

Watford Guide-Advocate

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Local Happenings

Send in the names of your holiday guests, phone 11 W or drop in our door box.

Ask your doctor about the Lambton County Health Week to be held in Sarnia the week of January 19th, 1925.

Miss K. C. Harris is spending the Christmas holiday with her sister in Welland.

Dr. Vern Newell, Detroit, spent the week end with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. James Newell.

Nominations in the township on Monday next, with elections, if necessary, the Monday following.

Mrs. A. Cook, Toronto, is spending the Christmas holidays with her sister, Miss Margaret McLeay and other friends.

Most Guide-Advocate subscriptions expire with this issue. Your early renewal will be greatly appreciated. Let us send your daily newspaper subscription at the same time.

Every few days one reads of a man found dead in his garage from the fumes of the gasoline in his car. Everyone should know the danger from the inhalation of gasoline fumes in an enclosed place and should avoid it.

Last week's Prince Albert News informs us that in the municipal elections Jos. H. Mitchell stands second in the list of Aldermen for 1925. Watford extends congratulations and compliments P. A. on its good judgment.

Court Lorne, No. 17, C. O. F., will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, December 30th. Election of officers and reorganization. Full attendance is requested at this closing meeting of the year.—A. D. Hone, Chief Ranger.

Next Thursday, New Year's, is the only holiday granted rural mail carriers. Correspondents, advertisers and others are therefore requested to send in their copy on Monday morning or it will be impossible for the papers to reach our readers before Saturday.

Rev. T. DeCourcy Rayner gave his popular Story Picture Lecture, "Heroes of the Cross," in Berchcliff Congregational church, Toronto, on Thursday of last week. On Friday he gave an address at the Christmas Entertainment in his former charge in Hamilton, where he was pastor for nearly ten years.

The more we read, and the more we learn by actual experience, of the ravages of venereal diseases, the more we see the necessity of carrying on a relentless war against these great scourges of humanity. Lack of knowledge of the ill-effects of venereal diseases leads to serious consequences. Chronic ill-health, paralysis, insanity and premature death may be the result.

In the Congregational church next Sunday, special messages, appropriate to the holiday season, will be delivered by the pastor both morning and evening. The Christmas music will be repeated by the choir, and a special duet, "The Message of Christmas," the words and music of which were written and composed by Rev. T. DeCourcy Rayner, will be sung at both services. You are invited to the House of Prayer for the last Sunday of the old year.

Watford Skating Rink opened Saturday evening with an exceptionally large crowd, and will be the amusement place for both young and old every evening for the next few months. "Bob" Thompson, this year's manager, built a splendid glare of ice during the cold snap last week, and the hockey team is working well, in preparation for the approaching O. H. A. Schedule. The High School Junior team entered in the "Wossa" series will get down to nightly practices after the New Year.

F. W. Mahony left on Wednesday for Windsor where he and Mrs. Mahony will spend the Christmas holiday before going to their new home in Worcester, Mass.

Mrs. William Doan passed away at the family residence, John St., on Tuesday evening after an illness extending over several years. The funeral will be held on Friday, service in the Methodist church at 1:30 o'clock. Obituary next week.

The services in the Methodist church next Sunday at usual hours. The pastor will preach on the topic, "If Jesus Had Not Come" in the morning. Evening subject: "Looking Backward."

The Methodist Xmas tree and Cantata held in the Lyceum on Tuesday evening was a very enjoyable entertainment. The little folks of the S. S. acquitted themselves as usual to the delight of the audience. The pantomime "Silent Night" by fourteen young ladies was a very impressive scene. The procession of star maidens looking for the infant Christ was a very impressive item. Dr. Hicks the superintendent announced that the offering for the Armenian refugees will be kept open till next Sunday. The proceeds of the evening amounted to over \$20.00.

Rev. T. DeCourcy Rayner, pastor of the Congregational church, has just been notified that he has been awarded first prize for a sermon in a "Best Sermon Contest" conducted by the Pastor's Ideal Book Company of Clinton, Indiana, U. S. A. The contest was announced through a preacher's magazine which goes to nearly twenty thousand clergymen each month. The entries were very numerous, and three outstanding ministers were the judges. Fifteen cash prizes were offered, and the cheque for the first prize reached Rev. Mr. Rayner together with the announcement of the award, and came as a delightful Christmas surprise. The fifteen prize-winning sermons are being published in a special volume, entitled, "The Premium Sermon Book," and Mr. Rayner will receive a copy of the volume as soon as it is published in January. He has also received a request from the Company for another sermon to be published in another volume of sermons in the near future. The sermon which won the first prize was entitled, "Other Little Ships," and was delivered in the church here on Rally Day, Sept. 28th, at the evening service. The Guide-Advocate is sure that Mr. Rayner's many friends will be glad to learn of his success.

HIGH SCHOOL "LIT"

An interesting entertainment was given in the Lyceum on Friday afternoon, by the Watford High School literary society. A large number of students and visitors were present.

The opening address was given by the honorary president, M. Cameron. After the chairman's address by the president, Allan Heaton, a reading was given by Eleanor McIntosh; a minuet dance by Misses Mary Connolly and Dorothy Delmage, and a selection by the Watford High School "Melody Six" orchestra. The fourth form students presented a play, "The Betting Burglar." William Y. Fitzgerald gave a speech on "The Future of Canada." A chorus was given by the second form girls, and a speech by Bert Oakes, followed by a play, "Too Much Bobby."

A drill, "The March of the Wooden Soldiers," was followed by a solo by Alberta Lovell. The High School paper, "The Mirror," which is reproduced on Page Three, was read by the editor, Dorothy Fowler.

S. M. Smythe, head of the Strathroy Furniture Co., has donated \$1500 to Strathroy Hospital as a contribution towards the purchase of X-ray equipment.

The Dominion Cannery may build a new factory in Alvinston.

A Mason for 82 years and a tow boy on the first Welland Canal, shortly after its construction, D. G. Holcombe died near St. Catharines last Friday, aged 104 years.

The Orth Building, corner Dundas and Clarence sts., London, was swept by fire on Saturday afternoon with a resulting loss of over \$55,000.

Eight persons, including three Canadians, were killed on Saturday near Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, when an observation car jumped the rails and plunged six feet into the river.

That newspaper publishing is not the profitable business some people imagine is shown in the annual statement of the Farmers' Sun, which reports a net loss of \$28,667.

John Ross, the Theford merchant who lost his entire stock in the recent fire, has purchased the stock of Crawford and Co., general merchants and leased the building. He takes possession after Christmas.

Parkhill retiring Council "passed the buck" in the matter of Main St. roadway on to next year's Council. "To pave or not to pave, that is the question; whether it is better to pile on gravel year after year, scrape it off again in mud each spring and spend as much on upkeep in 20 years as the first cost of concrete, or to pave it now and be done with it." Parkhill will be well advised to follow Watford's decision: pave it all at one time and the fame of your town will go far afield as a pleasant place to enter.

Henry Gray, manager of Rodney basket factory, was instantly killed and his father-in-law, George Willis, so terribly injured that he died that evening, when their motor car was struck by the M. C. R. express travelling 70 miles an hour shortly after noon on Saturday.

The C. N. R. purposes installing one of their newly constructed gasoline cars for service between Petrolia, Wyoming and Glencoe. The car is 75 feet long and is claimed to be able to do service on that run at a much smaller expense than the present system.

L. E. Moore, of Mosa township, shipped 26 bags of carrots to a commission firm in Toronto recently. Eight bags sold for 70c a bag, and 18 bags for 40c a bag, making a total of \$12.80. Express charges on the 26 bags were \$10.32, commission for selling \$1.60, cartage 10c, making a total of \$12.70, balance 10c. Mr. Moore received a cheque for 10c. He also had a load of cabbage ready for shipment when he received the check, but decided to keep them at home.

The annual report of the Middlesex House of Refuge was presented to the county council. It shows that for the year ending November 15th last the institution housed 78 inmates, while 15 deaths occurred and 2 discharges were made. Of those admitted 39 were homeless, 23 weak-minded, 10 interperates, 4 crippled, 1 blind and 1 suffering from paralysis. Provisions for the house cost \$2,926.38 and improvements to the buildings \$832.37. Among the other expenses listed was a bill of \$137 for three cases of liquor. The matron's and keepers' salaries for the remainder of the staff reaching \$1,967.30. The total expenditure for the year was \$15,894.71, while receipts were \$5,280.69, the largest amount of money taken in coming from the sale of live stock at \$3,082.31.

NEW YEAR'S TEA

The ladies of the St. James' Guild and W. A., purpose holding a New Year's twenty-five cent tea, also a sale of work, at the home of Mrs. T. A. Woods, Dec. 31st. Tea will be served from three to six p. m. A cordial welcome is extended to all.

NEWS HELD OVER

Brooke and Plympton council minutes, Inwood and other correspondence received too late for insertion, are unavoidably left over for next week.

FIFTY YEARS YOUNG

With this issue The Guide-Advocate completes its Fiftieth Volume—Volume 50, No. 53. May those few subscribers of today who were on the paid invoice, list for the first issue be on our mailing list for many years yet and may they enjoy this joyous holiday season in the earnest wish of the present Guide-Advocate staff.

MRS. S. LAUGHLIN

The death of an old Watford resident in the person of Mrs. Ellen Laughlin, widow of the late Samuel Laughlin, occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. P. Elliott, London, on Sunday, December 21st. She leaves to mourn her loss two sons, W. D. and George Laughlin of Montreal, and four daughters, Mrs. T. Rawlings and Mrs. W. Lapointe, Petrolia, Mrs. D. Ross, Sarnia and Mrs. T. P. Elliott, London.

The funeral was held on Tuesday from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Elliott, 100 Stanley St., London to the Watford cemetery where interment was made. Rev. S. Salton, assistant pastor of Dundas St. Methodist church conducted the service. Mrs. Laughlin was a resident of Watford until about three years ago. Since that time she has been living with her daughters in Petrolia and London.

DIED

In Austin Man., on Monday, December 1st, 1924, Jas. D. Duncan, in his 71st year. He was a brother of Mrs. Chas. Craig, Watford.

In London, on Sunday, December 21st, 1924, Mrs. S. Laughlin in her 79th year. Interment in Watford cemetery on Tuesday.

In Watford, on Tuesday, Dec. 23rd, 1924, Clara Isabella Aitken, beloved wife of William Doan. Funeral service Friday at 1.30 o'clock, in the Methodist church. Private service at the house.

Rural School Reports

Following is the report of S. S. No. 5, Plympton for the months of November and December. The names are in order of merit:

Sr. IV.—Stuart Lawson, Amy Williams, Mabel Williams, Albert Simpson, Lillian Pye, Annie Lampman, Clayton Graham. Jr. IV.—James Ramsay, Margaret Lawson, Hazen Anderson, Keith Randall, Vera Pye, Lillie Simpson, Lloyd Senecal, Calvert Anderson, John Ramsay, Sr. III. Jack Pray, Beatrice Lampman, Fred Garham, Velma Brereton, Jr. III.—Mary Ramsay, Wilbert Graham, Kenneth Pye, II.—Luella Alexander, Mildred Alexander, Crossley Anderson, Muriel Ramsay, Neil McPhedran. I.—Myrtle Simpson, Lloyd Campbell, Doris Ramsay, Meryl Graham. Sr. Primer.—Verna Ramsay, J. Primer.—Blanche McPhedran, Mary Pray, Lewis Senecal.

Isla M. Bailey, Teacher...

A druggist in the South died worth \$200,000, after 20 years in business. Paradoxically he dispensed with profit.

WARWICK

Miss Ina McIntosh is visiting relatives in Detroit, also her sister, Linda, who is finishing her course in training in the Hospital there.

Mrs. John Marshall has left to spend the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Elliott and family near Spring Bank.

The Township of Warwick detailed statement of receipts and expenditures has been printed, and copies may be had at this office or will be supplied by the Clerk at nomination meeting next Monday. A synopsis of Receipts and Expenditures, Assets and Liabilities is published on page Six of this issue.

Miss Mary Gault, Walkerville, spent the week end with her parents on the second line.

The Christmas tree and concert at Zion church, 2nd line, on Monday evening last was a great success both in point of attendance and in merit and length of program. The community was well represented and great interest was shown in the various parts of the program. The pastor, Rev. S. J. Thompson, presided and cheerfully filled with humorous comment or story as occasion demanded. After the opening chorus, recitations were given by Beth McKenzie, Allan Robinson, Velma Parker, Melvyn Parker and Winston Parker. Solos were sung by Jessie Spalding, Donald Edwards, Robert Gault, a duet by Donald Edwards and Beatrice Gault. Two fine dialogues were given by the scholars, which by fine memory work and realistic acting pleased the audience. Mr. Frank Edwards in a very clever local "take off" called the Minister's Grievance, brought down the house. The closing number, a very clever bit of pantomime in which the fine posing of three young ladies interpreted the great Christmas hymn, "Silent Night, Holy Night," brought the entertainment to a fitting close. Santa Claus was welcomed with great applause and was very good to everybody.

Icy Roads Cause Many Mishaps

The icy condition of the roads, etc., following the sleet storm of last week has reduced traffic to a minimum and almost paralyzed Christmas buying. In the rural sections, most farmers have been unable to get out, as venturing with a motor car has been exceedingly dangerous and very few horses had been sharp shod. Citizens in town moved very cautiously on the glassy sidewalks and roadways and few there are who ventured forth still boasting of no mishaps.

Mrs. Andrew Moffatt, sixth line, had a nasty fall on the steps of her home and sustained a broken arm.

P. J. Dodds struck the back of his head when he slipped in front of the postoffice on Friday morning and suffered considerable pain and stiffness for several days.

The only section of the community to receive any benefit from the ice storm was the youngsters, as skating on the sidewalks and hockey matches on Main St. pavement superseded all traffic. The biting wind accompanying the sudden drop in temperature combined with the dangerous paths underfoot kept most people indoors as much as possible.

It is said that on Sunday 95 cars were damaged or ditched between Port Huron and Mount Clemens. Fourteen cars were in the ditch on Saturday on the Second Line between Sarnia and Wyoming and similar stories come from other parts of the county. There has been an unusual demand for chains. Fortunately most of the mishaps have been free from injury to human beings. It is some years since the ice on roads has been so dangerous.