

The Weekly Monitor

AND

Western Annapolis Sentinel.

VOL. 88

BRIDGETOWN, ANnapolis COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA, FEBRUARY 8, 1911

NO. 43



RECREATION HALL

Humane Institutions of Nova Scotia

Superintendent Hiltz of the Annapolis County Hospital Gives Some Interesting Data Concerning the Care of Paupers and Insane Throughout the Province.—Improved Methods Now Adopted.

Previous to the year 1850, very little if any provision was made for the care of the insane, and paupers of the Province of Nova Scotia.

Insanity previous to this date had not got in its atrocious hold on the population as it has today. At that time cases were so rare, that when one did occur, the unfortunate victim was looked upon by many as being possessed with a demon. It may be hardly fair to state that the victims of insanity were treated as though thus affected, but it is quite evident that such ill-contrived methods were used, in confining the victim, that one cannot help feelings of repugnance and indignation at the barbarous methods which existed at that time. We are told that these victims were chained or fastened in small out-buildings, in the vicinity of their homes, or subjected to some other such crude confinement while the less harmless wanderers about the country unguided and unsheltered.

A NEW ERA

With the inception of Mt. Hope in 1859 (now the N. S. Hospital) a new era dawned upon these people. In that year we find that seventy patients were admitted to this institution. Of that number eleven recovered, or a percentage of recoveries on admissions of 15.7. Following the records of this institution up to the present time we find that some five-thousand patients have been admitted, and over two thousand recovered, or a percentage of recoveries on admissions of 44.5. The above record needs but little comment. Suffice it to say that with this record there is evidence of the vast and important work associated with the N. S. Hospital, pre-

side I cover by an able Superintendent, and admitted to be one of the best in North America.

IN THE BEGINNING

We must again refer back to the year 1859, in order that we may in some feeble manner follow the unfortunate victim, and the provisions made for his welfare up to the present time. In this particular I wish to refer to the municipalities. As I have already intimated, formerly, the victim of insanity was looked upon as one possessed with some evil power, rather than one of God's unfortunate creatures and worthy of sympathetic treatment from the hands of his fellow-men. In this age the enlightenment and civilization of a community is in reality evidenced by the care it bestows upon its afflicted members. By this test our enlightenment and civilization previously was lacking in essential features.

However necessity began to lead the way for thought, and thought to action. True, the way was opened by the erection of Mt. Hope. But this was but a beginning. As time went by difficulties arose. It became more evident that increased accommodation must be provided not only for the insane but for the pauper. This problem was dealt with in the different municipalities in a manner perhaps not consistent with the best interests of civilization. The man or woman who became incapacitated, and was responsible to his or her more fortunate fellow-men for shelter and food, was turned over to the lowest bidder, and there to face his second affliction at the mercy only of his master. This condition I regret still exists in some parts of our fair Dominion.

A FORWARD STEP

But in our Province another step is taken. The people begin to awaken to a deeper sense of duty, and finally one municipality and still another erects an Institution for the Care of her Poor and Insane. (not acute). A Superintendent and matron are put in charge, a physician is appointed to attend to the physical welfare of the patients. The Provincial Government appoints a competent man to inspect these Institutions and everything seems to be fairly satisfactory. But as time goes on it is found that conditions are still not what they should be. Men are put in charge who have had no experience, and have not the best interests of the inmates at heart. The rudiments of cleanliness are unknown or willfully neglected, while on the other hand the municipal authorities give so little thought to the question of efficiency, that the necessary funds are not forthcoming with which to conduct these Institutions properly. We have evidence of this from the report of Dr. Sinclair some fourteen years ago. But happily since that time conditions, though not perfect, have been greatly improved.

TWENTY-NINE COUNTY INSTITUTIONS

There are in our Province today twenty-nine County Asylums, Poor Houses and Poor Farms, and at the end of 1909 there were two hundred and nine inmates confined in these Institutions, and classed as follows: Children 80; sane adults 478; Epileptic and mentally defective, 701.

The need of an Institution for the feeble minded of our Province is becoming more and more apparent and the method now adopted by the various municipalities in caring for the above classed population under one roof, is not commendable. With but few exceptions, there seems to be but little thought granted in the plans of the different buildings of this class even of those built quite recently. Of course there are exceptions. It would seem a good way out of the difficulty to have these Institutions built under the direction of the Inspector of Public Charities, or some other person familiar with conditions that exist.

ANnapolis COUNTY LEADS

Annapolis County seems to have led the way in the care of her Insane and Poor, having two buildings of brick separate and apart. In the Asylum patients from all over the Province are admitted, the authorities not confining the admissions to that of the County.

To those employed in management of our County Institutions I would say as a goal for the best interests of your respective Institutions. Endeavor to make it as pleasant for the inmates as your care as is possible. Make the surroundings such that you would not be ashamed to have any that are near and dear to you placed in such Institutions, or fear for their comfort. Tell the people in your community what you are trying to accomplish. Get them interested, and nine times out of ten they will help. To the powers that be! Help along a good cause and pay the men in charge of these Institutions a decent wage. Stand at their back in all things pertaining to the welfare of their charges. It is a fact that more is expected of these employees, and smaller wages paid than to any employee engaged in public service.

A Big Shoe Merger

MONTRÉAL, February 5.—Ames H. Holden, limited, and the James McCready Co., Ltd., two of the largest boot and shoe manufacturers in the Dominion, have been acquired by J. Lorne McGibbon, who will form a new company which will probably be known as the Ames Holden-McGibbon company. Mr. McGibbon would not give details as to the purchase price, but a report has it as high as four million dollars were paid for the two concerns. The deal has been put through on an absolutely cash basis. There will be a separate factory for each of three grades.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES PAIN

The Fire and Middleton's Future

(The Outlook)

The fire on Friday last was a rough throw down for many of our business men and a cold creek to the town itself. But there are pleasing features as well.

The many telegrams and letters of sympathy from sister towns, organizations and individuals are gratifying indeed. The fair way in which the insurance men have treated the claims against them is another pleasing feature. But the most encouraging feature of all is the manly way in which our business men have faced the situation. To see the results of years of labor swept away in an hour and to be obliged to begin again where one started ten or twenty years ago is discouraging. Yet we hear no suggestion of giving up in despair, nor see any sign of lack of faith in the future of our town. Middleton has good reason to feel proud of the quality of our business men. Such men are the best guarantee of the future progress of our town.

Important problems are now before our town for solution which will demand our best wisdom and most united action. The rebuilding of the burned buildings is one. The establishment of a brick district of greater or less extent is another and the lighting question is still with us.

One suggestion regarding rebuilding



A. F. HILTZ
Supt. Annapolis Co. Hospital

It is that possibly the Royal Bank might depart from its usual custom sufficiently to rebuild a larger building containing a couple of stores for leasing. Another is that Sunbeam Lodge now erect the much talked of Oddfellows Hall and make the building large enough to include stores and offices. A third suggestion is that some of our wealthier citizens either singly or in company invest their capital in business blocks. Such investments would prove profitable to the investors and at this juncture would make it easier for our citizens who have sustained losses to recover from them.

Most Canadian towns that have suffered from fire have set out an exclusively brick district. To do otherwise appears to be inviting another disaster and indicates a failure to learn from sad experience. The difficulty is that it may make harder the already hard task of the fire losers. When however it is remembered that the increased cost of lumber has materially lessened the difference in cost between wood and brick and that the difference in insurance rates between brick and wooden buildings and their contents is from 100 to 200 per cent and also the smaller cost for paints and repairs on the brick building the hardship entailed by the brick district is much less than generally supposed. It is a difficult question that cannot be arranged on the "give and take" plan and it is in this spirit that the brick district question should be met.

The electric lighting question which appeared to be a somewhat distant one

for Middleton has been brought close at hand again by the destruction of a large number of gas lighting plants in the town. It will be remembered that a few months ago the board of trade realizing that one of the greatest factors in the development of any town is the obtaining of electricity generated from water power for lighting and motive purposes determined to ascertain just what value the water powers near Middleton possess. The cooperation of the town council was obtained and a useful report will shortly be the outcome. This report will prove a timely one.

For the solution of the problems above referred to and many others which will arise in the near future we need the board of trade, which has contributed so much to the development of Middleton in the past, our town council and school board all working in harmony and our citizens animated with the determination to see Middleton arise from its ashes a bigger, better and busier town than it has ever been.

To Sunday School Workers

And this should include all over five years of age. I would like to make a personal appeal to everyone of you to make a special effort to increase your giving for this noblest work this year.

The importance of the work is shown by its expansion each year. A good thing is bound to grow and the more any organization grows the more money is needed to make it a success. Organized Sunday School work in Nova Scotia needs more money and it is the privilege of everyone to help. Four cents per scholar will raise the apportionment. Five cents per scholar would help the organization to expand. It is unfortunate that many will give nothing and that means more for the ones who realize that there is one of the best ways to spend money. Giving for this purpose means much. (1) It broadens the view and enlarges the mind of the giver. (2) It advances Christ's Kingdom. (3) It is in the uplift of man by providing the means for education in virtue and knowledge of right. (4) It helps to lead a right at the age when they are most easily influenced the future men and women of our nation and makes for a better and cleaner national life in the future.

I would like to suggest to superintendents that one Sunday in each month or one Sunday in each quarter be set apart for a collection for organized S. S. work and that notice be specially given of this collection beforehand. I feel sure that the collections and giving would increase if this were done. Will the superintendents and workers who read this appeal have it read before their schools?

Let us have an increase everywhere this year, remembering that it is going into the bank that will give generous interest if not now in Eternity.

R. J. MESSENGER,
Pres. Annapolis Co. S. S. A.

Children Left Alone

Perished in Home

Mother Was at a Moving Picture Show When Accident Occurred.

MONTRÉAL, Feb. 3.—Mrs. George Marlow went to a moving picture show this evening, leaving her two children Donald and Annie, six and seven years of age, in the flat occupied by the family on Chatham St. Boys playing in the yard in the rear noticed smoke pouring from the windows and summoned the firemen. A few dashes of water extinguished the blaze. The children had taken refuge in a cupboard of the kitchen and were both dead when the firemen managed to gain access to the place.

Chief of Police Campeau stated tonight that it was his intention to see if criminal proceedings could not be instituted against the mother for leaving such small children alone. There was too much of that sort of thing going on in the city in his opinion.

Keep Minaru's Liniment in the house



RECREATION HALL INTERIOR

Kentville Discusses Permanent Roads

A Meeting of the Citizens of Kentville Addressed by Mr. Bishop, Superintendent of Streets and Waterworks, Dartmouth.—Describes the Necessary Process of Permanent Road-making.

(Kentville Advertiser)

The public meeting to discuss Permanent Roads held at the Court House on Monday night was well attended. It was held under the auspices of the Board of Trade and President R. S. Eaton occupied the chair. The citizens seemed much interested in the discussion and the Town of Wolfville showed that it was fully alive to this great question by sending a delegation composed of three councillors, J. E. Hales, J. D. Chambers and Prof. Haycock and Superintendent of the streets, Arthur Johnson.

Mr. Watson Bishop, Superintendent of Streets and Water works of Dartmouth was called upon and gave an address which was of great interest and value. Mr. Bishop knew the conditions in Kentville because he was long a resident here and superintendent of streets for many years. He believed that the under surface of our streets were excellent for the making of a macadamized road. There would be no need of excavation on account of frost, to give the foundation and he thought it would not be necessary to put the stone the whole width of the street.

Mr. Bishop gave figures for treatment of different streets in Dartmouth showing that 3000 to 3500 tons per mile was about what should be used. They used a stone crusher in Dartmouth which would crush on an average about seven tons per hour including time lost in holdups, breaks etc., and he estimated the cost of

crushing and placing where needed on the street at twenty cents per ton. Dartmouth could get plenty of stone delivered at the crusher at twenty-five cents per ton. The probable cost at Kentville would be about fifty cents per ton. He thought a good stone crusher with proper screens and gravity delivery could be erected at Margeson's dam and stone delivered from Canaan side at the top of bank over crusher. The water power could be sold for months not in use for crusher. The rocks from ledge through Highbury and Canaan would be excellent for streets. Mr. Bishop spoke of adobe seal wall of rock at Blomidon which was superior for street construction. This could be delivered at Wolfville, Windsor, etc., but not so easily at Kentville.

After Mr. Bishop had finished his address a general discussion followed, in which the representatives from Wolfville were invited and took part freely. Messrs Hales and Charr showed that they had made a study of road making and understood well the cost of machinery and the necessary process of permanent road making. Councillor Hales stated what Wolfville had done in purchasing machinery consisting of a crusher, steam roller, etc. and suggested that if Kentville only desired to do a limited amount of permanent road construction that Wolfville would no doubt sell the crushed stone at a reasonable rate.

(continued on page four.)

No one disputes the splendid quality of Red Rose Tea. Here in the East as well as in the West it is used every day in thousands of homes where its unvarying fine quality has been proven by years of continuous use.



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