

CITY TREASURER BUNNELL DELIVERS A SPLENDID AND FORCEFUL ADDRESS

With Reference to Municipal Administration—Brantford Affairs Also Dealt With in a Most Illuminating Way—Figures Which Tell How This Municipality Has Progressed

There was a very good attendance at the Rotary Club dinner, held at the Brantford Club yesterday. In the presence of Mr. J. M. Young, president, Mr. Scott, vice president, occupied the chair.

The address was given by Mr. A. Bunnell, city treasurer, who took for his subject "Municipal Administration," and during his remarks gave most interesting figures with regard to Brantford Municipal affairs. At the close he deservedly received the hearty congratulations of all present. He spoke as follows:

All the powers of the Municipality come from the Province. It would be interesting to any student to trace the growth of free Government resulting in the right of the people to manage their own affairs, but for the purpose of this talk we must confine ourselves to the Province of Ontario. It is good to remember that the people of this Province did not always possess the powers which they do to-day as it was only in 1849 that the Counties became the unit of division for Municipal purposes. Previous to that the whole Province of Upper Canada was divided into four districts, and from the formation of these districts in 1788 for nearly sixty years, the management of local affairs was committed to the several district Courts of Quarter sessions of the peace, composed of magistrates appointed by the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The powers of these Quarter sessions included among other things the laying out and improvement of highways, and making an assessment for the cost of same, the prevention of fires, the appointment of constables, the regulation of markets and the granting of licenses to sell liquor.

The form of our present democratic system is found as far back as 1793 in a statute of George 3rd entitled "An Act to provide for the election and appointment of parish and town officers." This statute enabled any two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace to assemble each year in the Parish Church and choose for the ensuing year a Parish, Town or Township Clerk, an Overseer of highways and fence viewers and two town wardens. The meeting however had no legislative power.

The first long step in the direction of popular Government in the rural districts of the Province was the passing in 1847 of the District Councils Act. By this Statute the inhabitants of each district were from January 1st, 1847 constituted a Municipal Corporation and were empowered to elect representatives to a District Council, in which was vested the power to pass By-laws for the management and control of local affairs, and to levy taxes upon real and personal property within the district.

It is interesting to note that the late Sir Francis Hincks, at one time a candidate for parliamentary honors in this County, was one of the members of the Government of that date and strongly supported the measure.

The Magna Charter of Municipal Government in Canada was The Baldwin Municipal Act of 1849, and this to a large extent forms the basis of our present Municipal law. Notwithstanding the forebodings of many who regarded the Acts of 1841 and 1849 as the first steps in a downward career which could only end in handing over the Government of the Province to demagogues and rebels, the history of Canada from 1849 onward does not indicate that these successive gifts of self Government to the common people produced any such results.

The original Municipal Act has been added to, amended and consolidated from time to time, and to discuss it at any length would be to tax your time and patience unreasonably. It will suffice to say that the Act as it now stands as revised in 1914 gives to Municipalities the fullest possible power of the management and control of their own affairs. In short a Municipality can now do almost anything which can be undertaken by an incorporated Company. Just for a moment consider what are the ordinary functions of a Municipal Council. They may pass By-laws for the protection of life and property; for the policing and control of the public streets; for the care of public morals and public health; the building of highways; the establishment of markets; the abatement of nuisances, the construction of walks, pavement and sewers; the granting of aid to railways and street railway companies, and for other purposes too numerous to mention.

The growth of Municipal Institutions is evident by the fact that the taxes raised for all purposes in 1912 in the Province of Ontario, amounted to the enormous sum of upwards of \$29,000,000.

Brantford may be taken as a concrete example of the growth and development of the Municipal idea. I will not go back further than May 1st, 1877 when the then town of Brantford took upon itself the greatness and responsibility of Cityhood.

As I should assist nature. It is now un- it is worth while remarking that the late James W. Digby, M.D., was Mayor; John Elliott, M.D.; John Omerod, 1st Deputy Reeve; Wm. Scarfe, 2nd Deputy Reeve; John J. Hawkins, 3rd Deputy Reeve. And the following gentlemen were Aldermen: D. Hawkins, P. M. Keogh, Thos. Large, M. A. Burns, Geo. Hardy, G. H. Wilkes, G. Lindlay, D. Costello, Geo. Watt and Ed. Fisher.

Brantford even at that date was thought to be a very important place. Comparison of the population, Assessment and annual expenditure with what exists to-day will be enlightening:

Population, Assessm't	Exp're
1876 10,821	\$ 3,358,610
1917 26,596	\$ 60,659,223.8

The expenditure of 1876 works out to \$5.70 per head, and in 1917 even deducting the interest and Sinking Fund raised for Water Works, Hydro and Street Railway which sustain themselves, will aggregate about \$22.50 per head of the population.

Of course things have changed since 1877. What were then luxuries are now looked upon as necessities, and while the above figures are interesting by way of reminiscence, it will be more profitable to consider the expenditure of ten years ago with what it was in 1916. The following figures are taken from the published records:

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When worry is added to overwork men soon become the victims of nervous exhaustion—neurasthenia—the doctor calls it. Some have no reserve strength in their systems to bear the strain; others overtax what strength they have. If you find that you are nervous and not sure of yourself, that you sleep badly, and wake up tired and aching, your nerves are out of order.

Other signs are inability to take proper interest in your work; your appetite is fickle; your back feels weak, and you are greatly depressed in spirits. One or more of these signs mean that you should take prompt steps to stop mischief by nourishing the nerves with food they thrive on, namely, the rich blood made by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These pills have cured thousands of cases of nervous disorders, including nervous prostration, neuralgia, St. Vitus Dance and partial paralysis. Here is an example.

Mr. P. H. Callan, a well known business man in Coleman, P. E. I., says: "I owe my present health, if not life itself, to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I had always been an active man, and when I began to run down in health paid little attention to it as I thought it was only temporary weakness. As time passed, however, I found myself growing worse, and consulted a doctor, who said that I was not only badly run down, but that my nervous system was badly shattered. I lost flesh, my appetite was poor, I slept badly and notwithstanding the doctor's treatment grew so weak that I had to leave my business and was confined to the house."

Time went on and I was steadily growing weaker, and my friends were all greatly alarmed for my condition. In this condition I was strongly recommended to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and as the doctor's medicine was not helping me I decided to do so. By the time I had used three boxes I could tell that they were helping me. When I had taken eight boxes of the pills, I felt able to attend to my business again, and people were surprised to see me out. I continued the use of the pills until I had taken twelve boxes, by which time I was feeling as well as ever I did and was being congratulated by all my friends on my full restoration to health. I feel now that if I had used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills at the outset I would not only have saved much money in doctor's bills, but would have renewed health sooner. I cannot speak too highly of this medicine, and would recommend it to every man who feels weak, nervous or run down."

You can get these pills through any medicine dealer, or by mail at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville Ont.

CATHCART.
(From our own Correspondent.)
We are sorry to report the illness of Mrs. John Barker. Her many friends hope for a speedy recovery. The "stork" visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wright on May 2nd, and left a fine little daughter. The W. A. of St. John's Church met at the home of Miss Louise Weir on Thursday last. A goodly number were present.

Mrs. and Miss Corless of Coniston are spending a few days with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryder and Lloyd spent Sunday the guests of Mr. Chas. Clement of Burgessville.

We are sorry to learn of the illness of Mr. Wm. Rixon. His friends hope for a speedy recovery.

Miss May Eaton of Tansley, spent Sunday with her parents here.

Mr. Fred Tunc is improving after a severe attack of tonsillitis. Wedding bells will soon be ringing in our midst.

The young people of Cathcart have organized a tennis club and intend having their court on the beautiful lawn of Mr. Kinseala's.

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