

ONTARIO'S WORK FOR GOOD ROADS

Hon. F. C. Biggs at Toronto
Board of Trade Luncheon
Gives Brief Summary of
Construction Work in 1920.

On Provincial Roads.

Miles graded	185 1-2
Miles gravelled	349
Miles macadamized	50 3-4
Miles base course macadam	30
Miles concrete pavement	1
Miles bituminous pavement	71-2

Total miles constructed 652
Men employed (average) 2,531
Teams employed (average) 1,406
Steam shovels and excavators 21
Rock crushers 26
Culverts constructed 786
Bridges constructed 18
Approximately 50 per cent. of work done by the department and 50 per cent. by contract.

On County Roads

Number of counties	37
Miles	140
Graveling	65
Water-bound macadam	154
Bituminous macadam	44
Asphaltic concrete	2
Cement concrete	11

Total miles constructed 1920... 276
Bridges, over 12-foot span, 15. Six of these bridges are over 50-foot span.
Culverts, concrete box, 3 to 8 feet span, 140.

In several counties excessive grade reduction and widening has been carried out.

Several counties during the year have purchased gravel pits or stone quarries.

Maintenance.

The majority of the counties are paying more attention to maintenance than to actual construction, and many miles of gravel and stone roads have been resurfaced.

Estimated expenditure 1920... \$ 6,800,000

Estimated Govt. grant 1920... 3,200,000

Estimated county roads up to 1919... 16,728,270.46

Government grant county roads up to 1919... 6,496,974.84

At this date there are 9,530 miles of roads under the jurisdiction of the County Councils. This is approximately 19 per cent. of the total road mileage in the area covered by the county road system.

The mileage of Provincial county roads is 1,648 miles, which is approximately 17 per cent. of the county road mileage. There are 16 cities with Suburban Road Commissions, having a total mileage of 896 miles.

On Township Roads.

Number of township taking advantage of Government aid on road improvement 160.

One hundred and forty by-laws have been received from townships requesting the grant of 20 per cent.; this is 40 per cent. of the total number of townships in area covered by county road system.

54 this number 116 townships have appointed a road superintendent at an average salary of \$5 per day, and on which the Government grant is 40 per cent. It is a safe estimate to say that 90 per cent. of the townships will take advantage of this grant in 1920.

The majority of the work in the townships consists of building bridges and culverts, preliminary grading, ditching and resurfacing with gravel or broken stone.

A large number of townships have lately abolished statute labor.
Estimated expenditure, 1920 (approximately \$10,000 per township) \$1,800,000.
Estimated Government grant 1920, \$260,000.

ONTARIO FARMERS DRAFT PLATFORM

Strathroy, Ont., Nov. 24.—The meeting of the West Middlesex United Farmers' Association here today adopted a draft platform for the United Farmers of Ontario for the next federal elections. The principal planks are the adoption of the reciprocity pact of 1911, the reduction of the tariff between Canada and Great Britain by half, the admission to Canada free of duty of all foodstuffs, farm implements and machinery used in the production of the natural resources of the country and the imposition of two per cent on incomes of \$14,000 for single men and of \$20,000 for married men, rising two per cent with each additional \$1,000 income.

Contributions to a purse in aid of the widow of Joseph Jeffries are being received at the police station. The late Mr. Jeffries was at one time a member of the force. A good sum has been realized already.

BETTER BRITISH NEWS SERVICE FOR DOMINION

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Montreal, Nov. 24.—At a meeting of the Canadian Press shareholders held here today it was decided to establish direct British cable service of news, supplementing the present services used by the Canadian Press, and the board of directors was authorized to enter into an arrangement for the British news service of Reuters' News Agency to be edited in London by Canadian Press editors and carried to Canada by direct cable.

Under the new arrangement, the volume of news collected by the British Press Association, the co-operative organization of British newspapers and also that gathered throughout the world by the Reuters' agency, will be accessible to Canadian Press representatives and placed directly before the Canadian

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public without passing any foreign channels. This development, which will greatly improve the service of all Canadian daily newspapers, is undertaken at considerable extra expense to the Canadian papers.

Among those present at the meeting were the following: E. Norman Smith, Ottawa Journal (president); J. D. Black, Fredericton Gleaner; Frank B. Ellis, St. John Globe; G. Fred Pearson, Halifax Chronicle; A. D. MacNeil, Glace Bay Gazette, and J. F. B. Livesay, general manager of Canadian Press, Limited.

Rockefeller Gives Away \$475,000,000

New York, Nov. 24.—John D. Rockefeller has given away nearly half a billion dollars, his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., declared here tonight in what is believed to be the first authoritative detailed statement that has ever been made concerning his father's philanthropic gifts. The approximate total of the gifts is \$475,000,000 nearly half of which has been distributed in the last five years.

MAYOR WANTS AMHERST TO BE BETTER TOWN

Writes of Conditions and is
Going After Law-Breakers.

R. W. Ralston, Mayor of Amherst is out for a real clean up of that town. Here is a extract of a recent letter he sent to the Town Council.

To the Members of the Town Council
Amherst, N. S.

Gentlemen:
I deem it my duty to bring to your notice the unsatisfactory social conditions in this town. It has been years since I have noticed as many men under the influence of liquor as I have seen in the last few weeks. Disorderly houses are also prevalent in various parts of the town.

For the last six or seven months I have been watching this matter quite closely. I am not a detective, neither have I time to go around and ascertain what is going on in these districts but I have been able to learn from pretty reliable sources that conditions are far from what they should be in a civilized and Christian community.

I am not going to charge the police with neglecting their duty but by this communication I wish to be understood that I am fully determined that the law governing these conditions will be more vigorously enforced.

I have always stated that I did not wish to usurp the powers or functions of any of the committees of which I was not more than an ex-officio member. I feel, however, that the time has come when it is my duty to take a firm stand with regard to these matters and I shall consider it my duty to make prompt enquiries and call to book any officer of this town who is disregarding his oath of office.

GRANDMOTHERS DANCE IN ST. JOHN

(Sackville Post)

A St. John correspondent writes:—While a campaign against dancing is being launched in Montreal, the dance craze is gathering strength in St. John and this week a new cabaret, the most pretentious of its kind in the city, was opened, while plans are being discussed for the opening of another large dance hall. St. John folks were a bit behind other parts of the continent either in their enthusiasm for the modern dances, or in the opportunity to indulge in them, but they are now making up for lost time. A private class recently organized included in its members eleven grandmothers and the other members of the class each averaged three children of their own.

HISTORY OF DANZIG RECORD OF CHANGES

City Has Prospered Under
Polish Rule — Declined
When Cut Off from Vistula
Basin.

New York, Nov. 25.—Though Danzig has been much discussed in recent world news and has now again attracted wide interest owing to the attention given the Danzig problem by the Assembly of the League of Nations, but little has been written of the city's history. It is not generally known how the very strange anomaly of an apparently German town in a Polish country, at the Polish seashore, has become possible. The exact origin of Danzig is not recorded in history, but it is mentioned as early as 997 as an important town. In 1318 it fell into the hands of the Teutonic knights. In 1455 it was one of the four leading towns of the Hanseatic League. It was at this time that Danzig shook off the yoke of the corrupt Teutonic order and submitted voluntarily to the King of Poland, to whom it was ceded along with the whole of West Prussia at the peace of Torun (Thorn). Remained Free Under Poland.

Although nominally subject to Poland and represented in the Polish Diets and at the election of the Polish Kings, it continued to enjoy the rights of a free city, and governed a considerable territory embracing more than thirty villages.

It was during the 17th and 18th centuries that the city was most troubled by wars and aggressions. In 1734, having supported Stanislas Leszcynski, the Polish King, the city was attacked and taken by the Saxons and Prussians. In 1772, at the time of the first partition of Poland, Danzig was not separated from Poland but in 1793 was forcibly taken by Prussia.

Throughout its history Danzig has prospered only when Poland prospered. The city has at all times been wholly dependent on the Polish hinterland, and the decline of the Polish nation was invariably quickly reflected in the lessening of Danzig's commercial success. Recently Colonized by Germans.

During the last century the city has very largely been colonized by German. But the Polish spirit has not died out, and even of the German inhabitants there are many who are fully aware of the fact that to prosper, Danzig must maintain the closest relations with Poland. Polish newspapers are published in the city, Polish banks still do large business, and all nature of Polish businesses have prospered to a certain degree despite a century of political persecution.

In the schools of Danzig Polish was taught until 1850 and Polish sermons were preached there even during the earlier part of the present century. Polish historical monuments abound in the city, while the Prussian rule has left no vestiges worth mentioning. Statues of Polish kings, white eagles painted or carved in wood or stone, speak everywhere of the Polish part of this artificially Germanized Polish city.

SEVENTEEN TO GET FIRST AID PAPERS

At the annual meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association, the members of the local police force who recently passed an examination in first aid will receive certificates. Those to whom the certificates will be presented are Sergeant H. E. McLeese, Sergeant S. P. Spencey, Police Constables A. S. Gill, H. G. Donahue, William Gorman, A. C. McNeill, J. R. Corner, F. A. Gaudet, H. B. Young, F. W. Lobb, J. A. Linton, Alexander Chisholm, E. D. Howard, R. E. Storey, Andrew Duffey, C. R. Lewis and R. P. Dykeman. The meeting will be held under the patronage of Hon. William Pugsley, lieutenant-governor of the province, and Colonel Murray MacLaren, C. M. G.

HON. DR. REID RETURNS.

New York, Nov. 24.—Hon. Dr. J. D. Reid, minister of railways and canals, returned from England on the steamship Olympic, which docked here today with 487 cabin passengers. The vessel encountered rough weather all the way from Southampton and Cherbourg, the gamut running from snow squalls to rainbows.

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