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The Reporter Office
Athens, Ont.

Vol. XXI. No. 52

Athens, Leeds County, Ontario, Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1905.

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Public School Opening

The date for the formal opening of Athens handsome new model and public school has been fixed for the evening of Tuesday, January 16th. A telegram received this week by Mr. A. E. Donovan announces that the Hon. R. L. Borden has kindly consented to be here on that day.

This leaves less than three weeks to prepare for the event, and no time to be lost. Committees for the various departments of work are to be appointed at once, and a public meeting of citizens for that purpose is called for Thursday evening.

It is expected that a member of the Ontario cabinet will be present and leading speakers of the county are to be invited.

REAR YONGE & ESCOTT

The nominations for reeve and councillors for Rear Yonge & Escott were held in the Athens town hall on Friday from 1 to 2. There was no large attendance and those present were unanimously of the opinion that the old council should be re-elected, as follows:—

Reeve—John H. Mulvena.
Councillors—Morley Earl, Joseph Clow, James W. Wiltse, W. C. Brown.

A year ago, the majority of these were new men, inexperienced in municipal administration, and the fact that they were able to issue a statement of the year's transactions of such a character as to meet with universal approval speaks volumes in praise of their executive ability and devotion to duty.

Mr. Mulvena, as reeve, has met the highest expectations of his friends, and with a continuance in office of the councillors of last year the affairs of the township will no doubt be ably administered.

Following the expiry of the nomination hour, Mr. A. E. Donovan spoke interestingly on the subject of municipal law, the close relation it bears to the industrial and home life of the farmer, and the importance of farmers keeping thoroughly posted on what is taking place in the halls of legislation, closing with an appropriate Christmas tide reference.

R. E. Cornell explained that the R. R. debentures would be paid in full by another year's levy on the village and township.

In response to an invitation to speak, Mr. Thomas Moulton, one of the best reeves the township ever had, addressed the meeting briefly on the subject of stone-crushing. He believed that the most economical and satisfactory way for breaking stone was to hire a crusher and have the owner provide the men to run it. In this view he was supported by Mr. Andrew Henderson, who thought the results from the present system were not entirely satisfactory.

The council held a session at the close of the nomination.

VILLAGE NOMINATIONS

Only a few weeks ago, it was thought by local calculators that the Athens municipal nominations would cause a brilliant display of oratorical fireworks, followed by a strenuous election campaign. Instead, peace, sweet peace, brooded over the nomination meeting. The following were nominated:—

For Reeve—M. B. Holmes, I. C. Alguire, S. A. Taplin, W. G. Parish, A. E. Donovan, Thos. Berney.

For Councillors—E. J. Parcell, Alex. Taylor, A. J. Slack, C. L. Lamb, W. H. Jacob.

For Trustees—W. F. Earl, Thos. Howarth, G. W. Beach, Jas. F. Gordon.

Following the nomination, Mr. B. Loverin, clerk, was appointed chairman, and he called upon the nominees for speeches. Mr. M. B. Holmes, reeve, in a clear, dignified address, gave an account of his stewardship during 1905. They had the completion of the town hall as a part of the duties of the year and this with some contingencies and incidentals had caused an unexpectedly large expenditure. The council had practised every economy consistent with efficiency, and had administered every department of municipal government to the best of their ability. His address was received with marked favor by the ratepayers.

Mr. Jacob, road commissioner, gave a comprehensive statement of the expenditures in his department during

the year, and gave satisfactory replies to questions respecting details.

Messrs. Slack, Lamb and Taylor spoke briefly in response to their nomination, returning thanks for the continuance of confidence as evidenced by their re-nomination.

Mr. A. E. Donovan was heard with pleasure in a neat address relating to Athenian affairs—the new hall, the new school building, etc.—and suggested, instead of having an assessor, collector, policeman caretaker of fire engine, hall janitor and road overseer, that these offices be combined and their duties be performed by one man who would give his whole time to the service of the corporation. This course had been adopted in other small municipalities, with very satisfactory results, and he thought the system would work equally well in Athens.

Mr. Berney advocated an increase in the charge made for the hall, and whether it was let on a percentage basis or as at present, he thought the minimum price should be not less than \$10. In speaking of the toll roads, he said that in the agitation for their removal Athens should play a more prominent part. Mr. Alguire and himself had done what they could as members of County council, and he was surprised that at the conference of municipalities held recently Athens had no representative. He did not yet despair of an arrangement being effected for the removal of the gates on the Brockville and Lyn roads at least.

Mr. I. C. Alguire, continuing this theme, said it was desirable that a strong effort be made at the January session. A conference of those favorable to the project would be held on the Monday next preceding the meeting of the counties council, and at this meeting it was hoped that a clear-cut, definite proposition would be formulated for presentation to the council. To this conference, he thought Athens should send a delegation to represent the sentiment of the village.

Mr. W. G. Parish also spoke strongly in favor of taking down the barriers that shut out trade from the district lying east of Athens. He said their removal was of far greater importance to Athens' interests than many considered it to be, and thought that the council would be justified in making every effort to secure the freeing of the road. It had been figured that if the counties council expended \$5,000 in the purchase of the gates on the Brockville and Lyn road the cost per \$1,700 of assessment would be only 50c.

As all other nominees for reeve had intimated their intention not to stand, the close of the meeting left Mr. M. B. Holmes as being practically re-elected.

Mr. C. L. Lamb, nominated as councillor, declined to enter the field for reelection, so that at 9 o'clock on Saturday evening it was evident that the council as well as the reeve had been elected by acclamation.

Mr. Howarth resigned his nominations as trustee and this left the old members of the board re-elected.

OTHER NOMINATIONS

South Cosby

Reeve—S. M. Halladay.
Councillors—B. N. Henderson, C. W. Topping, E. V. Halladay, Lotan Burch, all by acclamation.

Elizabethtown

Reeve—R. Davis, C. C. Fultord, Thos. Pettet, W. E. Davis and John I. Irwin.

Councillors—W. H. McNish, E. H. Easton, G. O. Taplin, B. W. Loverin, Jas. Perry, W. H. Baker, Jacob Barger.

Hudson—Webster

At 11.30 o'clock on Wednesday, December 20th, Miss Ellen Webster, daughter of Mrs. Wm. Webster, and Mr. John W. Hudson were married at the home of Mrs. Webster on the Stone Road. The Rev. R. B. Patterson officiated. After the rich wedding repast the happy couple drove to Brockville to take train on their wedding trip.

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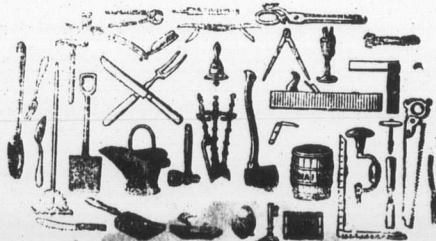
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