

## Kentville Board of Trade

### Holds Annual Meeting

Kentville Board of Trade held its annual meeting in the Court House on Monday evening last with but a fair attendance. These present showed their interest in the workings of the Board and the present year will, no doubt, see much accomplished for the good of the town and the advancement of the interests of the community.

President Blair presented his annual report as follows.

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRADE:

Another year has passed and, in looking back, if all that has been accomplished by this Board is considered, it will be admitted by even the most critical, that some progress has been made. In these times of stress and strain the accomplishments of such an organization as this are not apparent in definite creations requiring an outlay of moneys, which are most tangible evidence of progress, but rather in doing many little things, in themselves appearing not of great importance but which materially assist in helping to make the best use of our resources at this time.

There never was a time when the collective energies of our business men were more needed than now, and I would urge that everyone lend assistance in determining what we can do to better serve the cause of freedom at this time. It is not difficult to find men ready and willing to give advice and assistance in matters of town advancement if moneys are to be expended, but it is exceedingly difficult to find men who think it worth while to give service in working out problems whereby our resources may be conserved, and our energies turned to best advantage for a common cause. So while the work done during the year may appear of little consequence, and while we admit much has not been done that might have been, yet I can truthfully say that those who have been active in your Board of Trade work have given all matters coming to their attention their best thought.

The usefulness of such an organization as the Board of Trade is determined, not by the efforts of single individuals, but by the collective efforts of its members. True some members of the Board may be in a position to give more service than others, but this does not relieve the others of their responsibility, and surely it is worth while for all business men to come together at this time that the best possible may be done.

Your Board gave valuable assistance and encouragement in forwarding the efforts put forward for greater production. It may not appear of great consequence, the little effort exerted by your Board, but let me tell you that this effort is duly appreciated by those who have striven for greater agricultural production, and the very fact that you are doing what you can is an incentive for others to do their part as they should.

The influence of the business men in moulding public opinion is great. Your actions are measured closely by those who come in contact with you; you are supposed to be leaders in directing thought along right lines. Your responsibility is great. Do not, therefore, give the impression, through inaction on your part, that you are not prepared to measure up to your responsibility, for as surely as you do, your actions serve to encourage others to do the same. Your duty, irrespective of what others may do, is therefore clear.

Looking to the future it is for the business men to do shape their business operations that the greatest possible assistance may be given toward releasing all the help possible from our town to work on the land next spring. Failure on the land means failure in our business, and failure in our greatest aim "Win the War". If it is necessary to close up your business entirely certain days to help put in more crops, do it. This may not mean a sacrifice of business or profits, it may require only more effective organization. Let Kentville lead the way in this. Your action may inspire others to a like course.

To give effective help we must co-operate with our neighbours on the land. We must say what we can do and those who want our help say what we can do for them, but some one must say "when" first. Are we as business men prepared to do our part? It is for you to answer.

Effective organization is wanted in every branch of our endeavour, but how can we inspire confidence in the value of such effort unless we first organize our own resources in the most effective way. Does not the Board of Trade offer an opportunity for our town people to get together in working out means whereby valuable concrete assistance can be given in bringing about greater production.

In connection with the matter of furnishing labour for the farms, it is but fitting that this Board recognize the assistance given by our Secretary, Mr. Porter, in acting as the local Agent for distributing help to assist farmers. This work was carried on under the direction of the Provincial Labour Bureau and very much good resulted. Mr. Porter spared no effort in getting in touch with farmers and furnishing such help as was available.

As business men you quite readily understand how almost useless much of this help is. You know in your own business that you would almost rather do without than bother with it. The same holds true on the farm and we should assist where we can in making those who should make use of this help, even at a great inconvenience, understand that they must, under present conditions, put up with it in order to produce as much as possible. Can you use this kind of help or female help in your stores that the men there able and capable in farm work may be given an opportunity to help out at this time.

Business men who have land are expected to put it under crops. If they do not, can they expect extra effort on the part of our farmers? How would it do to appoint a committee to find out how many acres of land owned by our town business men are tilled, and can be put under crop next year. This effort will give tangible evidence of your desire to help out at this time.

Are you as business men prepared to enter into a co-operative body and grow the wheat you require for flour for next year? If so, let us get together and secure unoccupied land so this can be planted. Do not get together to figure out whether you can buy it cheaper than you can produce it, but rather to produce it, as cheaply as possible of course, but produce it at any rate. Why should you tell our men on the land to produce for you? We are prepared to produce for ourselves and the boys at the front and the starving people of England, France, Belgium and Italy, but not for the business men of Kentville. You are able and have the time and means to produce for yourselves, so "go to it".

Members of the Board of Trade, I thank you for the honour of being chosen President of your body during the past two years. I thank those members who have given every possible assistance in carrying on the work which has been done by this Board. You will find me ever ready to forward the interests of the town and give such assistance as may be within my power.

W. S. BLAIR.

The Committee reported on engagement of hall for Fruit Growers Association and Horse Show Committee gave statement of a balance left in the bank. Secty. Treasurer, Mr. W. E. Porter gave his report.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1917.

There have been nine regular and ten annual meetings held during the past year. All these meetings have been well attended and much business of importance to the town and county discussed and something accomplished, but as these subjects are usually dealt with in the President's report it is useless for me to recount them at this time.

The dangerous condition of the Railway Crossing has been before the Board, and a Committee appointed to work with a committee from the Town Council, of which they were notified. As yet your Committee has not been

called on and no action taken. This matter should certainly receive prompt attention the coming year before some fatality occurs.

The alarming scarcity for fuel for all purposes should arouse us to our duties in conserving the supply and its economical use. In connection with this it would seem that the Daylight Saving Scheme which was discussed in this board and was the subject of much cheap ridicule should not only be considered but put in force this coming year.

There has been a willingness in the past of all the members of the Board to co-operate for the general good of the town and no matter that has been brought up that has merit has received our approval and help. In this connection it might be said that the success attending the Greater Production Committee could not have been, had it not been for the energies assistance of the Board members.

The result of increased efforts throughout the Province in response to the Government's appeal resulted in such an increased crop that it became necessary that provision should be made for extra farm help. This was undertaken by the Bureau of Industries and Immigration of which A. S. Barnstead is the efficient head. Boys and girls from the public schools assisted in berry picking, hay making and for harvesting of the apple crop. Many women volunteered as pickers in the orchards and packers in the warehouses and aided materially in solving the labour problem, and giving universal satisfaction wherever employed. Too much cannot be said in praise of the patriotism of these women, who, in response to the advertisements of the Government, left their occupations as school and music teachers, stenographers, etc., giving up their vacations to assist in harvesting the crop, much of which without their efforts would have been lost. As your Secretary, I was glad to give such assistance in connection with the placing and locating of this help in this town and county, as were needed our duties in connection with increased Production will no doubt be dealt with by your President.

As citizens we are all concerned in the welfare and progress of our town. The members of the board pay the largest proportion of the taxes by which the town machinery is run. We contribute to its charitable, social and benevolent objects. We are interested and proud of our educational facilities. The progress of our manufacturing and industrial life receives our help and encouragement. It is then too much to ask or expect that members of this board should take a wise interest in the executive of the town to see that the money they contribute as taxes are wisely expended and that they themselves give and if necessary to sacrifice (because the times demand sacrifice) their interest to administer the affairs of the town. There can be no question but that the next few years will test us all as men and citizens, and the town needs as never before ability of its wisest and best men to administer its affairs and direct its future.

I cannot close this report without saying a word about the work of your President, during the past two years he has held the office, he has never spared himself in the interests of the Town or Board. Every good work has received his active assistance, and too much cannot be said of his unselfish work for the town and county. It is indeed an honor to have him as president of our town: a sentiment in which I believe every member of this Board will concur.

Thanking you one and all for your kindness and courtesy to me as your Secretary.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership was the beginning of the war 1914. It is now about 150 some of whom have removed from the town, 6 of these are honorary viz., J. W. King, Rev. R. B. Layton, Dr. Donohue and A. W. West, R. Harrington P. Innis, G. E. Calkin.

Early in the year Mr. F. B. Newcombe, one of our most prominent citizens and an honored member of this board was called away very suddenly in a way which was a shock to all our community. Many years of usefulness seemed before him but he was called from his labors into his reward. Judge Chipman's death removed from the membership of our board a member who was one of its organizers. A citizen identified with the growth and best interest of our town since its incorporation a busy life, full of usefulness and good work has come to its close. We sympathize with the families of these members and shall miss their presence and wise council in our work.

The treasurers party of the report showed 150.36 collected during the year and 143.04 expended.

The notice of motion to increase annual furs from \$1.00 to 2.00 was then taken up and passed unanimously.

### Election of officers resulted as follows:

President ..... George E. Graham  
Vice President ..... G. C. Roy  
Secty. Treas. .... W. E. Porter  
Council. After several ballots the following were elected members of the Council: Supt Blair, A. E. Calkin, R. H. Lamont, E. B. Newcombe, Judge Webster, A. E. R. Chesley, J. R. Webster, Rev. A. W. West.

The newly elected and energetic President, Mr. G. E. Graham was applauded when he took the chair.

On motion of J. R. Webster it was resolved that a committee be appointed to ascertain what land there was available in the town for use in production by others who had no land. The committee chosen was J. R. Webster, R. H. Lamont, E. B. Newcombe.

Rev. R. B. Layton spoke on Daylight saving.

### THE CANADIAN PRESS ON PROHIBITION.

#### From Canada Weekly

Since all the Provinces in Canada are already "dry," with the exception of Quebec where hundreds of parishes are under Local Option, the announcement of the Government forbidding the importation of liquor into Canada did not create the sensation such an order would have produced a few days ago. The Press is almost unanimous in praise of the measure. The Toronto World speaks of it as "a great reform," and says "While a small minority feel peevish over the prohibition measures of the government, the great majority are fully prepared for the change, and most of these welcome it as a great step toward a higher civilization. To the next generation it will seem as strange to think that we labored so long under this handicap, as it seems strange to us that our forefathers endured slavery, or submitted to be bled by a doctor for every slightest ailment or permitted the traffic in opium." The Toronto Mail and Empire says: "These regulations mean, as far as Canada is concerned, a complete drying up of the alcoholic fountain," and it argues that when men are unable to get liquor for some little time the alcoholic craving will depart. The Mail says that while the regulations are only for the duration of the war and one year after, it is very unlikely that intoxicating liquor will ever become again a great cause of riotous living, of national waste and of social demoralization and misery. "This war," it concludes, "may be fatal to the drink evil everywhere."

The Toronto Globe which fought with Mr. Rowell for the abolition of the bar in Ontario recalls that in the early days of the war Lloyd George declared the drink evil to be more dangerous than Austria or Germany, the reference being to the time lost by war workers as a result of too much indulgence in beer and strong waters. The Globe continues "The economic argument for the Government's policy is unanswerable. The huge sums spent on intoxicants are not only wasted, but the destruction of foodstuffs in the manufacture of liquor is a crime at a time when a patriotic and philanthropic duty is laid upon the people of this continent to spare something out of their abundance for the hungry millions of Europe." Like the Mail, the Globe believes that Canada is never likely to revert to drinking habits after the war is over.

The Toronto Star speaks in similar vein, and observes "intoxicating liquor

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### PROHIBITION THAT PROHIBITS

First class Legislation with enforcement by competent officials, ensures satisfactory prohibition.

The regulations to carry into effect the War Measures Act prohibiting importation, manufacture, and inter-provincial shipments of liquor, should provide adequate penalties and thorough enforcement. Even with the possible regulations and the most efficient enforcement there will be infractions of the Act, and for sometime the Province will suffer on account of surreptitious importation and manufacture.

In view of this, and for other reasons, the Nova Scotia Temperance Act should be improved. One of its serious defects is to be seen in the penalties for violation. When in 1916 the Ontario and Manitoba Acts were framed the penalty for illicit selling or keeping for sale, was fixed at not less than \$200.00, nor more than \$1000.00 for first offence, and imprisonment for not less than six, nor more than twelve months for second offence. In 1912 our Alliance requested the Government to make the penalty for first offence instead of \$50.00 not less than \$250.00. This request was, at that time, considered unreasonable. In the light of Manitoba and Ontario Legislation we hope that our Government will at the coming Session of the Legislature provide adequate penalties, and in other respects make the law more effective.

In the matter of enforcement it is gratifying to say that in parts of the province we have officials who make the best possible use of the Act as it stands. With a satisfactory law we would, under these officials, have ideal conditions. But we have officials who are by no means energetic or capable and on this account prohibition, in some places without reason of course, being discredited. With a defective law, and incapable officials prohibition is simply not having a fair chance.

If our Government besides making the necessary improvements in the Act, provides for proper enforcement: Nova Scotia will in a short time enjoy the moral and material benefits, that result from the kind of prohibition that prohibits.

### H. R. GRANT

New Glasgow, N. S.

General Secretary Temperance Alliance.

### LIBERALS WITHDRAW: NO ELECTION IN HALIFAX.

Halifax, Jan. 21.—There will be no election contest in Halifax on January 28, but the Union candidates, Hon. A. K. MacLean and Mayor P. E. Martin, will be returned by acclamation. This was decided at a meeting of the Liberal executive held this evening, at which about thirty out of seventy-five members were present.

A reply from the Union committee to the offer of the Liberal candidates that one of the Liberals would retire if one of the Union candidates did the same thing, thus allowing the return of one candidate from each side. The Union reply declined the proposal. Following the reading of this reply, R. H. Eisnor and Dr. Blackadder, the Liberal candidates, announced that they would not run. There will, therefore, be no contest in Halifax on the day set for the election.

## Flour and Feed

We are still headquarters for our and feeds and have on hand at the present time, Middlings, Bran, Cottonseed Meal, Linseed Meal, Schumacher, also Regal & Royal Household Flours.

We are expecting a car of Feed Oats, also a car of Cottonseed Meal daily.

Kentville Fruit Co., Limited.

### GRINDING

Quick, Good, Cheap and Never Freeze up. Now waiting for your grain.

### E. W. FOX,

Dalhousie, Kings Co.

President A. S. MacKenzie, of Dalhousie University, has received a telegram from the Carnegie Corporation of New York that they would esteem it "a privilege" to be allowed to repair all the damage to the university caused by the recent explosion. President MacKenzie says that he considers this a splendid illustration of the whole-hearted sympathy of Americans in our trouble. "Asked to assist to the extent of repairing the college buildings, the corporation replied by the statement that they 'esteemed it a privilege.'"

KENTVILLE

SIR WILFRID WILLIAMS

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