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KENT COUNTY PARLIAMENT

Continued from Page 1.

by-law No. 354 be amended by detaching the towns of Dresden and Wallaceburg from the inspector of West Kent and that these towns be attached to the inspector of East Kent.—Carried.

Moved by Hernal and Vester, that Dresden and Wallaceburg be taken off the inspector of West Kent and transferred to the school inspector of East Kent. This motion was carried.

Moved by Brien and Campbell, that each division be supplied with a pair of hand cuffs for the use of county constables and that a badge be given to each constable; also that the badge and hand cuffs be left in the care of the nearest magistrate.—Carried.

Moved by French and Haggart, that the Council reconsider the equalization report to raise the rate from \$28,000 to \$30,000.—Lost.

The yeas and nays were taken on this vote and read as follows:

Yeas — Brien, Chinnick, French, Haggart, Somers and White.

Nays — Campbell, Grant, Hernal, Ross, Stewart, Vester, Wilson and the Warden.

Moved by French and Ross, that the Treasurer be asked to furnish a statement showing the insurance on the different county buildings and their contents, and with what companies these policies are held.—Carried.

The Council adjourned at five o'clock, after the passing of some by-laws, until ten o'clock this morning.

COUNTY TAX RATE.

The amounts to be raised for County expenses in the different townships this year are:

Camden \$1,376.06, Chatham Township \$3,000.54, Dover \$2,720.17, Hartwick \$4,920.97, Howard \$3,194.91, Oxford \$1,831.99, Raleigh \$3,708.56, Romney \$892.79, Tilbury East \$1,815.93, Zone \$727.04, Blenheim \$518.78, Bothwell \$109.09, Dresden \$478.81, Ridgewood \$741.97, Wallaceburg \$588.04, Thamesville \$218.79, Tilbury \$196.53; total \$28,000.

The tax rate this year is 1.1733 mills.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The last morning of the session was, of course, marked by a preponderance of heavy routine business, and a considerable amount of work was done.

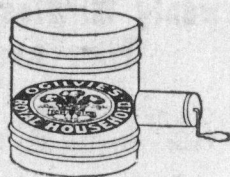
All the members were present when the Council met at 10.30.

County Treasurer Fleming's report in the present state of the County insurances was received.

Mr. Grant presented the report of the Committee on Education recommending that the Council settle with the C. C. I. Board by paying \$1,600 for 1905, \$1,700 for 1906, and that the \$1,500 that was paid for 1904 remain as it is, each party to pay its own costs.

Mr. Ross drew attention to an editorial article which had appeared in the Chatham Banner on June 8th in which it was claimed that he (Mr. Ross) had unfairly charged the Banner with partiality in regard to the C. C. I. matter. If he had been unfair in his remarks concerning the Banner, he was ready to apologize but someone had to show him first that he had been unfair. This Banner had editorially expressed itself as disapproving of the law regarding the percentage, and further the Banner had hoped that the Council would redeem itself. Well, it was a painful pity that the great editor of the Banner was not a law-maker. It is a pity that his views are not the views of the Legislature.

Mr. Ross read the editorial in yesterday's Banner piece by piece, interpreting his quotations with pointed remarks. The Banner had explained itself regarding the letters sent to it setting out the County's side of the case. The editor of the Banner, of course, had a right to stop the publication of the letter if he saw fit, but at the same time the statements made in the editorial article had not shown in any way that the Banner had not been partial in the matter. He thought it a slur on the Council that such stuff should be published. The remarks he (Mr. Ross) had made concerning the Banner had not done it any injustice, but the Banner's report and editorials had done an injustice to every



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gentleman in the Council. The editor of the Banner had a perfect right to his opinion, but to say anything about the Council 'redeeming itself' was a direct slur on the whole Council.

Mr. Grant concurred with the opinion of Mr. Ross in this matter. He also thought that the statement 'that the Banner hoped the Council would redeem itself' was entirely unalloyed and distinctly unfair.

Upon the motion of Chairman Grant, the report of the Education Committee was adopted.

Mr. Ross presented the report of the County Property Committee recommending, in its last clause, that improvements in the Registry Office, which were voted down yesterday, be proceeded with.

Mr. Stewart thought that the Council should not adopt the report as it meant that they would have to pay out \$900 for the fitting up of the registry office, which they could not afford.

Mr. Grant moved in amendment that the report be referred back to the Committee to strike out the clause on the Registry Office additions.

A tie vote resulted, seven voting for the adoption and seven, including the Warden, for the amendment. The report was finally left over until the afternoon.

A deputation consisting of Rev. Hodgins, N. H. Stevens, and Mr. Jewett, of the Kent Bowlers Association, were heard within the hall, asking for a grant to assist in the entertainment of the English bowlers who visit here in August. The Warden promised them the consideration of the Council, and referred the matter to the Finance Committee.

Council adjourned until 1.30 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.
The concluding sitting of the County Council was mainly devoted to the finishing up of the week's routine matters.

Mr. Ross presented the report of the County Property Committee, recommending, among other things, that several additions and improvements be made to the interior of the County Registration Office.

Mr. French moved, in amendment to the report to adopt this report, and Mr. Vester seconded, that the report be referred back to the committee and that the clause regarding the improvements to the Registry Office be struck out.

A tie vote resulted and the difficulty was gotten over by Mr. French moving, seconded by Mr. Stewart, that the report be adopted with the exception of this clause. This motion carried.

There was a little sharp discussion concerning this report and some warm language was indulged in by Councilors Vester and Chinnick. The former thought that "there was something behind this very strange business" and said he couldn't understand Mr. Ross' action in repeat-

edly bringing up this matter. Mr. Chinnick said that Mr. Vester's remarks were a slur upon Mr. Ross, who was only doing his duty in bringing the report of the committee of which he was the chairman. He thought Mr. Vester should apologize.

Mr. Vester said he had been misunderstood. He never meant to insinuate anything about Mr. Ross.

Mr. Ross closed the incident by accepting Mr. Vester's statement that he had meant no insinuation against him, although he thought that Mr. Vester had been unfair to him.

The reports of the Petitions and Legislation, and the Agricultural committees, were read and adopted. The committee appointed to deal with the matter of establishing a bridge over the Thames at Prairieiding presented their report, which was read and adopted.

Mr. Chinnick presented a further report of the Harrison Hall committee.—Adopted.

A committee, consisting of the chairman of the several standing committees, was appointed to deal with the matter of purchasing coal for county uses.

The by-law authorizing the transferring of Wallaceburg and Dresden from the school inspector of West Kent to the East Kent inspector, was read a second and third time.

Mr. Vester moved, seconded by Mr. French, that the by-law be finally passed.

In amendment, Mr. Somers moved, seconded by Mr. Chinnick, that the by-law be not passed, but that it be referred back to the committee to have the town of Wallaceburg struck out of the clause containing the names of the towns to be transferred.

A long discussion took place over this by-law. Mr. Ross expressing his opinion that the passing of the by-law would be an injustice to Mr. Park, as Wallaceburg was one of his best schools.

Mr. Grant thought with Mr. Ross that only the town of Dresden should be transferred to Mr. Colles, the inspector of East Kent.

Mr. Walker was consulted regarding the Council's power to enforce the by-law if once passed. The county solicitor stated that he could not answer that question definitely until he had considered the new aspect of affairs caused by the recent act of the Legislature.

After a very lengthy exchange of opinions the Warden was forced to call the Council to order and put the amendment and the motion. The amendment was lost and the original motion to finally pass, sign and seal the by-law was carried.

Mr. Haggart moved, seconded by Mr. Chinnick, that a grant of \$100 be made to the Kent Bowlers Association to assist in the entertainment of the English bowlers in August, half the amount to be applied in Chatham and the other half in Ridgewood. The motion carried on a small majority.

Mr. Grant moved, seconded by Mr. Chinnick, that the county solicitor revise the rules of conduct for the Council, for the purpose of making them clearer.—Carried.

At four p. m. the Council concluded its June session and adjourned until the fourth day of December.

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