

YORK COUNTY

NEXT YEAR WILL BE A BUSY ONE IN W. TORONTO

Mr. Forman's Figures Are Disputed
—West Toronto Happenings—
Suburban.

NORTH TORONTO, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Next year's council of the Town of North Toronto will have to do with some of the most important questions ever submitted, outside of the sewer system. In view of this it is highly important that next year's council should be composed of men quick to appreciate the responsibilities and strongly imbued with the possibilities of the town.

The water supply, no matter from where it comes, must be largely augmented and council and private owners realize this, and their decision as to the means to be employed will in a large measure depend on the information which the engineer and council will acquire right now. By the way, what report will the engineer be ordered to prepare ought to be in the hands of the property owners at the very earliest possible moment. To be effective it ought to be well digested before nomination day, and that is right at hand. Also, council ought to be well prepared to give the facts, not alone with respect to the water supply, but every other available source of supply in the town, and there are plenty. The figure asked for by the council is admittedly high, and if a large sum can be saved, it ought to be done. The plebiscite to be submitted does not bind the people to any fixed sum, and Engineer James, a cautious official, will doubtless be well fortified by all the facts available.

The Mount Pleasant road is about adjusted, so far as the preliminary arrangements are concerned, and as nothing much can be done this fall, to wards excavating, the practical work will fall upon next year's council. But that will be easy compared with handling the Rural Trust.

The High School Bylaw will, in the opinion of the majority of the men interviewed, carry by a substantial majority, and this will entail a lot of work on the high school board, and, incidentally, the council.

A good deal of work of one kind or another remains to be done here, on parallel roads, east and Avenue road, west, are finally adjusted, and in addition to all these things there are undoubtedly be applications for an independent electric line on the eastern and western roads, to say nothing of "switches," the improvement of Yonge street and the ever-present Metropolitan Railway grievance as to freight right and what-not.

The sewer question, too, going along nicely, is a long way from completion, and it will be well into the new year before the big job is finished and connections installed. Everything points to a big year in building, and that means a busy season for the board of works and fire and light departments of the town.

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In charge. The Oddfellows' Band will practice again to-morrow (Tuesday) evening, and on that occasion the financial statement will be presented.

J. M. Winkler's alterations and improvements just to the north of the Wellington Hotel, will add greatly to the appearance of the town.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 20, a mass meeting of those in favor of local option, will be held in the town hall. Dr. Dates, Dr. McCullough and Rev. W. R. Woods will be among the speakers.

In the Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, Rev. Mr. Cockburn of Toronto gave an address along the lines of local option, strongly advocating its adoption.

PICKERING VILLAGE.

(Special.)—The Pickering Village Association have postponed the date of their annual meeting until after Christmas.

The G. T. R. are building a new tool house near the railway station, painting it a different color from the station, in order, the villagers say, that the engineers may properly distinguish between them.

Thos. Beverley of the Brock-road Board of Education the contract for supplying evergreens for the kindergarten school closing.

The choir of the Methodist Church are giving a concert on Thursday evening.

NEWMARKET.

Town Will Vote to Fix Davis Co. Assessment at \$20,000.

NEWMARKET, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Mayor Pearson is touring Western Ontario, speaking in the interest of local option in some municipalities where the measure will be tried.

John A. Bogg and Sons of Queensville were successful in winning third prize in the Clydesdale stallion class in a field of 21 entries.

A Christmas market will be held here on Thursday, Dec. 21.

Newmarket will at the municipal elections vote on a bylaw to fix the assessment of the Davis Leather Co. at \$20,000 for the next ten years.

If this is carried, the company will expend \$50,000 in the erection of additional buildings and largely increase the number of their employees. There is not a shadow of doubt but that the bylaw will carry by an overwhelming majority.

McCOWAN'S MAJORITY.

Returning Officer T. G. Patterson of East Toronto yesterday gave out the official vote in East York, showing Alex McCowan's majority to be 782, as against 783. The World's count on the night of election. The majorities were as follows:

McCowan, Annis.
Ward 1 8
Ward 2 8
Stouffville 111
MacKinnon Township 89
Richmond Hill 8
North Toronto 74
Markham Village 64
Scarboro 107
York Township 294

Total 1006
Total majority for McCowan, 782.

CHILD LABOR ABUSES IN CRANBERRY BOG DISTRICTS.

The evils of child labor and ill-housing among the cranberry pickers, disclosed last year thru an investigation of the national child labor committee, remain practically unchanged this year, states The Survey in its issue of Dec. 2. Children, chiefly of Italian and Portuguese parentage, work the day thru in the bogs, and at night are housed in barracks, which, in point of crowding and unsanitary conditions, "outclass the cities' poorest districts."

In this state the picking is done almost entirely by large gangs of Italians. These are recruited largely in Philadelphia by padrones employed by the growers. These padrones take advantage of their ignorant countrymen if they can, charging them varying amounts for the privilege of a job and obtaining a "rake-off" on transportation rates. The padrone always prefers to engage a large family with many children, for this means many pickers and of a sort more easily satisfied with the low rate of wages.

When picking begins the entire family may be seen on the bog; babies are left to amuse themselves as best they may, while all children, who are old enough, work. Upon 17 of the bogs visited this year, where a careful count was made, 35 per cent. of the pickers were found to be under 14, 18 per cent. were under 10 years of age, and on 12 bogs some children under five were seen working. These children are encouraged, when they are not compelled, by both padrone and the parents to keep at work thruout the day.

The work is in the open, and undoubtedly has its healthful features; but among the conditions which make it unsuitable for young children is the prevailing wetness of the ground.

Many of the padrones are rough in dealing with the children. Heavy boxes must be carried to and fro and the boxes vary in size, altho the price paid per measure remains the same. All these conditions are of constant recurrence.

The worst evils, however, are in the camps, where the children live from five to seven weeks. The surroundings are unspeakable. The congestion is worse than in the city. Families of five, six and even eight were found living in one room measuring six by eight feet without any sanitary provisions whatever. Barracks measuring 18 by 30 feet were found housing 60 to 75 people. Refuse and filth of all kinds pervade these dwellings and are scattered about the doors and windows.

Yet certain growers claim that the children return to their city homes after a life in such conditions in better health than when they came out. Their condition when seen in the camp does not justify the claim.

ITALIANS SUE THE CITY.

G. and Francesco Galte, 25 Arthur street, are suing the city for \$1600 damages for alleged negligence in the repair of a water main, which caused damage to their premises.

Does it With a Snap.
"Peck's wife walks all over him. He's what you might call a telescope husband."

"What do you mean?"
"She draws him out, sees thru him and shuts him up."

MARKHAM VILLAGE.

Newswy Notes of the Hub of the Township.

MARKHAM VILLAGE, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—On Tuesday and Wednesday next, a free stock judging contest will be held in the cattle shed on the fair grounds, and J. E. Stockley, Dominion representative of the O. D. A., will be

Strathcona Competition

The following are the results of the public school Strathcona competitions at the armories yesterday:

Military Drill.
Schools of 18-rooms and over—1, championship of city, Kent; 2, championship of eastern district, Dufferin; 3, championship of central district, Ogden; 4, championship of western district, Kent.

Schools from 13 to 17 rooms—1, championship of city, Huron; 2, championship of eastern district, Bolton; 3, championship of central district, Huron; 4, championship of western district, Queen Victoria.

Rifle Shooting.
Championship of Toronto, Huron; championship of eastern district, Bolton; championship of western district, Givins.

CITY RENEWS LEASE.
The property committee yesterday renewed the lease of property at the southwest corner of King and Jarvis streets for 21 years, to Mrs. Arthur, at a rental of \$87.50 and taxes per annum.

BUDDHIST MONASTERY ESTABLISHED IN SWITZERLAND.
The first Buddhist monastery to be established in Europe is that which last year was set up in the canton of Ticino, in Switzerland, high above the village of Novaggio overlooking Lake Maggiore and Lugano. It is a curious circumstance, remarks a writer in Harper's Weekly, that the founder of this monastery was a German, a native of Wiesbaden. His name is now Bhikku Nyamati.

It appears that this individual decided, at an early age, to renounce the vanities of this world, and that during nine years of seclusion in Ceylon he became absorbed in the study of Buddhism. In time he attained the rank of a bhikku, or priest, and received the name of Nyamati, which means the man who possesses the wisdom of the three worlds.

This priest was assisted in the organization of the monastery in Switzerland by a German co-religionist, by a priest from Burma, and by English and Dutch converts. Thus five men formed the first Buddhist brotherhood in Europe. All wear the traditional robe of the Buddhist monks.

Upon learning that the community would undertake no activities outside the Swiss authorities placed no obstacles in their way.

ISLAND POLICE STATIONS.
The chief constable recommended that police stations be built at Hanlan's Point and Centre Island. The matter was referred to the property committee for a report.

Not a single patient has ever been refused admission to the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives because unable to pay.