota is exhausted for the first quarter of the year, and that Mexican cattle have taken up 45 per cent of the number. In other words, Canada's share was about 33,000 head.

It is obvious that something more effective than this must be offered as a solution for agricultural problems. The government is borrowing to pay maturing debts—borrowing from Peter to pay Paul—to the extent of \$750,000,000, so Mr. Dunning told the House. And in the same brief speech he told the Commons that the high officials of the Bank of Canada—Graham Towers, the Governor, and others—will be asked to come before the Banking & Commerce Committee to acquaint the members with the workings of the Central Bank. Mr. H. H. Stevens, speaking in this connection, said that the currency in circulation in Canada, per capita, is only about half what it is in United States, Britain and Australia. He would undoubtedly take up the matter with the Governor of the Bank when opportunity offers.

In my opinion, our stringent money—lack of currency and credit—is one cause of low prices and high unemployment figures.

To return to the Bren guns, the real issue in the controversy seems to be that the gov't has gone back on its former position, of the manufacture of armaments under public ownership without profit, and has been inveigled into private manufacture, with patronage and profit, by the persuasive Major Hahn.

We have just had the most exciting debate of this Parliament. Such name calling, lava terms, jeering and pounding of desks!

The attack on the government was well handled by Manion, MacNeil, Stevens, Douglas, Cahon, Coldwell, Massey, Homuth and many others. They claimed that patronage had been the determining factor in awarding the Bren gun contract. They claimed that young Hugh Plaxton M. P., had told the Prime Minister that a group of his friends were fully equipped to manufacture the Bren gun when they were not, and when two of them were his own brothers.

They claimed, further, that Plaxton told around Major Hahn, the promoter of the idea, introduced him to the Dep. Min. of National Defence, LaFleche and later, to the Minister of National Defence, Mackenzie, procuring a letter of introduction for him from the Minister to the Canadian High Commissioner in London, Vincent Massey.

They claimed that pressure was brought to bear on the Prime Minister, in his capacity as Minister of External Affairs by the Department of National Defence, to induce him to sponsor Major Hahn in London by means of cabled instructions to Vincent Massey. (There is a possibility that the Prime Minister, personally, had little to do with the cable.)

They claimed that Major Hahn's plant (the John Inglis Company) was a broken-down boiler factory, closed two years, and that Hahn's experience as a washing machine and radio manufacturer did not qualify him to go into the field of precision steel, nor did his experience in liquidation commend him as a financial genius.

They (the attackers) claimed that the British Government hung back not relishing dealing with an individual; wanting, rather, the manufacture of the guns to be carried out in government-owned plants in Canada, but, due to constant pressure from the Canadian government, finally gave way and agreed to do business with Major Hahn. They claimed that no other manufacturer was given a chance.

They claimed, too, that the contract, as signed, was a good one for Hahn but not good for the Canadian government, and that one sec-

tion of it provided for the payment of \$20,000 expense money to Major Hahn and his associates for preliminary work in obtaining this very lucrative business for themselves—a four million dollar order.

The Hon. Ian Mackenzie was called careless, negligent, incompetent, improvident, incapable of his high office, and his resignation was suggested.

No one could watch of the Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King through this very contentious debate and yet believe that he approved, in his heart, of what he done by the Minister of National Defence in regard to this contract. He looked sad. He listened attentively to every speech and he certainly wasn't happy when Ian Mackenzie was speaking. (It was nauseating.) It was only when the battering guns of the government defence—Gardiner, Howe Slaght, Bradette, Pouliot and, particularly, Gerry McGeer—were turned on its critics that he relaxed and smiled. His relief and almost enjoyment was especially noticeable when Gerry McGeer was making his telling defence. Gerry has both wit and weight and on this occasion he employed both in the service of his party. Messrs King, Lapointe and Dunphy, the big three, smiled, waved and victory their thanks to Gerry; a great victory for the monetary reformer.

After Colonel Drew's charge, in an article in Maclean's Magazine, that there was patronage and possibly corruption in connection with the Bren gun contract, an inquiry was set up under Mr Justice Davis, one of the Supreme Court Judges. The investigation went on for weeks and, finally, Justice Davis made his report based on the pal findings: first, that there was no evidence of corruption and, second, that a defence purchasing board be established which would report direct to the Finance Minister, or the Prime Minister.

The second recommendation does seem a clear inference that Mr. Justice Davis was not satisfied with the manner in which the Defence Department had handled the Bren gun contract.

He also stated: "It will be for those charged with the responsibility of dealing with the facts (that is, the government and parliament) to examine and study them and take such action, if any, as they may see fit."

That further examination may be given facts, Mr. Grant MacNeil asked that the whole matter be referred to the Public Accounts Committee. The Prime Minister supports Mr. MacNeil. But the Conservatives asked for the cancellation of the contract and, when denied this by the Speaker's ruling, they moved for the discussion to take place in the Committee-of-the-Whole which is the House of Commons with the Speaker out of the Chair.

Agnes C. Macphail.
 Ottawa, Saturday February 11, 1939.

AUCTION SALE

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Walkerton Hotel Enlarges Beverage Room

The Walkerton Herald-Times says: "How the tail is wagging the dog is demonstrated that in the opening of beverage rooms to boost accommodation in the rest of the hotel, which was said to be so lagging that travellers in many towns were kicking like stage donkeys at what they had to put up at and with while on the road, has blossomed into a boom end of the business taking on a boom that would make a gold digger's union weep with envy and feel that they were a bunch of pickers in the get-rich-quick game."

In extending their sitting saloon to almost the entire width of the easterly section of their premises the Queen's Hotel management are doubtlessly out to make hay while the sun shines and in this they are showing which way the wind is blowing, for men don't build bigger barns unless they anticipate bigger harvests. The drink evil is on the upgrade and what goes for booze must subtract from the family budget, the extending of beverage rooms throughout the country is being ac-

companied by the growth of relief lists. As no nation ever drank itself into prosperity, so increasing the facilities for getting liquor in any town can hardly be referred to as a great community asset, or an economic stride for bigger and better business commercially or for healthier happier homes in the place. Far be it from us to discourage the growth of any other part of an hotel. There are hotels that are a joy upon the earth, where a man pays his bills as cheerfully as he did the parson who married him, where you can't find the landlord unless you hunt in the kitchen, where the servants glide around like angels of mercy, where the beds fit a man's back like the feathers on a goose, and where the victuals taste just as though your wife, or your mother, had fried them. These kind of hotels ought to be built on wheels and travel around the country; they are as full of real comfort as a thanksgiving pudding, but alas! yes, alas! they are as unpliant as double-yolked eggs."

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CANADIAN NATIONAL

It came as a shock to the town and community the death of Mrs. W. J. P. after an illness of a few days on Sunday, Feb. 15th, 1939. Mrs. Ritchie, a poor health for over the end came suddenly but two days past her 60th birthday.

The deceased was Picken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Picken, who in Fenwick, Scotland, father died, but in 1875 of age, she came out to her mother and brother settled at Orchard, and farm on 2nd con. Bentinck 1904 she was in charge to Mr. W. J. P. the well-known Ritchie sons, and took up her abode on the south line, Bentinck side of the southerly where they lived until to Durham in the fall leaves to mourn her sorrowing husband and Barbara of the Bell T. and Anna of Co-Operative both at home. Three survive her: John Picken; Andrew of No. William of Bentinck; and Robert predecessor months ago.

The late Mrs. Ritchie quiet and kindly domestic homemaker, and possessor of friends who regret her passing. She had been a member of the Knox Church, latterly Knox United, a regular worshipper, health.

The funeral service Knox Church, Tuesday, Feb. 17th, 1939, at 11 a.m., was largely attended, Rev. W. H. Smith, officiating. Burial in the cemetery. Comforting messages from friends were received. A male quartette, Miss Bailey, Padfield and "That Beautiful Land" were Mrs. W. J. P. W. Petty, Murray Roy, Rutherford, The Rev. a cousin Harold Fowler, nephews: Cliff Ritchie, Raymond, Clifford and Garry.

Beautiful floral offering the family: Knox Church; Women's Institute; Club; Durham Co-Op; Telephone Co.; Mr. T. W. and Mrs. T. C. M. Ritchie and Betty Picken Sr.; Jean and Mr and Mrs. Roy; Mr and Mrs. D. M. S. L. Saunders; Mrs. N. Norman Greenwood; Ruby Vainin.

Friends from a distance the funeral were: Mr. Fowler, Mr and Mrs. Mrs C. Muntz, and Mrs. E. McKay, Miss Ferguson, of Fenwick, Mr. Ferguson, of Fenwick, Mr. Sim and Mr. McGuire, Holstein.

MISS MARY
 After a few days Mary Mullen died on Tuesday, Feb. 15th, 1939. Mr. John Bell in G. of Durham, where she taking ill, subsequently she has lived across the last 35 years. She died on April 3rd next, seen her 85th birthday. Deceased was born and formerly lived in

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