

HOUSE OF REFUGE

Statistics Presented by Reeve Naylor, Deseronto, to THE ONTARIO

Provisions consumed on table \$5,073.25, an increase of \$400.94 over 1916 or an average of about \$4.00 per person over 1916.

Value of produce from the farm to the house in 1917, \$2303.94, an increase of \$119.10 over 1916.

Supplies on hand at the Refuge on Dec. 31st, 1917, totalled in value \$2032.00.

Livestock at the Refuge includes 3 cows (\$300.00); 2 horses (\$600.00); 1 horse (\$50.00); 1 horse (\$140.00); 4 pigs (\$200.00); 2 calves (\$40.00) and 120 hens (\$78.00)—a total of \$1,908.00 as against \$1,515.00 for 1916.

The farm produced in 1917: Cash receipts, \$1,210.87; from farm to house, \$2,303.92; hay on hand, \$300.00; barley and oats \$547.00; potatoes \$250.00; straw, \$50.00; 50 tons ensilage corn on hand, \$200.00; 4 pigs, \$200.00—total, \$5,201.79. The 1916 production was \$4,066.97.

Cash received from inmates, \$429.20.

Cash paid County Treasurer, \$1,210.87.

Quantity of hay produced, 65 tons as against 80 tons for the previous year.

Quantity of potatoes in 1917, 291 bushels against 250 in 1916.

From 7 cows' milk and butter was derived \$1,421.72 and from 110 hens, \$278.10.

Expenditure as per treasurer's books was \$16,563.84, which includes \$4,000.00 paid for house and lot. This leaves balance of \$12,563.84, which with provisions \$2303.92 from farm to house makes total \$14,867.76 with \$1640.07 deducted for cash sales and paying patients, cost of house in 1917, was \$13,227.69, as against \$10,995.75 in 1916.

Average cost of inmates in 1917—\$127.79 per year or \$2.45 per week. In 1916 it was \$2.27 per week or \$118.34.

During 1917, fifteen men and 10 women inmates died. The average age at death was 77 years. In 1917 there were 27 commitments, 13 men and 14 women. Four were discharged and one absconded.

Blind in House, 7; mutes, 3; inmates totalled 94 on Dec. 31st, with 96 as average for year. Average age is 76 years. Ages run from 4 months to 90 years.

Number of visitors in 1917 was 1,242.

Thoughts by the Way After the Storm

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

The storm is over. (at least for a time) the snow has ceased falling, and white and spent with its long struggles, the old earth lies quietly under its muffling mantle. It seems to hold in its motionless bosom the spirit of silence and death, but it is not death, but rest and sleep and peace.

"Like the great rest that cometh after pain. The calm that follows storm, the great surcease. This folding slumber comforts wood and plain in one white mantling peace."

W. Wilfred Campbell

The Red Cow

Peter McArthur, in his lectures and essays on farm life and its conditions, is, in his humorous way, attracting the attention of the city dweller to the country. His lecture, "The Red Cow," the proceeds of which are used to augment the Red Cross Fund, has furnished a subject for this column, in its "Scenes from Rural Life."

The Red Cow is not so common among the farmers' herds as in years past, the black and white Holstein displacing the old-fashioned Red Cow to a remarkable extent. However, some are yet seen, and frequently hold their own with those of renowned spots.

A quarter of a century ago it was the writer's proud privilege to possess a large red cow of the Durham breed. She was a gift from the home farm, several miles away. She was a cow to leave her native home, but after much difficulty (which can only be appreciated by those who have attempted to drive a bovine from its native abode) it was brought to its new abode. The farmer being young and inexperienced, made inadequate provisions against the Red Cow's escape, resulting in its soon leaving its new home to return to the scenes of its youth. Therefore, one bright morning in early fall, the dwellers of the home farm were surprised to see the Red Cow hurrying homeward up the old familiar lane and sending forth in the clear morning air a joyful greeting to its former associates.

The young farmer soon discovered the loss of his cow and immediately set out on another long tramp to drive her back. More unwillingly than at first she returned and with a look of dogged determination in her usually mild eye, for at the earliest opportunity homeward she again turned her steps, greeting her friends with her old-time warmth and pleasure. Another weary trudge

for the farmer, who this time made her secure, but she failed to recover from her homesickness until a black cow, another of the home herd, was brought to keep her company. Then she seemed perfectly content to abide in her new pastures.

The Red Cow, however, was well worth the trouble which was obtained for her. She repaid all the efforts of care and good feed by filling a large pail to overflowing with milk. She lived long enough to leave behind her man other red cows who kept up the good reputation of their ancestress. Finally, however, having outlived her usefulness, she was sold leaving other red cows to take her place.

Gradually, as the black and white spotted cows became fashionable (for styles in cows change as do styles in attire), the red cows were gradually displaced by the Holsteins until but three were left last year in the herd. Of these the largest one, a huge yellowish-red cow, was a splendid jumper. She certainly would have taken the prize for jumping if one had been given at the county fair. The farmer in his way was a trainer of jumping cows although he sorely denies the imputation. When the red cow jumped out of a field, he invariably made her jump back again where she had jumped out, saying, if she could jump the fence one way she could jump the other. In vain his wife protested against such a proceeding, for back over the fence she gracefully leaped propelled by the farmer's switch behind her. Being a powerful animal, if the fence were not strongly put up, she would simply walk through it, thus blazing the trail for the others of the herd, that were not such supple jumpers. Often, when all were feeding quietly, the red cow becoming restless, would lift her head and seek a place of exit, leading the others into a luscious corn or wheat field. Finally, the farmer's patience having become exhausted with her too-frequent circus performances, he decided to sell her. Being a large she was readily sold for a neat sum. And now but one Red Cow is left, the baby that knows her name perfectly and is a living image of the first Red Cow of twenty-five years ago. She is queen of the yard and rules with absolute sway over the timid black and whites. She serves as a connecting link, uniting the present with the past, and recalls to the farmer and his wife the days of long ago, when they began their inexperienced farm life with the first Red Cow.

—Wayfarer.

THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

HOW THE PRE-ELECTION ISSUE UP BY THE HAMILTON POLICE

It is an acknowledged fact that never before in a political campaign has printers' ink used with such reckless lavishness as it was in connection with the recent federal elections. Flaming and the newspapers fairly screamed with advertising matter advocating union government. The London Advertiser was practically the only paper in Ontario which stuck to its old policy of supporting the brilliant leader of the opposition, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and that its principles struck a responsive chord in the hearts of many Canadians is perhaps best demonstrated by the fact that its circulation was increased by 30,000. Montreal and Toronto admirers of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, feeling that the views of their honored leader were deserving of more publicity in Ontario, contracted with the Hamilton Times for the publication of a daily morning paper called "The Grit," and for fully two weeks prior to the election this decidedly breezy and exceptionally well written campaign journal kept all available space and many regulars very busy. Some of the best political writers and cartoonists in Canada were engaged in its production, and that their efforts were appreciated is amply emphasized by the fact that at the end of two weeks The Grit had a circulation of 60,000. The last issue of The Grit before election day was on the press about to be run off when a squad of policemen and detectives entered the printing establishment and threatened to arrest anyone who attempted to start the press. They produced a warrant which purported to empower them to stop the issue on the ground that the paper contained seditious matter. The editor of The Grit immediately expressed his willingness to submit a proof of every page of the issue, but there appeared to be no desire to see a proof—the press must not be started. The issue must not be circulated, and several policemen slept in the press-room all night to see that this order was rigidly carried out. During the forenoon of the following day police officers ordered that the plates of the edition be destroyed, and three of them stood over the stereotypers and saw that the plates were melted up.

Later, Chief of Police Wheatley reported that all proceedings had been dropped and that the edition could be run off. But in the meantime irreparable damage had been done. The police had refused to allow the big Saturday pre-election issue to be printed in time to catch the mail trains to the different sections of Ontario. But the promoters of The Grit were not to be muzzled or crushed, and got out a forenoon edition on Saturday afternoon, the election taking place on the following Monday. With the aid of available trains and high-powered motor cars this edition was circulated in many parts of Ontario.

The warrant which stopped the publication was sworn out at the instance of Sanford D. Biggar, K.C., head of the Tory party in Hamilton, and was issued by Magistrate Jelfs. When asked on what authority he issued the warrant the magistrate said:

"The information was in writing, signed by S. D. Biggar. It is at my house now, so I cannot give you the exact words, but I can tell you what it said. It said that The Grit was about to publish a statement to the effect that every cross for Borden on the ballot paper, would be a cross on a grave of some Canadian soldier in France. Also, he was given to understand that a cartoon showing the crosses on the soldiers' graves in France and the crosses on the ballot papers was to be printed.

P. K. Bates, of Montreal, business manager of The Grit, and Mr. Lane, the editor, emphatically denied that there was any intention to publish such a cartoon or story.

Commenting on the action of the police in seriously hampering its most important issue, The Grit said:

"The whole proceeding was absolutely illegal and was evidently a political anti-election dodge.

It certainly bore many of the earmarks of another attempt to muzzle the Liberal press.

The Grit stands by its record. It has played the game fairly in this wartime election.

We appeal to our readers, the thousands who have welcomed us so warmly, if they have read anything in our pages that could be construed into seditious. We will be glad to abide by their verdict, and by that, too, of all fair-minded men who are not of our political way of thinking.

CRITICAL ON WEST FRONT

COOL. REPINGTON SAYS SO

Assaults War Cabinet—Total of British Casualties But Little Higher Than That of French Killed

London, Jan. 28.—The situation on the western front is now critical, in the opinion of Colonel C. A. Repington, one of the foremost English military critics, who recently resigned from the Times and became military correspondent of the Morning Post. In his first contribution to the Post, which appears in today's issue, he criticizes Premier Lloyd George and the War Cabinet severely, because, he asserts, they have failed to maintain the strength of the British armies in the west, thereby creating the present conditions.

Enemy Strength

Col. Repington begins his article by saying that he intends not to touch matters. The Germans, he says, now have 165 divisions on the western front, or more than all the Allies combined, excluding the Italian theatre. The number of German troops is being increased, he adds at the rate of seven to fifteen divisions monthly, and may be expected to reach more than 200 divisions as soon as it is possible to concentrate them. The arrival of some Austrian forces also is to be expected and news already has come of the appearance of Austrian troops in Belgium.

Series of Attacks

Remarking that the accumulation of this immense force may be either to support negotiations or for a grand attack, the writer says all the evidence points to the impending delivery of a series of great attacks.

Reviewing the strength of Great Britain's allies, Repington writes: "The American troops are not coming in as fast as some sanguine estimates forecast, but I feel sure that General Bridges, who accompanied Mr. Balfour to the U.S. must have given the War Cabinet a pretty accurate forecast. The American army can only be a contingent during the next few months. This is all the more reason why we, this year, should place every available man in the field.

France's Great Losses

"I want to tell the people of England, particularly those ministerial politicians who beat about our losses, that our total casualties in killed, wounded and missing since the war began are but little higher than the number of French dead. The only suitable recognition we can make of French heroism is to help them now in their hour of need."

Blames Political Strategy

Declaring that the British armies in France have not been maintained adequately since the death of Lord Sticher, Col. Repington says that "political strategy is first among the present critical situation on the western front." He reiterated his previous criticism respecting the dispersing of British forces in distant theatres of war, and warmly condemns "the failure of our War Cabinet, particularly the present Cabinet, to prolong the Kitchener policy of continually reinforcing our armies in the field with fresh divisions.

Damning Indictment

"Field Marshal Haig's recent statements that his drafts did not reach him in time to be properly trained and that he had lost 131 German divisions with half that number," he adds, "is the most damning indictment of the War Cabinet that could have been made."

Forced Haig's Course

When Mr. Lloyd George became Premier, Col. Repington goes on, he rejoiced because he thought it meant more vigorous prosecution of the war, and particularly the utilization of millions of civilians, but he found that it meant nothing of the sort. Pursuing his criticism of the Lloyd George Cabinet, he declares that "by imposing upon Haig a certain course of action, contrary to that agreed upon at the allied conference of Nov. 1916, the Cabinet incurred grave responsibility."

He says further that each man at the front has had to do the work of two, "because the Premier has lacked the courage to tell the country the truth and to pass on to the public the advice he must have received from any general staff conscious of its duty.

"The most favorable construction I can place on the Premier's inaction," he adds "is that he was gambling for peace by Christmas. But, in spite of his innumerable speeches, no peace came."

In this strain the writer proceeds at great length. He charges the

DECRYING THE DOCK

The City Council, at its meeting on Monday night, gave hearty consideration to the proposal to construct a public wharf in the harbor, and decided to submit the necessary by-law to the vote of the ratepayers. This action should have been taken long years ago. Better late than never, however, if the city fathers are confident that the finances of the corporation warrant the outlay. There can be no question but that the merchant interests of the city will be wonderfully stimulated by the increased trade such accommodation will encourage and attract. Kingston will also derive a great deal of praise and wide spread publicity as a city not afraid to take a radical step to promote her own interests, and to express in concrete form her appreciation of the visitors who come to her markets to trade.

Mr. Wright expressed in council his plain opinion of anonymous criticism of the project and of the insinuating innuendo that he had "an axe to grind." It is only fair to the Whig to explain in this paper for publication, but that same was declined unless the writer would agree to sign his name to it. This condition not being met, publicity was refused. Such action was simply in accordance with the Whig's policy, frequently announced, that it would not publish letters to the editor except over the bona fide name of the writer. Years of experience had shown that the man who wishes to hide his identity behind a nom de plume, and who refuses to come out into the open, usually has some selfish, indefensible or ulterior purpose in view. Aside from the principle involved, no publisher who valued his own place of mind could well afford to admit anonymous correspondence, on public topics, to his columns.

It is a hopeful sign, a good omen of the future, to see the council practically unanimous in its support of a project calculated to advance the city's interests. This city will never develop as it should until we rid ourselves of factions, strife and earning criticism. Enthusiasm, optimistic team-work is needed to accomplish anything worth while. That is the secret of the success obtained by other cities, and it is good to see that this spirit is abroad in Kingston.—Whig.

METHODISTS BUY BUILDING

Methodists at Postopol have purchased the vacated Presbyterian church rather than build one to replace their own building burned a year ago. It is in such cases as this that church union is a necessity and any delay in bringing it about is foolishly wasteful. The pastor, Rev. A. McLaughlin, B.A., who is just recovering from three months' serious illness, has been quarantined by an outbreak of scarlet fever in the home.

COUNTY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were made at the County Council yesterday:—

Madoc High School Trustee—Rev. A. E. Smart.

Deseronto High School Trustee—N. G. Carter.

Trenton High School Trustee—Walter Potts.

Stirling High School Trustee—R. Elliott.

Tweed High School Trustee—W. S. Gordon.

SITUATION IS SERIOUS

Port Hope.—It has been brought to the attention of the Town Council in no uncertain way, that the coal situation must be very judiciously handled. De-voles will do their part by only making deliveries of orders where there is urgent necessity and do that impartially.

Those who have been fortunate enough to get the writer's supply delivered should be as liberal as possible in sharing with his less fortunate neighbor. All consumers must use the least possible amount to keep moderately warm.

There has been cases where small children have been put to bed to keep warm, not because the family had no money for coal, but because there was no coal to be bought.

CAUGHT IN SHAFT

Tweed.—While throwing on a belt at the Deseronto Milling Company's plant this afternoon, Simon Langevin, of town got his coat caught in a belt and he was thrown around the shaft. The injuries resulting were a compound fracture of one leg below the knee and two broken ribs. Mr. Langevin has been working at the mill for the past four months and lives over Miss Courvay's store, Victoria street.

MADOC

Mrs. Arthur Coe and daughter, Miss Lola, left last week for a visit to relatives in Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Harry McEain, of Hanford, Man., is the guest of his father, Mr. W. H. McEain.

Miss Alice Wood returned last week from visiting Mrs. S. Ross, at Bowmanville. The same day she was called to Montreal on account of the illness of her niece, Mrs. J. Snow.

William Anson Jones passed away to his eternal rest at his home in Madoc township on December 20th, 1917, aged 72 years and 8 months, 17 days. He was born on the farm where he always lived. He was married in 1875 to Jennina Todd, who survives him. He leaves to mourn his loss a widow and one son at home and an adopted daughter in the States.—Review.

START RANCHING ON WASTE LANDS

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT WILL LAUNCH UPON IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT

Survey of Northern Lands Shows Vast Acreage Suitable

As a first step toward building up in the waste lands of the province a great sheep and cattle ranching industry the Ontario Government is to establish a five-thousand-acre ranch, probably in the Parry Sound district. The plans which are now receiving the consideration of the experts of the Department of Agriculture, will be put into operation during the coming summer, when the ranch will be located, buildings erected, etc., and arrangements made for putting stock on the land the following spring.

For many months past, R. H. Harding, of Thorndale, a well-known cattle trader, has, under instructions from the Department of Agriculture, been conducting a general survey of waste lands in the northern sections of the eastern counties and the districts of Muskoka, Parry Sound, Timiskaming, Algoma and Sudbury. That survey, recently completed, proved that vast areas of land in the province that were "unsuitable for general farming owing to the "pocket" nature of the good soil, would make practically the ideal ranching territory. There is a large acreage of good pasture and, particularly in districts which have been lumbered over, the numerous lakes and streams provide natural fencing, and there is plenty of good soil for raising hay and other fodder crops to carry stock through the winter. All the information required is being tabulated and in the future when more interested in ranching go to the Department of Agriculture for definite data, it will be available. Hitherto while it was realized that great areas of waste lands were suitable for ranching, the Department had no definite knowledge of the location of suitable ranching areas and very little idea of the prospects for fodder crops or the possibilities for winter shelter for stock.

Outlook is Bright

It is to supplement the information already gained in respect to the land that the Government is undertaking experimental ranching. A central site will be chosen with the natural conditions as near average as they can be found. Experiments will then be carried on to determine the best type of shelter for the country, the cattle that thrive best on the fodder crops most suited to the soil and the northern climatic conditions, and through these experiments and the capacity of given areas to support stock. Breeding experiments will also be a part of the ranch activities.

The survey recently completed, found about forty ranches established, running from 600 to 30,000 acres. Most of these were cattle ranches, though a few were raising sheep. Almost without exception they were found to be doing fairly well.

Mr. Harding, in his report, states that the waste lands surveyed are capable of finishing each year thousands of head of cattle, and voices his opinion that the man who takes hold of the proposition in a business way, selects good stock, and watches the market, can depend upon substantial returns. Mr. Harding believes that the lands are better suited for raising cattle than for sheep, owing to the danger from wolves and bears making occasional forays.

WAR VETERANS

Picton is to have a branch of the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada. The town council is considering the matter of providing rooms for the accommodation of returned soldiers whose numbers have increased until there are sufficient to form a strong branch in Prince Edward county. The Great War Veterans' Association of Canada has a simple and honorable pedigree. It is the result of spontaneous effort on the part of the returned soldiers to help themselves and the natural growth of a devotion and a meeting place by means of which topics of common interest might be examined and discussed. As soldiers drifted back from Europe in the latter half of 1915 they naturally sought one another's society to discuss their experiences and problems, and in various places local associations were formed whose membership gradually grew to considerable numbers. They performed excellent local services in caring for their less fortunate members, helping dependents and voicing grievances and won the respectful support of their several communities. But there was no means of co-operation of effort between the various associations; problems had to be faced and the able minds realized that some central link of organization was a vital necessity. Accordingly in the Spring of 1917 the local associations were invited to send delegates to a national convention at Winnipeg. This convention was attended by representatives from more than fifty local associations. The proceedings were marked by great harmony and keen enthusiasm and on April 18th, 1917, The Great War Veterans' Association of Canada was born. Its active membership is confined to those who have been overseas in the present war, but an associate membership is conferred upon all who have seen service in some war of the British Commonwealth or have been enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. No distinction is drawn between officers and privates and all are made welcome to the comradeship of the Association upon the verification of their credentials. The Great War Veterans' Association of Canada has now a membership of over twenty-five thousand which is daily swelling.

DEAD

NELSON.—In Sidney Township, on Wed., Jan. 23, 1918, Peter M. Nelson, in his 74th year.

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