

**Guide-Advocate**  
Member of Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association  
W. C. Aylesworth, Publisher.  
T. Harris, Editor.

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
Display Ads., set, transient 25c in.  
Display Ads., set, year contract 16c in.  
Display Ads., plate.....16c in.  
Special Position.....25c in.  
Theatrical Adv'tg with reader or cut.....35c per in.  
Business Locals, Front Page 10c per line, inside pages 5c per line.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1923

**A Christmas Message**

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON with its feasting and merriment is with us once again. We see its influence reflected from the many happy faces as they pass us by. There seems to be a subtle magic in the air that is expressed by a heartier hand-clasp and a warmer welcome.

What a joyous gladsome ring there is to that good old-fashioned wish of "Merry Christmas", that we get from our friends. "The Same to You and Many of Them" we cheerfully answer back, with a sparkle in the eye.

For Christmas is the one season that takes us away from the bickerings and cares of business, and fills our hearts with human love and understanding and sympathy; and poor indeed is he whose heart or purse does not respond to its magic call. Truly, at this season, "The Bethlehem Message," is a living inspiration.

We feel we cannot better express our feelings and wishes to our many friends in more fitting words than those of poor crippled Tiny Tim in Dickens' delightful fantasy, "A Christmas Carol"

"God Bless Us Every One"



FREER—DOBBIN

Oil Springs, Dec. 14.—A quiet wedding took place at the parsonage Oil Springs, Wednesday afternoon, when Miss Ada Dobbin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dobbin, of Enniskillen, was married to Mr. Elton Freer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Freer of Enniskillen, Rev. R.S. Hoskings officiating. The bride wore a gown of navy taffeta trimmed with radium lace. After a trip to Toronto and Niagara Falls they will reside on Mr. Freer's farm on the 8th con. of Enniskillen.

The Guide-Advocate is well equipped to handle all printing orders.




**Simplicity Itself!**

THE interior parts of a Moffat Electric Range are trouble-proof. The user is furthermore protected against accidents because of the outside terminals and other safety features which make the Moffat the ideal range for domestic use. The Moffat Electric Range is simplicity itself.

Further information, illustrated literature and catalogue will be furnished by your Electric Shop, or write Moffats, Limited, Weston, Ont.

**MOFFATS Electric Ranges**

Sold in Watford by  
**McCormick & Paul**

"A Reliable Place to Buy your Groceries and Hardware"



**FROM OLD SUBSCRIBERS**

John Russell, Inwood: Find enclosed two dollars for my renewal for 1924. Please put in two tickets for me for the Sedan. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

L. W. Pike, Sarnia: Be sure and put the car tickets in the box.

Harvey Ainsley, Medicine Hat: Enclosed please find money order as per your statement. That Sedan sounds good to me. Please drop tickets in box with address and oblige.

Mark Moore, Denver: Enclosed find cheque for \$2.50 for subscription to Guide. Kindly drop in lucky tickets for Sedan. I could make use of the car, quite nicely, in this land of sunshine, as we have excellent roads the entire year. I always enjoy the home paper and it arrives in our city every Monday morning.

Robert Seymour, D.D.S., Philadelphia: Enclosed find my cheque on acct for \$2.50. I'll get the Sedan when I come home.

Robt. J. Styles, Petrolia: Enclosed please find order for seven dollars for my renewal to the Guide also my renewal to the London Daily Free Press. Please drop seven tickets in box as I would like a new Ford Sedan

Geo. S. McKenzie, Kelowna, B. C.: Please renew subscription and leave Sedan in Morningstar's subject to my order. No winter yet in Kelowna, plowing every day so far. Today is slightly colder, no snow here yet, no frozen radiators yet. We are hoping however, that we may even yet have some curling weather. All the Watford contingent here are fine and dandy.

Dr. Allan J. Cameron, Herman, Nebraska: I herewith enclose my cheque for \$5.00, to again place me in good standing on your records. Your paper, always welcome and always looked for, usually arrives here Saturday afternoon. We always find it interesting to read of the comings and goings of old friends and acquaintances although year by year the familiar names are getting fewer and fewer and names of strangers take their places. And almost every copy records the passing to the Great Beyond of some of the old timers. But the sadness that such records bring to us is changed to gladness when we read such items as "Dr. Newell receiving felicitations of his many friends on the occasion of another birthday." Keep boosting that "Old Boys' Reunion". We want to go back and mingle with the old friends again and meet the new ones.

C. O. Monroe, Fenelon Falls, Ont.: Enclosed please find cheque for \$4.00 to cover this year's and next year's subscription. Do not bother to send me that Sedan. I will come down to the Old Boys' Reunion and get it.

F. O. McIveen, Lansdowne, Dec. 13th: As I would like to have a chance on that car you are giving away up there, please find enclosed another year's subscription, for which you can send me tickets. Should I be lucky enough in securing the lucky ticket, you can leave the car in charge of Harry Schlemmer until I can get up and prove claim. Keep the ball rolling in connection with the Old Boys and Girls Reunion next summer, as the movement is a worthy one, and your efforts are bound to be successful.

Robert Leggate, Watford, R. R. 1: Find enclosed two dollars for my renewal subscription to the Guide-Advocate. Trusting you will not forget my tickets. Thanks.

Mrs. Alex Johnston, Arkona, Ont.: Please drop in two tickets in the box for me as I hope to be lucky to gain one of the valuable prizes given.

Joseph Carter, London: Please find enclosed \$2.00 for renewal of the Guide, I suppose this will entitle me to two tickets for the prize.

John McKay, Sarnia: Enclosed find check for \$6.00 for my subscription to Guide. Put in the amount of tickets in the box for the Ford. Put the name of M. J. McKay on the tickets.

L. J. Williams, B.A., Sault Ste Marie: Enclosed please find check in payment of subscription to the old home town paper to December 1924. Kindly throw my coupons into the hat with the rest and we'll trust to luck regarding the Ford, etc. We have had a delightful fall and are now experiencing our first winter. Business has been dull owing to the closing down of the Steel Plant. However, this is to re-open early in the new year, and a general feeling of optimism prevades the city. Reciprocating your kindly wishes for a Merry Christmas.

D. G. Brison, Vancouver, B. C.: We thank you for your good wishes and are enclosing \$6.00 necessary to put us in good standing on your books. This may mean that we might have to content ourselves with the usual stew in lieu of Turkey for Christmas. That is a small matter however, when we think of the enjoyment we shall have out of the nice Ford Sedan that your Community Club will hand over to us. Please do not make any arrangements for the shipment of the car until you have further instructions from us, as we may decide to have it driven to the Coast. We note with very great interest the report of Ex-Watfordites getting together in Toronto. How we would have enjoyed that reunion and to have joined in the reminiscences, particularly our much esteemed friend W. B. Race. I would so much have liked to recall to him the fact that he once collected thirty cents from me as my proportionate share of damages done to a certain unit of his \$4.00 a month property by Hal-lowe'en prowlers, when I had had absolutely no hand in it whatever. I believe it will yet be found out that Bert Kenward, Jack Brent and Harry Mitchell did the trick. Jack and Harry would probably have to do any little lifting that was necessary.

Last week's issue gave the terrible details of the sad tragedy. We seldom miss a day without one or more such incidents here on the coast, and we seem to pay very little attention to them. We noticed this item in the Telegraphic briefs here the day it occurred, but did not think to connect it with the family of our old friend Harry Durstan, whom we knew so well in Warwick and in whose family the writer was interested, while teaching in that section. Nor did we think of connecting the name of the poor young fellow Topping with anyone we know. Now that his father George Topping lives in Strathroy, it struck me that this is probably the George Topping with whom I went through the Public School at Keyser's Corners, and a bigger hearted soul never lived. This all brings it closer home, and it strikes me as one of the saddest tragedies that has ever come to my attention. Now it was not our intention to have thus added this length of letter to your already heavy Christmas and remittance-bearing mail, but in closing we wish to extend to your good self, the Guide-Advocate, as well as all our Watford and Warwick friends very best wishes for the joys of Christmas and the best of happiness and prosperity for 1924. Let us again remind you not to ship the Ford to us without further instructions, for we feel that nothing but your oversight to put our tickets in the box will prevent Lizzie from spending next summer in Vancouver.

The Parkhill Gazette will raise its subscription price to \$2.00 a year on Jan. 1st.

**THE STERLING BANK OF CANADA**

**SAVE, Because--**

The structure of successful business is built on a foundation of thrift.

*Sarnia Business College*

**IT'S A GOOD SCHOOL.**

**ENTER ANY MONDAY.**

**CHOP STUFF**

The death of a former Forest resident occurred in St. Paul, Minn., on Friday, Nov. 30th, in the person of James William Gammon, a son of the late William and Eleanor Gammon, who came to Forest to reside 53 years ago. Deceased was 56 years of age and was ill for several months. He is survived by his wife and one son and a daughter.

E. S. D. Gustin of Lake Valley Grove, Forest, father of Mrs. F. E. Rice of Wyoming, is one of the heirs who will probably share in the \$300,000 estate of the late Robert Edwards who owned property in New York City. After years of legal suits, the heirs at last stand a good chance to obtain their portion of the estate if their ancestral claims are filed by January 1. Mr. Gustin's father's mother was an Edwards. There are 300 heirs in Western Ontario.

Evidence of nineteen witnesses, testifying in a five-hour session at the adjourned inquest at Melbourne into the death of Betsy McDougall, daughter of Miles McDougall, resulted in a verdict of a coroner's jury placing no blame upon anyone in connection with the fatality. The girl died of pneumonia on November 10th at Mount Elgin Institute, where she was a pupil, a few days after she had been operated on at Strathroy Hospital for tonsillitis.

Mrs. Anne Thompson, nee Anne McLeod, formerly of Parkhill, who for years has made her home with her niece, Mrs. Kinsey Hutchins, died at a hospital in Devol's Lake, North Dakota, Tuesday morning Nov. 27th.

The death occurred suddenly in Plympton township on Saturday, of Charles Luckins, aged 66 years, 1 month. The funeral took place from the family residence, lot 11, con. 2, Plympton township on Tuesday afternoon to Wyoming cemetery.

Two pupils of the Lucan High School are laid up with broken legs. A girl had her leg broken while playing volley ball, and a boy had his broken while playing football.

Milton Deitz of Zurich and Wm. Elsie of Grand Bend hold a fine record for shooting wild geese this fall. While out one day recently for just a couple of hours they captured seven of these hard-to-get birds, the smallest weighing eleven pounds.

At its last meeting Dunwich township council paid out \$320 for sheep killed by dogs.

Middlesex county council will grant a rebate of \$300 to the village of Ailsa Craig, which some months ago was partially wiped out by fire.

The committee which investigated the lack of harmony in the Presbyterian church at Camlachie, Lambton county, reported to the Presbytery recommending that the minister, Rev. A. W. Gazley, seek another charge within six months.

Forty full grown turkeys, the entire stock of Mr. Pearce, who has a farm on the 4th con., disappeared from his farm near Kingsville. The birds were traced to the Detroit market, where it is said that two negroes, who drove an automobile, had disposed of them.

The Orth gent's furnishings store in Ailsa Craig has been closed on account of lack of business.

**BANK OF MONTREAL**  
Established over 100 years

Summary of  
**Assets and Liabilities**  
31st October, 1923

ASSETS	
Gold, Dominion Notes, and Silver Coin	\$ 81,589,681.80
Deposit with Central Gold Reserve	17,000,000.00
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada	14,259,744.89
Call and Short loans on Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	129,984,917.90
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	63,185,030.88
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	2,328,051.22
Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian	37,601,758.88
Notes and cheques of other Banks	44,911,059.10
United States and other foreign currencies	361,593.00
Loans and Discounts and other Assets	281,888,581.74
Bank Premises	9,800,000.00
Liabilities to customers under letters of credit (as per contra)	9,471,690.01
	<b>\$692,382,109.42</b>
LIABILITIES TO PUBLIC	
Notes in circulation	\$ 41,602,735.50
Deposits	583,391,196.23
Letters of credit outstanding	9,471,690.01
Other liabilities	1,384,628.14
	<b>\$635,850,249.88</b>
Excess of Assets over Liabilities to public	<b>\$56,531,859.54</b>

**A Full Page of In**  
News Fro

ALVINSTON

A very enjoyable and profitable evening was spent in Hope Methodist church on Monday evening, when Mrs. Mary B. Lowthian spoke on "The Passion Play", telling of its origin and describing several characters. She illustrated her address with lantern slides which were very instructive. Mrs. Lowthian witnessed the play while on a recent tour of Europe.

The regular meeting of the Literary society was held in S. S. No. 6 on Tuesday evening. Mary Westcott had charge of the meeting. At the conclusion of the business program an excellent social program was presented. Mrs. Westcott and Douglas Darville gave two interesting papers and Marion McLaughlin recited in a very able manner and Berthema Oko favored the audience with a vocal selection after which Harry Ormeroy played a mouth organ selection. The latter part of the program was composed of games and contests after which a dainty luncheon was served and a social hour was spent.

Mrs. Mary B. Lowthian of Niagara Falls spent a few days with friends in this vicinity.

Mrs. M. A. Temple spent a few days with friends in Detroit.

Miss Edie McCallum spent the weekend with relatives in London.

Archie McEachern, of Thorndale spent the week-end at his home here. On Thursday evening of this week a very enjoyable time was spent at Guthrie Presbyterian church where their new pipe organ was put in use for the first time. The program took the form of a recital and several very talented artists took part. Warner Smith played the organ in an exceptionally clever manner. Mr. Fuller played several selections of the violin which was very much appreciated by the audience. Mrs. T. G. Gordon rendered several vocal selections which were well received. The Ladies' Aid of the church are instrumental in placing this organ in the church which greatly adds to the beautiful interior of the church.

The annual Christmas entertainment of St. John's Anglican Sunday School was held on Friday evening in the parish hall. A splendid program of dialogues, pantomimes, songs and recitations was prepared. A feature of the evening was a variety comedy entitled "Listen Ladies" which was put on by the older girls.

The regular meeting of the W. T. U. was held on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. G. Hadden. Mrs. John Chalk, president had charge of the meeting and at conclusion of the business part of program gave a well-prepared paper on "The Travellers Aid" and also poem on "The Prodigal Girl" which was much appreciated by the members, which were well represented.

The meeting closed in the usual way. What might have proved a fatal accident took place on Saturday morning when John Bowie, 4th of session, Brooke, fell from the snow to the cement floor beneath. Was doing the morning chores in some unaccountable manner his footing and fell to the floor. The extent of his injuries are not known but it is feared his hip is dislocated and that he suffered internal injury. He was rushed to a London hospital.

The annual meeting of the Ailsa branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at Guthrie Presbyterian church on Saturday evening. An exceptionally large congregation was present and the report was read Rev. J. Bowler London gave a helpful and inspiring address on the work of the Society. Warner Smith, of Strathroy rendered music for the evening. The new pipe organ, assisted by son, David Smith, who played several solos in a very clever manner. A short recital was held at the end very much appreciated.

**BRITISH ELECTION RETURN ALL IN**

London, Dec. 14.—With the return from the Union of Wales, which completes the final election results and gives a seat formerly held by the Liberal, there is still the bye-election in West Derbyshire, caused by the death of C. F. White, the Independent candidate, to come before the membership of 615 can take place in the next Parliament. The bye-election will take place on December 19. Following is the present status of the parties:

Conservative.....

Labour.....