

LUNN'S WEEKLY

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THE ANOMALIES OF THE SINKING FUND

Truro People Have Put \$86,000.00 into Banks for Benefit of the next Generation

Are Contributing Large Sums Annually to Repay First Costs Besides Maintaining value and Efficiency

A brief peep into the report issued by the Town Council of Truro reveals a most astonishing feature of the burdens put on tax-payers of the present day by the Local Legislature.

Every year the people of the town are required to pay into the banks a sum exceeding \$8,500 for purposes which are set out—that is, to repay loans obtained for the making of permanent improvements that will be of more practical benefit to the next and succeeding generations than it is to this.

There is on deposit in the banks the enormous sum of \$86,000.00, to which interest is added annually, which has been collected from the rate-payers within a few recent years and which will be bequeathed to the next generation without having been of any particular or practical value to the present generation.

Above is a somewhat arbitrary statement when one considers the grave reasons put forth by financiers and legislators as to the necessity of putting away each year something for the redemption of obligations entered into.

But the arguments of the latter are susceptible to criticism.

For instance, A large amount of money has been borrowed for the installation of the very fine and comprehensive water system maintained at the present date.

Some will say we are getting the good of this water system now; that we have been getting the good of it right along.

Is that so? Perhaps so. And may be we have been paying for all the good we have been getting out of it right along, in addition to putting up the money which has cleared or will clear off the first cost and to hand it over to the next generation without an obligation depending upon them.

How does this view of the question strike you, Messrs. Ratepayers.

The Water Department charges you enough to pay the interest on the investment, and to maintain it in good condition. Indeed the charge is greater than this; for the fact is that the Water Department

What Kind of Public Building Will Ratepayers Invest In

SHALL TRURO HAVE A THEATRE FOR MERE AMUSEMENT OR A PUBLIC MARKET FOR FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN

Speculative Investment With Hope of Attracting Playgoers and Gratifying Taste For Drama and Vaudeville Should Be Undertaken by Private Parties

The proposition to erect a Town Office Building is again on the tapis.

Well, we are not opposed to progress. We believe in it. A nice Town Building would give Truro a more progressive appearance at all events.

However, we are not in favor of a Town Building with opera-housing accomodation.

We believe the masses of the people are more interested in cheaper living than in the prospect of mere amusement.

The work-a-day people of Truro who are forced to pay two prices for food, are not in a position to pay Opera House prices for two or three hours amusement.

Taking this view of the matter, LUNN'S WEEKLY stands for a Town Building with market attachment.

A substantial building with Public Marketing accommodations on the ground floor and Town Offices and Private offices, etc., on the second and third stories would be an advantageous sure investment.

Truro is a work-a-day people's town; therefore, problems of making wages meet the increasing cost of living, and leaving a small margin on the profit side to the wage-earner, is a most important question to the masses of the residents of the town; it is the duty of the men who constitute the government of the town to take the matter of cheaper living into most earnest consideration.

ment is not only self-sustaining, but part of the revenues are applied to making up deficits in the other department expenditures, which you imagine are maintained by direct taxation.

From 1875 to the present date the people of Truro—a single generation—have taxed themselves to the extent of providing practically permanent improvements to the value of \$400,000.00, of which the Water Works System is valued at \$225,000.00. This latter asset is clear to a very large extent.

In fact we believe that only \$24,000 or \$25,000, borrowed for recent improvements, remains to be paid off.

For the maintenance of this system the sum of \$4,200 is estimated as necessary. The revenue, however, is estimated at \$12,000.

This surplus of revenue over maintenance is used for what purposes?

Well, some of it is taken to pay the interest on outstanding loans for recent Water Works extensions. Some of it goes into the sinking fund to

make these extensions, practically a gift to the next generation; and the balance is applied to other uses.

The above is a striking example of how the present generation of taxpayers is made to toe the mark too promptly and too heavily in the effort to dispose of existing liabilities; because many of these liabilities represent expenditures on permanent work which will be as good fifty years hence or a hundred years hence as they are now; because we are all the time maintaining it in the best condition out of our present earnings, as well as repaying the first cost.

We pay for the water we use; full value to the utmost and for upkeep and maintenance in the best condition out of our present earnings, as well as repaying the first cost.

We pay for the water we use full value to the utmost fraction; and for upkeep and maintenance full value; and for first cost full value; and toward other things a share. All this within a reasonably short average lifetime.

And then we hand the value

The cheapening of many articles of general consumption for food can be brought about by furnishing a Public Market, so that consumers can obtain from the producers, who are the farmers, in a direct way, thus saving both the cost of handling and the profit of the middle-man.

We think we have said enough for the present along this important line of civic and trade policy.

LUNN'S WEEKLY will gladly support a Town building with Market attachment; but not a Town Building with Play House attachment.

Make living cheaper and the people will furnish amusement out of their spare earnings, which will result from the cost of doing business with the farmer, the cattle raiser, the pork producer, the sheep breeder, the poultry keeper and the dairy.

Just thing it over. What an advantage it would be to all concerned if there was provided a central place where the householder could meet the producer and procure there the things which go the farthest in the line of supplying the tables of the household.

Fresh meats, fresh eggs, fresh butter, plump poultry, cheese, cream, fish and vegetables go a very long way toward fulfilling the ideals of the housewife.

These are the things one finds in a Public Market, and reasonably cheap.

of the investment over to our successors as a gift.

Really we comprise a very generous as well as a very thrifty community on the whole.

Thanks "Billy"

"LUNN'S WEEKLY" appeared again last Saturday. We welcome it to the fold of newspaperdom and may it grow more lusty week by week. Brother Lunn has an off-hand way of saying things that no one else can duplicate and there is a breeze about the "WEEKLY" which will prove popular with its readers.—TRURO CITIZEN.

Will Enlarge

LUNN'S WEEKLY has it on good authority that the Canada Iron Corporation will enlarge their steel plant at Londonderry this year. It is said another open hearth furnace will be installed.

Want to Investigate

If you want to invest in real estate in the golden west, read the half page ad of L. J. Walker in this issue.

Does This Suggest Oslerism?

Does not this also suggest a study in modern Christianity?

In the Health Doctor's report to the Town Council the officer states that "Deaths were due to disinclination on the part of the town authorities to step in and secure proper care for undesirable offspring."

Really this is very dreadful. Oh, doctor; how could you?

An Overwhelming Share

The bereavement which visited Mr. G. Fred Pearson through the death of his father was followed early this week by the death of his wife—who was one of the most loved young women in Halifax City. The fullest sympathy is extended to the afflicted in this terribly sudden visitation.

With the Curlers.

Three rinks of stone pushers came to Truro Thursday night and played a friendly game with Truro. They were beaten by a good margin; but enjoyed a pleasant hour in the banquet room after the game.

VEKED QUESTION OF PICTOU BRANCH

Important Gathering of Parties Interested in Settlement of Trouble

Railway Men of Colchester, Hants, and Halifax Counties Make Demand for Justice

Mr. David Pottinger arrived in town yesterday in the official car accompanied by Mr. W. C. Paver, Secretary of the I. R. C. Employes' Insurance Association and Pension Fund.

Mr. Pottinger, head of these systems, together with Mr. Paver, has been going over the road adjusting some disputed claims in that connection.

Mr. Pottinger and Mr. Paver, were here on a similar mission last week. Their car was picked up by No. 10 train on Thursday night at St. John, and arrived here at 6.35 yesterday as stated.

Mr. Pottinger, however, had another duty to perform in addition to the insurance and pension matter.

He came as the special commissioner of the Minister of Railways, to meet interested parties in connection with the long standing agitation to transfer the Pictou Branch, Truro to Stellerton, back to the Halifax and St. John division.

The interested parties were, Mr. D. Pottinger, his secretary, Mr. R. Colclough representing the Minister of Railways, Hector Mc James, K. C., Halifax, legal adviser of the employees interested Mayor Stuart, representing the Town Council of Truro, who has always taken a deep interest in the matter; Dr. W. R. Dubar, was also representing the Town Council; Mr. G. A. Hall, representing the Truro Board of Trade; Conductor Gordon Kennedy, Engineer Frank Chisholm, Truro; and Brakeman George Sullivan, Halifax, also representing the Employees; Mr. H. B. Tremaine, M. P., for Hants, and John Stanfield, M. P., for Colchester.

The Conference adjourned at noon, when the representatives above mentioned were entertained at dinner at the Learment Hotel, by Mr. McInnes.

The Conference was again resumed during the afternoon.

Asked by a representative of LUNN'S WEEKLY, when the deliberations broke up, what transpired, "MUM" was the word passed out; but it was proclaimed progress had been made.

Long ago the Editor of this paper made a suggestion as to the settlement of this vexed question.

What's the use?

What's the use?

But our problem will become the solution some day.

Look For It

An important article on the dismissal of the Collector of Taxes and Sanitary Inspector is crowded out of this issue.

It is decidedly interesting. Look for it in the next issue of LUNN'S WEEKLY.