

The Athens Reporter

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FIRE ENGINES AND THEIR HISTORY

A. E. Donovan, M.P.P., Delivers Interesting Historical Address at the Recreation Club's Banquet in Brockville.

(Brockville Times)

One of the most pleasant social functions of the season and one that will long remain in the memory of those present, was held last evening at the Central Fire Station, when the members of their Recreation Club with their friends, representatives of the Town Council, Public Utilities commission and 230th Forestry Battalion gathered around the festive board, and partook of a bountiful repast of the season's choicest viands.

During the course of the evening, Mr. Donovan delivered an interesting address relating to the history of the fire fighting systems the world over, from the days of ancient history until the present day. The organization and discipline of the various fire departments the world over, Mr. Donovan stated, is military in nature, and everything is carried on without confusion or hesitation. This important branch of civic development is better trained than any, said the speaker, and in the European cities, he added, the work is carried on chiefly by soldiers and sailors. In Canada and the United States the members of the departments are chiefly from civil walks of life, and the first function of all departments was the prevention of fires, and the second function was the confining of a fire to as narrow an area as possible.

FIRST VOLUNTEER COMPANY

The first volunteer fire company in America was formed in Philadelphia in 1776, stated Mr. Donovan, and was known as "The Union." The first fire engine—a hand apparatus—was introduced in America to New York in 1731, and by the year 1731, engines of various construction but all of the hand variety, were being made. In the sixth year of the reign of Queen Anne, a law was passed compelling each parish to keep a hand engine and a leather pipe. In the years of 1750 to 1800 fire boats of floating engines were used along the river Thames to safeguard the city of London, and the first steam fire engine was built in England in 1829 and 1830 and introduced in New York in 1840. The first engines were used in Paris in the year 1639, stated Mr. Donovan, and the very first which were invented to force water were the product of the brains of two Dutchmen in the city of Amsterdam in 1518.

ALARM SYSTEM

The methods of transmitting the news of outbreaks of fires are very old, and up to the middle of the nineteenth century, watch towers with alarm bells were used to warn the citizens. Mr. Donovan stated that the first alarm of the Morse system was used in the city of Boston in the year 1845, and in the year 1851 that city voted a sum of \$10,000 for testing signals, and up till the year 1879 only twenty systems were in use in the United States.

Continuing, Mr. Donovan said that the Egyptians in the days B.C., used leather bags as a method of fighting fire, and fire engines, he added, were also in use in Rome before the coming of Christ.

The first fire insurance company was established in London, England, in 1685, a year after the great fire of

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Mrs. (Dr.) Ed Giles Dead

Word was received here to-day of the death yesterday at the General Hospital, Montreal, of Mrs. Giles, wife of Dr. Ed Giles of that city. Death was due to a complication of diseases, peritonitis and pneumonia, the illness lasting but a few days. Mr. and Mrs. Giles superintended the Cedar Park Hotel at Charleston last season.

Seven Eclipses are Booked to Occur During This Year

Four eclipses of the sun, and three of the moon, the greatest number possible in a single year will occur in 1917. The last year in which seven eclipses came was early in the last century, and the next will be in 1935.

On Jan. 8, there was a total eclipse of the moon by the earth's shadow, visible throughout Canada, beginning at 12.50 a.m. and ending at 4.59 a.m., eastern standard time. Between 2 and 3.29 a.m., eastern time, the eclipses were total.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS ROOM

Joe Rahmer, of Bengough, Sask., Dies Suddenly at the Armstrong House—Coroner's Inquest May Be Held.

Joe Rahmer, a tailor who has been homesteading for years at Bengough, Sask., was found dead this morning in his bed at the Armstrong house here. No cause of death is known at time of going to press. Coroner Hardy and Crown Attorney M. M. Brown are expected to arrive this afternoon to make an investigation.

Arriving in Athens last week from the West to visit his family who have been residing here, Rahmer announced his intention of selling Saskatchewan clay lands. About nineteen years ago he was in the employ of Angus Chasels, merchant tailor. Subsequently he learned the barber trade in Brockville and conducted shops at Portland and Toledo. He went to the Armstrong house this week to board, and last night retired about 10.30 apparently in good health, telling Mr. McVeigh, the proprietor that he intended going to the county town in the morning. He did not get up when called and after breakfast Mr. McVeigh went to his room to see why he did not come down. Opening the door, he saw that Rahmer was dead, and immediately asked Dr. Harte to make an examination. Reeve Holmes was notified and he communicated with the authorities at Brockville.

McKenzie—Edwards

The marriage of Miss Florence Barbara Edwards, youngest daughter of the Rev. George Edwards, of the Mount Royal Methodist church, Montreal, and Miss Edwards, to M. E. McKenzie, of the Royal Bank of Canada, St. Mary's, Ont., took place at the residence of the bride's brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. P. Morrison, Sudbury, Ont., on December 28th.

ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Form III Sr.

Normal Entrance
R Kendrick 96, O Jackson 83, M Wilson 82, E Mackie 81, C Lillie 80, L Gamble 78, L Earl 77, F Rahmer 76, L Gorman 75, J Donnelly 75, L Whitmore 74, L Dixie 73, B Hollingsworth 72, L Burchell 72, R Shea 70, C Fleming 70, F Moore 69, M Rahmer 66, M Singleton 66, C Rowsome 64, A Purcell 64, V. Whitmore 62, M Reed 62, B Carty 61, D Johnston 59, H Johnston 59, A Keyes 59, T Craig 54, C Beach 54, K Smith 54, J Shea 50, L Derbyshire 50, E Hollingsworth 46, F Wills 46, M Brown 44

Matriculation

R Kendrick 86, C Lillie 74, O Jackson 72, M Wilson 70, L Gamble 69, F Rahmer 68, L Earl 68, L Gorman 67, L Burchell 66, L Whitmore 66, J Donnelly 66, B Hollingsworth 64, F Moore 62, C Fleming 60, C Rowsome 60, B Carty 57, H Johnston 55, T Craig 55, D Johnston 54, C Beach 51, J Shea 42, M Brown 35.

Form III Jr.

M Poole 92, M Gibson 87, Leonard Howard 86, E Guttridge 83, V Eaton 79, P Halliday 78, M Murphy 76, V Baker 75, E Landon 74, A Fleming 70, J Claxton 68, A Swayne 68, G Wiltse 68, M Halladay 67, L Pyce 66, N Young 65, Laura Howard 65, V Hanna 64, G Vickery 62, H Percival 61, G Drummond 54.

Form II B

P Davis 76, H Brown 73, M Pryce 69, M Taber 67, B Steacy 67, T Owens 66, E Peterson 66, R Burchell 65, I Young 65, G Hart 62, D Layng 61, E Leeder 62
M Wilson 61, M Godkin 60, H Rahmer 59, W Hollingsworth 59, S Singleton 59, A Ferguson 59, Marj. Hollingsworth 58, E Flood 57, M Hull 54, A Price 54, A Beale 53, R Hamblen 52, M Dunham 52, W. Young 51, A Love 49, May Hollingsworth 47, A Richards 47, W Steacy 38.

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WINNER OR WASTER WHICH ARE YOU?

On a recent public occasion the Honorable the Minister of finance for Canada, in addressing a representative Canadian audience, dealt with the urgency of everybody doing, even in the smallest way, their share towards aiding the Empire.
It is well to remember that every dollar thrown away extravagantly does one hundred per cent more good to the enemy than one dollar saved by ourselves.
The wealth of the world finally filters through individual dollars, and if the curse of extravagance strikes deeply enough, our ruin is bound to follow.
Save a dollar TO-DAY and do a hundred per cent more for the Empire than your extravagant neighbor does for the enemy.

The Merchants' Bank OF CANADA.

ATHENS BRANCH.

F. A. ROBERTSON, Manager

LOCAL ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. John Mackie are visiting their two sons and daughter in

Mrs. Alvin Judson was a holiday guest of her son, James in Brockville.

Miss Sarah Landon has gone to Kingston to take a course in the business College.

Mrs. W. B. Connerty and family have been visiting relatives in Montreal.

Mrs. C. F. Yates and daughter, Geneva were recent guests of friends in New Boyne and Toledo.

Miss Jessie Bellamy, of Toledo, has returned home, after having spent a few days with friends in town.

Mr. Philip Watson, of Balcanoe, will preach in Christ's Church Sunday morning.

People are hereby requested not to throw ashes on the streets to the detriment of traffic.

Dr. Fergus O'Connor once a teacher in the Athens Model School has been elected Mayor of Gananoque for another term.

Rev. J. de Pencier Wright preached his first sermon in St. Luke's Church, Kingston, on Sunday.

Ash Wednesday this year falls on Feb. 21 and Easter Sunday on April 8.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Rabb, Pottimore, Quebec, and Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Rabb, of Rossington, Alberta, were week-end visitors at G. F. Gainford's.

The Delta Women's Institute will meet in the Town Hall Thursday, Jan. 11. All interested in the work of the Institute are cordially invited to be present.

Methodist anniversary services are announced for the 14th inst. when Rev. Mr. Howitt, Prescott, will be the speaker, Rev. Mr. Vickery of the local church going to Prescott for the day.

Miss Hattie Moore has returned home from a visit with her sisters, Mrs. Arthur Leach, Montague, and Mrs. Milton, Smith's Falls.

Mr. J. R. Hutcheson, B.S.A., of Fort William and Mr. D. W. Hutcheson, of Escott, were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Kendrick last week.

Lieut. Lawrence Webster, after spending several weeks here in the interest of the 73rd Battery, leaves this week for Kingston where he will take the officers' course in artillery. Sergt. Cecil Taber will also take this course of instruction.

The annual meeting of the Athens Library Association will be held in the library room on Friday evening, January 12 at 6 o'clock, to appoint a board of directors for the ensuing year. Every person interested in the library is requested to attend.

Mr. Ferguson P. Moore, of Athens, and Mrs. E. R. Moore attended the funeral of the late Mr. Ready, of Crossby on Friday last. Mr. Richard Wills, Miss Lena Wills, Mr. Richard Ferguson and son Andrew were also present.

Mr. and Mrs. McGillvary (nee Jessie Kilborn) are visiting the latter's relatives in this section. Before going to the West several years ago (where she subsequently married) Mrs. McGillvary was a resident here and has many warm friends here.

LOCAL ITEMS

Mr. Wm. Bradley, of the Canadian West, is a guest of Mr. S. J. Dillabough.

Messrs R. Davis and Sons, Brockville, have contributed \$250 to the Patriotic Fund.

Mrs. Alexander Frazer, of Ottawa, was a guest for a few days of her sister, Mrs. M. A. Johnston.

A number of young people took advantage of the skating on the brick-yard last week.

The Presbyterian Service will be omitted on Sunday eve on account of the Methodist Anniversary.

Miss Mary Kidd, of Barrit's Rapids, was a week-end guest at the Rectory.

Mrs. Alex McClavery of Kingston returned to her home on Monday after spending a week with her sister, Mrs. Frank Foley.

The social evening of the Young People's Club will be held in the club rooms Friday evening. Ladies are requested to bring sandwiches and other members their musical instruments to help form the orchestra.

Mrs. J. B. Bellamy, who has been spending the past several months in Alexandria with her son, has returned to Athens to spend the winter with her daughter, Mrs. G. F. Donnelly.

The funeral of the late Thomas Hollingsworth, of Sheldon's, was held in Christ Church on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 30, and was largely attended. Deceased passed away in the Eastern Hospital, Brockville, having suffered a stroke of paralysis.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Henderson from near Moose Jaw, Sask., have arrived in Athens to spend the winter visiting relatives and friends, guests of the latter's sister, Miss Edith Chamberlain, Main street east.

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