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Development of The Stone Quarrying Industry

Paper Read by R. George Hood at The Maritime Board of Trade Meeting at Summerside

An industry that is receiving much notice throughout the Maritime Provinces is that of the Miramichi Quarry Co., situated at Quarryville, Northumberland County, N. B., and which is being operated under the management of Mr. R. George Hood, a man thoroughly conversant with every branch of this fast becoming important industry, an industry of natural resource and yet in its infancy.

The sandstone and freestone deposits of the Miramichi quarry are most valuable for a great variety of architectural and engineering purposes, and not only for these, but also as pulp grinding stones and grindstones for metal grinding. The value of these stones is evidenced by the fact that shipments have been made as far as Toronto.

The following paper, read by Mr. Hood before the Maritime Board of Trade meeting held last week in Summerside, P. E. I., an account of which will be found on page two of this issue, will give an exact idea of the value this industry is proving to the Maritime Provinces, and particularly the value of the Miramichi quarry to the County of Northumberland.

"I wish to draw your attention to one of the natural resources of the Maritime Provinces, the value and importance of which does not appear to me to be appreciated.

I refer to stone, particularly our sandstone or freestone deposits. In these we have a most valuable stone for a great variety of architectural and engineering purposes. Not only is it valuable for these purposes, but also as pulp grinding stones and grindstones for metal grinding and all purposes requiring a good abrasive.

Regarding stone for buildings and other structural works, the other provinces of Canada can supply their requirements in all kinds except sandstone when their quarries are developed. For this reason we cannot expect our granite, marble and limestone to supply the other provinces to a very great extent. We should, of course, supply the Maritime Provinces because we have good deposits of these kinds. We are in a very different position as regards our sandstone. The provinces of Ontario and Quebec are, practically speaking, without sandstone suitable for building purposes, and when I tell you that sandstone and Indiana limestone were brought all the way from Ohio and Indiana to Regina and Edmonton for the Parliament Buildings of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta and many other buildings in these cities, you will see the possibilities ahead for supplying the other Provinces of our Dominion with their requirements of fine building stone.

A Toronto man, who was at Quarryville last year buying stone from us for Toronto, was asked why he came so far for stone. He replied that a good light colored Canadian sandstone was required and that our quarry was the nearest to Toronto. The distance is about a thousand miles. Now, gentlemen, I am not trying to advertise the Miramichi Quarry Co's stone, or make it out better than any other in the Maritime Provinces. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia can supply the other provinces for hundreds of years to come. I want you to realize that when Canadian sandstone is specified for a building in Ontario, it means business for the Maritime Provinces.

For a good many years past our Dominion Government has encouraged the development of our stone resources by specifying Canadian stone for Government Buildings. This was done under the Liberal administration as well as by our present Conservative Government. The Dominion Government Buildings take only a small portion of the stone used in our Canadian cities however, and the great question to solve is—how to secure the business that now goes to the United States.

Canadian quarries are handicapped to a greater extent than most people are aware. The demand for stone arose in the United States earlier than in Canada, and brought about great development of their quarries. Now, Canada has reached the stage where stone buildings are required, and the United States quarries being developed and in a position to supply us both quarried

and dressed stone at prices that discourage beginners in the industry. There is a danger that the Canadian industry will not attract the capital necessary to handle the business most economically, which is the only way to compete successfully with our neighbors who have a larger continued market. The United States is supplying Canada with a large proportion of the stone used for our large city buildings. The importations are sandstone and Indiana limestone. These stones are easily worked and the most suitable for dressing by machinery. Indiana limestone is a great deposit of stone that is quite as easily dressed as sandstone, and has become sandstone's greatest competitor. We have no limestone like it in Canada. In Indiana, the quarrying and stone dressing business has become a great industry, and up to a little over a year ago the stone for many of the largest buildings in Canada was not only quarried but also dressed ready for shipment in the United States. This affected our stone cutters and contractors in the stone dressing business so seriously that they petitioned our Government to place a duty on imported dressed stone that would cause stone used in Canada to be dressed here. This was done and now the dressing is done in Canada.

Unfortunately for the stone quarrying industry of Canada, and particularly of the Maritime Provinces, this protection did not extend to undressed stone, so importing the raw material still goes on. Surely the development of the natural resources of Canada, and the interests of those engaged in the quarrying industry, is as much entitled to encouragement and protection as are our stone cutters. It is very much in the interests of the Maritime Provinces to see that they get it. If our people and members of Parliament realized the benefits to be derived, the business that this would divert to the Maritime Provinces, I am sure they would bestir themselves in a way that would bring about the desired results.

Our sandstones are of pleasing colors, very durable and most suitable for our Canadian climate. When our quarries are properly equipped to both quarry and dress stone as they do it in the United States, we will be able to supply a better stone than we get from them, and at low cost.

As is the case in most new countries, Canada began with wooden buildings. She has now reached the stage demanding more substantial and permanent structures and the progress of the country will find expression in improved architecture. The demand for stone is bound to increase rapidly and in time be very great.

The sandstone of the Maritime provinces being easily worked, suitable for dressing by machinery and filling the requirements of our climate, these provinces should get a fair share of the business of the Dominion. That many of our people do not appreciate the value and superiority of this natural resource is evident by the use made of substitutes.

Whatever excuse there may be for using imitations or substitutes where good stone is scarce, or has to be brought from a distance, there is none in the Maritime Provinces. To use substitutes for stone in the home of the genuine article displays ignorance and want of good taste. The saving in cost is small and they are inferior in quality. Cheap and nasty is the stamp they imprint on a building. They are at best but poor imitations and fall far short of natural stone in appearance.

By frequent repetition of the use of the same mould (which is the only way of keeping the substitute lower than the natural stone in cost) architecture is stunted and distorted. The result disgusts all opposed to shams, and having an eye for beautiful and correct architecture. The saving in cost is far from commensurate with the sacrifice in every other respect.

A few days ago, to save \$5000.00 on a \$100,000.00 contract, the school trustees substituted a foreign terra cotta in the Amerdeen school building at Moncton, for New Brunswick stone. I believe the change will reduce the value of the building much more than \$5000.00.

Be that as it may, here was a fine

KEEN STRUGGLE FOR PREMIER HONORS WILL MARK CLOSE OF ADVOCATE CONTEST

Race Will End Tomorrow (Thursday) Night at 12 O'clock—Miss Parker Still Leads, but Other Earnest Workers Come Threateningly Close—Every Hour, Every Minute, Every Dollar and Every Subscription Will Count Until Tomorrow Midnight.

Another day's effort on the part of contestants, with another twenty-four hours of excitement and anxiety on the part of their supporters, and the Advocate voting contest will be a matter of local history. Today's figures representing the standing of the various contestants leave no doubt that the close of the contest will be an intensely exciting event. No apparent advantage, of importance, lies with any particular contestant among the first four, and the problem of picking the first prize winner remains as difficult today as it has been at any time during the campaign. "The one who has the most votes" is as definite an answer to the oft-repeated query of "Who will win first prize?" as it is possible for anyone to give.

While at least all of the contestants do not profess to be confident of winning first prize, it can be said that each of them wants to do so, and the respective friends of each one are highly optimistic in their views of the chances of their respective favorites. Miss Parker's friends and supporters, or rather many of them, regard her success tomorrow as a foregone conclusion; Miss Appleby's well-wishers do not admit her chance of failure to carry off premier honors; the people of Doaktown and vicinity are more than sanguine over the prospects of their representative in the contest, Miss Hinton; and many people in various parts of the country feel very sure that Miss Nan Benn, of Nordie, will repeat her father's achievement in the St. John "Standard" contest, and capture the big prize. And in street parlance, there you are. As the contestants enter the stretch, as it were, it appears to be anybody's race, with a close, thrilling finish as the only certainty in view.

It would seem that every contestant will need to put forth every possible effort in the remaining few hours of the contest in order to beat her competitors and win the coveted honor and reward which the leader at the finish will reap. Every dollar and every subscription will count. For all anyone can tell, just one little dollar may mean the difference to some contestant between first place, and one lower down the list. It is, therefore, apparent to anyone that it is essential to the certain success of any worker that she collect every dollar, and secure every subscription that she can possibly get. It is true, of course, that

our architecture natural characteristics."

Following was the resolution. RESOLVED, that it is in the interests of the Maritime Provinces that the Dominion Government should take such steps as will adequately encourage the development of the stone quarrying industry of said Provinces.

This resolution was seconded by Mr. E. A. McCurdy and carried unanimously.

Native of Blackville Dies in the States

The death occurred at Hoboken, N. J., on Friday morning, August 6th, of Walter Frederick James, aged 20 years, son of Frederick and Victoria James, after a brief illness of only a day and a half, of acute indigestion, at the home of his uncle, Lewis P. James.

The body was taken to Portland, Me., accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis James, and the funeral was held on Sunday, August 8th, from his home at 407 Cumberland Ave. Besides his sorrowing parents, he is survived by three sisters—Willie, Jennie, (Mrs. A. Phillips Seavey), both of Presque Isle, Me., and Stella at home.

The deceased was born August 27th, 1895, at Blackville, N. B., and was a promising young man of sterling qualities, and beloved by all who knew him. Mr. and Mrs. James have the sympathy of their Blackville friends in their sad loss.

All business turned into the contest office tomorrow will be deposited in a receptacle sealed by the judges, and no one can, by any possibility, know how much money or how many subscriptions are contained in the box until it is opened by the judges at the close of the contest. The judges' decision will be made as early on Friday as it is possible for them to do so, and will be announced immediately thereafter. A full account of the close of the contest will be published in the Advocate next week.

Prizes are Greatly Admired. All of the prizes which will be awarded in the contest were placed on exhibition in the old Commercial hotel last Friday, and immediately became the objects of many favorable comments by passers-by. On Friday evening while the band concert was in progress in the public square, the sidewalk in front of the window where the prizes displayed, was thronged almost continuously by interested people, among whom the consensus of opinion was that all of the prizes were exceptionally fine. The style and beautiful case of the Lonsdale piano which will be awarded to the lady winning first prize, attracted much favorable attention, and all the other prizes came in for their due share as well. Many critics expressed high praise for the \$150 cabinet of Canadian Wm. A. Rogers Limited silverware, which constitutes the second prize, others admired the \$100 silver tea service manufactured by the same company, and constituting the third prize, and by no means the least admired are the prizes worth the \$50 set of genuine cut glass manufactured by the Wallaceburg Cut Glass Works, of Wallaceburg, Ont. The prizes will remain on exhibition until the close of the contest. The \$400 Lonsdale piano has been tried by several competent critics, by all of whom it has been pronounced a very fine instrument.

The Judges: Mayor G. G. Stothart, Chas. J. Dickson, Esq., A. H. Cole, Esq.

THE STANDING THIS WEEK

MISS FLORENCE PARKER, Derby	470,200
MISS MARGARET APPLEBEE, Newcastle	467,400
MISS ZAIDA HINTON, Doaktown	466,000
MISS NAN BENN, Nordie	460,200
MISS EVELYN DALE, Blackville	217,800

Grand Public Social To be Held in Square

Patriotic Fund Committee Will Hold Social to Raise Needed Money

Some night next week the citizens of Newcastle will be treated to a social in the square, at which the band will be in attendance and a general good time will be enjoyed by it, it is hoped, a very large gathering.

The object of the social is to raise funds for the Patriotic Fund, of which Chas. J. Morrissy is Chairman of the Committee. A large number of Patriotic Dolls will be procured which will be sold by the aid of wheels of fortune, in a similar way as teddy bears are disposed of at exhibitions.

The committee realizes the necessity of their having to raise more money, as their fund on hand is just about all drawn on. It is therefore the duty of our citizens to assist in whatever way they can in making this social not only a social one, but also a successful one. Ice cream and soft drinks will also be on sale in booths, and the ladies of the town will be called upon by the committee to furnish the ice cream.

This will be something new in the way of amusement, which no doubt will be enjoyed not only by our own town's people, but by visitors from outlying points who will come

Installation of Fire Alarm Urged by Fire Chief

A Long-felt Want at Last Brought to Attention of The Town Council

Town Council met on the 19th inst., Mayor Stothart in the chair. Aldermen present: Doyle, Hayward, Mackay, McGrath, Ritchie and Stuart.

Communications were read from Geo. McDade, sec. Union of N. B. Municipalities, announcing that the annual convention would be held in Fredericton August 25th and 26th inst., and inviting the payment of dues (\$10 a year) and sending of as large a delegation as possible.

Ald. Ritchie asked of what benefit it would be to send delegates. The Mayor said the Union was of great importance. He had attended last year and found it very helpful. It was well that the representatives of the different municipalities should meet and exchange views. A leading question this year would be that of Patriotic work by the Municipalities. He would like to see as many delegates attend as possible. Patriotic work was pressing. He had had a telegram that morning from Lieut. Gov. Wood, urging the Patriotic Society to send representatives to attend Sir H. B. Amos's speech on the Patriotic fund in St. John the next (Friday) night. He had handed over the message to Pres. C. J. Morrissy. Delegates to the Union would pay their own expenses.

On motion Ald. Doyle and Mackay the annual membership fee to the Union was ordered paid. Ald. Stuart said he could not attend the convention this year. He could therefore, without being misunderstood, speak on a principle involved. Delegates from this council should have, and usually did have, their expenses paid. The service of those who could afford to give both time and money free was not always the best. Non-payment might deter some good men from offering for, or accepting, a place on a delegation. A large number need not be sent. One or two good men would be enough to represent the town. The Union was most beneficial, and he would move, That delegates be appointed.

Ald. Ritchie was opposed to sending any delegates if expenses were to be paid. Ald. Stuart—Why not appoint only one? Ald. McGrath wanted to have the Town represented. As no one was anxious to go, one delegate would do. Ald. MacKay thought that if we had no subject for discussion, it was a useless expense to send delegates. Ald. Doyle said that not sending delegates would look bad. It would show indifference.

Motion to send delegates was carried. The following were chosen. Town Clerk, Mayor, and Ald. Doyle, Creighton, MacKay and McGrath.

Following communication was read: Newcastle N. B., Aug. 19, 1915. Mr. James Stables, Chairman Park & Fire Com. Dear Sir, I beg to inform you that contract of Chas. Sargeant's with the town for conveyance of fire apparatus has expired. This system has proven very satisfactory and I would ask you to endeavor to have a renewal of it.

At a meeting of the Department, a motion was passed in reference to the steam fire engine. The company would ask you to relieve them of all the responsibility of the engine.

The Department is in need of the following appliances. I would ask you for the following: 3 pairs rubber boots, 1 rubber coat, 2 Stapes, 2 shut-off nozzles, 2 shut-off gates.

There is a very important matter which has been under discussion by the Department and the town officials for some time past, and that is, the installation of a regular fire alarm system. As you are well aware, the present system is of practically little use in giving us the location of any fire.

I would ask you to kindly treat over to partake of the hospitality of our citizens and give a little mite towards an object so worthy as is the Patriotic Fund. Further particulars will be given next week and announcements made, so be on the watch.

This matter with due consideration, Your obedient servants, C. M. DICKSON, Chief N. F. D. WM. STABLES, Secy.

To Ald. Hayward's question, the Town Clerk said that Mr. Sargeant's contract for hauling apparatus to all fires in the Fire District was \$75 a year.

On motion matter was referred to Park and Fire Committee.

Following bills were passed:

Finance	
Miramichi Pub. Co.	\$3.25
Police	
A. A. Davidson, Counsel fees	
C. T. A. Jan. 1 to June 30	\$171.00
B. F. Malby	\$3.49
Park & Fire	
Newcastle Planning Mill	\$3.00
Light & Water	
L. C. Coal Mining Co.	\$308.23
Crandall Harrison & Co.	189.00
Maritime Foundry	3.31
Cen. Gen. Elec. Co.	146.44
T. McAvity & Sons	62.89
	\$721.75

Ald. Stuart reported that the Petition Committee had failed to get a meeting with the majority of the assessors re R. E. Woodworth's application for reduction of taxes equal to a reduction of assessment from \$1250 to \$850, which had been referred back to them at last meeting. Only one assessor had been able to come to the meeting called for previous night. He had seen a second assessor a few hours ago, and he had not seemed favorable to a reopening of the question.

Ald. Stuart moved, That the matter of Mr. Woodworth's assessment be left as it was. This was seconded by Ald. Doyle. Ald. Stuart said that Mr. Woodworth was evidently, like many others, overtaxed, but in his opinion, he was not overassessed. The assessors had evidently valued Mr. Woodworth at about as far as the law says they should value all real and personal property and income, after allowing for certain statutory exemptions. Mr. Woodworth was most probably overtaxed in comparison with some because of his rate being higher than it would be if all were assessed at par value. Mr. Woodworth, who need not fear being punished by any higher assessment, should bring the whole assessment before the Council, the court, the Legislature and public opinion and endeavor to compel the assessment of all property and income at its exact value. Reducing Mr. Woodworth's taxes because his assessment was merely nearer par than others was not the true remedy but rather the raising of all assessments to exact value. The law should be fully carried out. That this was not done in every case was clearly shown by the Wireless Station with its immense plant and 54 acres of land in the heart of the town being valued at only \$15,000 for school taxes, when it was worth at least \$115,000, and the town thus losing school taxes on a valuation of at least \$100,000 a year.

Ald. McGrath said it appeared that Mr. Woodworth was assessed to the limit, while some others were not. Ald. Stuart thought that he was overtaxed in comparison with his neighbors. Therefore some relief should be given. He did not want him to be overtaxed. He moved, That the assessment be reduced from \$1350 to \$850.

Ald. MacKay said he knew nothing about the property, but thought Council should be guided by the assessors.

Ald. McGrath maintained that Mr. Woodworth being admittedly overtaxed in comparison with others, it was every alderman's duty to know something about the case. It had been up for discussion over a month. The property was passed by every day. Council should not neglect their neighborly duties.

Ald. Hayward sympathized with Mr. Woodworth, but the assessors ought to know. Ald. Ritchie did not see why the assessors should be interfered with. If the assessment were changed this year, the assessors might refuse to act again.

Ald. McGrath said that Mr. Woodworth had asked relief from the assessors last year and they had ignored him. This year, with practically

(Continued on page 5.)