

The Waterdown Review

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Waterdown

The Political Clean-Up

By Chas. M. Flatt

Now that the recent turmoil in Provincial politics has settled somewhat we are able to make a fairly definite survey of the government that is to be. For the first time in the history of Canada since confederation the producers of the country's wealth are in a position to direct how it shall be used. While this condition prevails in only one province, it is safe to predict that it will soon have a national effect.

It is amusing to listen to the wise prophecies of old time party politicians who as yet are living in hopes of a return of former conditions. It was only a few days ago that a formerly prominent political gentleman (?) was heard to say in Toronto, "We are on the verge of anarchy". That any one, no matter how ignorant, should say such a thing, is sufficient indication that we were on the verge of something worse than anarchy and that was autocracy.

We are nearly approaching the ideal condition where the representatives are elected in numbers proportionate to the class they are to represent.

In looking over the list of Farmers elect, one cannot but be impressed with the fact that the large proportion of the representatives received their initial training in the smaller field of municipal affairs. While this perhaps has always been more or less the case, it is more noticeable now that the members belong to the class they represent in parliament. That they have risen politically is due to the fact that they conducted the smaller affairs of the municipality in an efficient manner.

It is a fact, not generally accepted that it is even more important that we have good men in our township and county councils than in our Provincial or Dominion Legislature. While their mistakes, or even their failure might not involve such great issues as those dealt with in the Provincial or Dominion field, the effect is more noticeable to the ratepayers of their municipality. This is largely because each Township or county council deals practically altogether with affairs that are vital to the interests of each man in their constituency.

Lack of efficiency in the parts of a nation are finally as detrimental to the progress of that nation as mistakes committed in a great national issue. The time is past when representatives are selected because of their position, wealth or skill in debate. Honesty of purpose, determination and ability to think straight are the political virtues that must prevail in a democratic country.

So every aspirant for political honors, in Township or council affairs must have ever in view the fact that upon their efficiency depends, not only progress of their own municipality, but indirectly that of the province.

That more attention must be given to this matter is evidenced by the scarcity of men of sufficient ability to be nominated or elected in either provincial or Dominion parliament. That such men will be needed is certain if the present movement for representation by population is to become permanently established.

Finally it is safe to say that the general clean-up in political affairs will be the greatest inducement for good men to enter politics, because formerly it was a game in which few could play and not lose. And those who won did not always win fairly. The whole issue rests not so much on the shoulders of the individual representatives or the government into which they are formed as it does on the individual.

Waterdown Boys

In these days, there are some words, such as, work, duty and responsibility that will have a new meaning in the minds of Canadian boys.

War conditions have placed certain responsibilities on you from which you formerly would have shrunk but because you were game and stood up to them, and you not only helped in a crucial and abnormal time in the history of the nation but you built with your own life, the qualities which make for citizenship.

That was in the war times, but what about the days ahead. Our boys to-day are living in the most wonderful age in the world's history.

What are you doing, now that the war is over, to show your patriotism in the wonderful peace days ahead? When peace was declared you almost yelled your head off, you felt you were a full fledged partner in that day of national rejoicing and thanksgiving and rightly so.

That day you certainly were an active partner and there is not the slightest reason in the world why you should not continue to be so. You must be a partner in feeling responsibility for the kind of community you live in. You share the dividends, therefore you should share the responsibility.

What kind of village would yours be if every boy was like you? Did you ever think of having a part in making it a better place to live in? Did I hear one of you fellows say, "Aw what can I do I haven't a vote, wait till then".

Well that won't be far away for long trousers, your first sweetheart and the vote follow one another quickly, and, if you wait till then before you take an interest in the affairs of our village, the chances are you will never be a force in its life. What can you do?

Have you read that story of the collegiate boys in an Ontario city who practically stamped out cigarette smoking in their school. In another village the boys were immoral; impure language and thoughts among the youthful population were making the village undesirable from the standpoint of moral health. A few boys realized the situation and started a campaign of clean speech, in a few months that village was completely changed. Every Waterdown boy can feel that he has a real part in making our village keep its hands and face clean, (so to speak).

Just sit down and make a list of things which you think would improve the village you live in. Tin cans are alright to keep worms in but they are poor soil for ideals of beauty, health, etc. Think how much you can do to introduce improvements, make it a better place for boys, a happier place for children.

Genuine interest in these things

Anderson-Hasselfelt Wedding

At Orchard Grove, Freelon, the residence of Rev. E. J. Haines, Baptist pastor, on Wednesday evening November 26th, a very pretty wedding was solemnized when Miss Gladys Hasselfelt, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hasselfelt of Flamboro Centre, was united in marriage to Mr. Chas. S. Anderson of Waterdown. The bride who was given away by her father, was daintily attired in white georgette crepe with pearl trimmings, the only ornament being a beautiful necklace, the gift of the groom. Only the parents of the bride and groom witnessed the ceremony, after the conclusion of which the wedding party returned to the home of the bride's parents, where a hearty welcome and sumptuous repast awaited them. The groom's gift to his bride was a handsome piano. The groom's brother's gift was an oak buffet, while a large number of costly gifts were received from friends. We extend to this young couple hearty congratulations and best wishes for a long and happy married life.

Foley-Rankin Wedding

The marriage of Miss Marjorie Rankin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rankin of Waterdown, to Mr. John J. Foley, son of Mrs. and the late Henry Foley, took place Wednesday morning, November 26th, at St. Joseph's church, Hamilton, the Rev. A. J. Lyles officiating. Miss Anna Rankin, sister of the bride was bridesmaid, and John Gavin, cousin of the groom, acted as best man. The fair bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in an embroidered georgette gown with bridal veil and wreath. The bridesmaid wore a pink georgette gown with black picture hat. After the ceremony a reception was held at the bride's home, where the happy couple received the congratulations of a large number of relatives and friends. They left shortly afterwards taking an evening train for Toronto and Montreal. The bride travelling in a novelty dress, black and gold hat, and seal coat, the gift of the groom. The groom's gift to the bridesmaid was a pendant, and to the best man a set of gold cuff links.

Mr. J. Tweedle of Kilbride, L. Best and Mr. Hayes of Waterdown, had a miraculous escape from death on Saturday last when the truck Mr. Tweedle was driving went over the filling near Mr. Cranes farm. Mr. Tweedle was on his way to the city with a load of farm produce, and on attempting to make the turn in the road just north of the filling the steering gear refused to work. The truck with the three men went over the bank a distance of over fifty feet. The car was a complete wreck. Mr. Tweedle sustained a slight injury to his hand, while Mr. Hayes was seriously injured. Mr. Best luckily escaping injury, Mr. Tweedle gathered up the produce that was uninjured and proceeded to market in a car borrowed from a neighbor.

means intelligent citizens. Waterdown boys, who are building or wish to build four square lives will find ample opportunity for the betterment of our village.

"PROGRESS"