

## Reeve Leslie Harkness, Sarnia Tp. Warden of Lambton for 1924.

For the first time since 1875—a period of 49 years—a representative of Sarnia township was elected to the highest office in the gift of the county here yesterday when Reeve Leslie Harkness of the neighboring municipality was elected warden of Lambton for 1924 by two votes over reeve Fred Eastman of Arkona. There were four candidates aspiring for the office, Reeves Harkness of Sarnia township, Eastman of Arkona, Stevens of Dawn and Smith of Plympton.

Four ballots were taken in all. When the first ballots were collected it was found that one had been lost in the shuffle or that one of the councillors had not voted as there were only 27 ballots marked with 28 councillors present. On the next ballot Reeve Duncan Smith received the minority vote and was dropped and in the second ballot reeve Chas. Stevens fared likewise leaving the third and deciding ballot with Harkness and Eastman in the running.

### Donned Cocked Hat

When the vote was counted reeve Joseph Hackett, chairman of the caucus, announced that Harkness had received 15 votes and Eastman 13.

Reeve Eastman moved that Reeve Harkness be warden for 1924 and Reeve Stevens, another unsuccessful candidate seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. After taking the oath of office, the warden was escorted to the ante room where he donned the cocked hat and gown of office and returning declared the meeting open for business.

He thanked the councillors very much for the confidence placed in him in electing him warden and said that he would do his best to uphold the dignity of the office and to transact the business of the county to the best of his ability. He sincerely requested the co-operation of all the councillors and in referring to a number of ex-wardens who were members said that he would look to them particularly for help. He would be glad to aid the new members in any way possible.

### Striking Committees

Ex-warden John T. Sproule of Oil Springs, William Nesbit, former mayor of Sarnia and an ex-warden of the county and Nicholas Sitter, warden of 1923 extended their congratulations to the new warden, the second speaker referring to some of Lambton's illustrious sons who had at one time served in the warden's chair and pointing out that it was not only an office of honor but also one of great responsibility.

A committee was then named to strike the standing committees for the year and the council adjourned until Wednesday morning.

Prior to the balloting for the wardenship, the council went into caucus with Reeve Hackett of Enniskillen in the chair and after councillors W. W. Miller and Robert Hare had been named scrutineers the candidates were given an opportunity to speak in alphabetical order.

### A Liberal Year

Reeve Eastman of Arkona welcomed the members and said that this was a "liberal" year and that was the side of politics to which he leaned. He represented the smallest municipality in the county and this was his third term. This was the first time the honor had been asked for from Arkona.

Reeve Harkness of Sarnia said a Sarnia township representative had been elected in 1875 to the warden's chair but not since that time and that was one of the reasons why he had presented his name.

Charles Stevens of Dawn said that his municipality had had the honor but once and if chosen he would do his best in the interests of the county. The Plympton representative, reeve Duncan Smith, declared that he stood on his record as a member of the council for the last four years. If the municipalities were given the office in rotation there would be little honor in the office.

### Morning Session

The personnel of the standing committees of the Lambton county council for 1924 was determined at the morning session Wednesday with the adoption of the report of the striking committee presented by reeve W. G. Connolly of Watford. Reeve J. T. Sproule of Oil Springs, heads the finance committee, one of the most important bodies and reeve Charles H. Stevens of Dawn was named as chairman of the roads and bridges committee.

Numerous communications and resolutions were received and were referred to the various committees. These included a resolution from the county council of Welland petitioning that the provincial highway act be amended so that the province would assume the full cost of provincial highways. A similar resolution

was received from the county of Ontario and the Lambton council was asked to endorse both of them.

The manager and matron of the county house of refuge asked for an increase in salaries, although no sum was specified. They cited the care of bedridden patients as one of the reasons for requesting a raise.

### Blue Water Highway

Acknowledgements were received from the deputy minister of mines regarding the resolution passed in December asking that no change be made in gravel regulations and from the minister of highways respecting the resolution asking that the proposed Blue Water highway be not designated as a provincial highway at the present time.

The council of Hastings county asked support for a resolution memorializing the provincial government to amend section 460 of the consolidated municipal act of 1922 to afford some relief for municipalities from liability for automobile accidents on the highways.

High county constable R. J. Whiting addressed the council briefly extending congratulations to the warden and members on their election and stating that if reappointed to the post of high constable for the year he would give his best service.

### Promote Support

Under the "inquiries" order of business deputy reeve Thomas Burnley of Plympton referred to the eleventh hour rush of business on the last day of the December, 1923, session, and remarked that more than half an hour of the time had been taken up by outside speakers. He suggested that no speakers outside of the council be allowed to address the council on the final half day of the session. Warden Harkness assured Reeve Burnley that he would endeavor to avoid such an occurrence this year.

Reeve Miller of Moore paid a tribute to the sportsmanlike attitude displayed by the defeated candidates for the wardenship yesterday afternoon and suggested that the council should acknowledge it in some way. A hearty round of applause was the tangible mark of appreciation.

The three defeated candidates, Reeves Eastman, Smith and Stevens in turn, then thanked the council for the tribute and assured the warden that they would support him with both hands during the year.

### Committees Named

The standing committees named were as follows:

Roads and Bridges—Chas. H. Stevens (chairman), and Reeves of all municipalities.

Public Buildings—W. G. Connolly, (chairman) Ed. Armitage, James Kerr, Robt. Hair, Arthur Loosmore, John Barron, Ben Warren.

Finance—J. T. Sproule (chairman), Wm. Miller, D. F. McIntyre, Robt. Hair, Arthur Burgua, George Morris, Thos. Burnley, Arthur Loosmore.

Printing—W. W. Miller (chairman), Alex. Wark, James Kerr, A. E. Shaughnessy, John McDonald, Ben Muma, Wm. Edwards, Mason Spearman, Wm. H. Barrett.

Educational—Duncan Smith (chairman), Alfred Hillier, R. F. Rilett, Fred Eastman, Arthur Burgua, Wm. Edwards, George Morris, Alex. Wark, Mason Spearman.

Equalization—R. F. Rilett, (chairman), John Barron, J. T. Sproule, D. F. McIntyre, W. A. Annett, Chas. H. Stevens, Jos. Hackett, Thos. Burnley, Wm. H. Barrett.

Legislative—James Kerr (chairman) A. E. Shaughnessy, Ed. Armitage, W. G. Connolly, Duncan Smith, J. T. Sproule, Alfred Hillier, Ben Muma, John McDonald.

House of Refuge—Jos. Hackett.

Advisory—Wm. A. Annett (chairman), Ed. Armitage, John Barron.

High School Settlement Committee—Fred Eastman (chairman), W. W. Miller.

DECISIONS RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS

Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post office, whether addressed in his name or another's or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment.

If a person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and then collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken or not.

The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers or periodicals from the post office, or removing and having them unpaid, is prima facie evidence of intention of fraud.

## Here and There

A grisly bear barbecue will be one of the features of the Winter Carnival at Banff in February.

Ten Canadian and three United States teams have already entered for the Eastern International Dog Derby, which will be run during the Winter Carnival in Quebec, February 21, 22 and 23.

Progress and bright prospects in the development of sodium sulphate in Saskatchewan is reported by the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Sodium sulphate recovered from Saskatchewan deposits is now being used in the manufacture of glass at Redcliff.

A report of the British Columbia Industrial Commission Department shows loans to industries amounting to \$1,176,694 embracing 60 plants. Repayments have been made on principal by 55 industries. Total repayments amount to \$181,428, of which \$71,245 was interest.

For the purpose of extending Canadian trade in Greece, Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean, W. McL. Clarke, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Milan, Italy, has been instructed to visit these countries and report on the opportunities for the sale of Canadian goods.

E. D. Calvert, noted guide and sportsman of Rainy River, who has done much towards bringing tourists from all parts of the United States to the Lake of the Woods, states that the tourist traffic this year has greatly exceeded all previous years and anticipates a greater increase next season.

United States grain shipped from Canadian ports during the crop year, September 1, 1922 to August 31, 1923, totalled 55,000,000 bushels. This meant total landings of approximately 110,000,000 bushels, as it was necessary for the grain to pass through the elevators at lake ports and at ports of exit.

Miss Marion Towne, of Berlin, N.H., who in three years since she first put on a ski, has achieved fame through her daring and graceful jumping, has expressed her desire to compete with Canada's best girl ski jumpers at the winter sports carnival in Quebec on February 21, 22, 23 and 24th, during which time she will make exhibition jumps.

Further indications that the year 1923 will create a record in ocean traffic are shown by figures given out at the headquarters of the Canadian Pacific Steamships. Bookings for westbound sailings were exceptionally large, while those for sailings to the Old Country for Christmas and the New Year were in advance of the traffic of any previous year.

The Calgary Board of Trade is taking interest in the proposal of large British interests, which involves the utilization of western straw for the manufacture of paper and other products, and is getting all possible information with respect to the development of industries. Hundreds of thousands of tons of straw are burned in the prairies every year, which it is claimed has a commercial value.

St. Jovite, Quebec, has been chosen once more as a movie location, and arrangements have been made by Conrad Nagle and Alma Rubens for the transportation of themselves, party of 17 and equipment to that place during the early winter. Last winter Lionel Barrymore and Seena Owen located at St. Jovite for the filming of "Snow Blind" prior to taking other parts of the picture around the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, and Windermere, British Columbia.

Traffic through the Lachine Canal in 1923 showed an increase over that of 1922 in almost every particular, the total grain carried being 88,285,270 bushels, as compared with 87,831,212 in 1922, the best previous year; coal receipts totalling 813,591 tons, compared with 384,575 tons; the ship tonnage operated being 5,462,200, against 4,786,543; shipments of pulpwood totalling 356,980 tons, against 313,134 last year; the cargo tonnage being 4,411,183, compared with 4,360,328; and the number of passengers carried totalling 78,097, against 69,392 in 1922.

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The murder trials of "Sid" Murrell, "Slim" Williams and Clarence Topping, next month will cost the people over \$4,000 in jury fees.

Is Your ad. in this paper this week?

## THE HOME PAPER IN WINTER

From John Greenleaf Whittier's poem SNOW-BOUND (Written in 1866)

At last the floundering carrier bore  
The village paper to our door.  
Lo! broadening outward as we read  
To warmer zones th' horizon spread,  
In panoramic length unrolled  
We saw the marvels that it told.  
Welcome to us its week-old news,  
Its corner for the rustic Muse,  
Its monthly gauge of snow and rain,  
Its record mingling in a breath  
The wedding bell and dirge of death;  
Jest, anecdote, and love-born tale;  
The latest culprit sent to jail;  
Its hue and cry of stolen and lost,  
Its vendue sales and goods at cost,  
And traffic calling loud for gain.  
We felt the stir of hall and street,  
The pulse of life that round us beat;  
The chill embargo of the snow  
Was melted in the genial glow;  
Wide swung again our ice-locked door,  
And all the world was ours once more!

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