

# Farmers of Prince Edward County Are Talking Consolidation

## School to Serve District Around Village of Wellington Will Likely Be Established This Year—Many Meetings Being Held—Review of Consolidated Schools in Manitoba.

Though the failure at Guelph placed consolidation of the rural schools into disfavor in Ontario for a time, the setback was only a temporary one. Strengthened by the unequalled success of the schools of Manitoba, the supporters of consolidation here are rapidly increasing in numbers. Indeed, in several districts where the school houses will have to be rebuilt in the near future a vote will soon be taken on the question to decide whether one building for several districts will suffice or whether the old system will remain in force.

One of these districts is that of Wellington, in the county of Prince Edward. This section is particularly well situated for the adoption of the consolidated idea. At present there is a rather large village school, near the end of its days, and two or three one-roomed affairs within a few miles of the village. In order to get a high school education it is necessary for the children of Wellington and the surrounding district to move to the town of Picton, over ten miles away. In this latter respect this district is quite similar to the majority of rural sections in Ontario.

Discussion has been a live topic for conversation in Prince Edward county for a number of years, but until some of the school houses had to be rebuilt this movement amounted to little. A week or two ago, however, a vigorous campaign was started by F. P. Smith, Inspector of Public Schools, for that county, and A. P. McVannell, the Agricultural Representative. The object of this campaign was not simply to win a majority of the people in the Wellington district over to consolidation, but to prove to all the ratepayers by facts and figures that such a step is necessary. Local and outside speakers were brought into the section for this work, and as a result opposition to consolidation is dying down.

"From observations during the twelve years I have spent in this county I believe that there is no one thing that will do more to advance the interests of the community here than a real up-to-date consolidated school," stated A. P. McVannell in school. "Education has become most important from a farmer's standpoint," continued Mr. McVannell, "and in this part of the county particularly agriculture is by far the most important industry."

The speaker contended that knowledge and training were needed in farming just as much as in other lines of work, but that under the present system boys and girls were being educated away from the land.

Transportation Problems  
Transportation of the children from their homes to the school has long been the bane of consolidation, and in some cases has been the shield behind which the anti-consolidated ratepayer has hidden. Mr. McVannell, while not going into details, disposed of the transportation question in a few words: "It seems unreasonable to me, at least," he said, "that we with our good roads and long experience should let this thing stand in our way when the people of Manitoba have found that this is one of the least important of their problems in the establishment of over one hundred consolidated schools."

Mr. Smith, the Public School Inspector, gave the educationists' side of the question. He claimed that under the present system it was impossible to retain the services of the average teacher in one school for a complete year. "Sixty per cent of the teachers in the public schools of Prince Edward change teachers at least once a year," he said. "What progress can we make under these conditions?" Mr. Smith claimed that owing to the present antiquated system of education in the country schools pupils from the latter institutions were invariably behind their more favored urban cousins during the first two or three years when the

two classes met in competition in the high schools.  
In concluding his brief address this speaker made a strong plea for improvement in that district. "We change our methods of farming when we see a better system," he stated, "yet we are content to let a system one hundred years old be responsible for our greatest asset, the children."

Practical Side of It  
The practical side of the question was discussed by Mr. Wm. Iversch, President of the Rural Manitoba School Trustees' Association, and a prominent farmer in the west. Mr. Iversch was brought into Ontario to enlighten the people of this province regarding consolidation by the Provincial Government.

In discussing the question from a national standpoint this speaker made a significant assertion. "If we keep on as we have been doing," he said, "within the next hundred years all the agricultural land in this country will have passed out of the hands of the English-speaking people." Mr. Iversch claimed that the present system of education lacked permanency because the teaching profession was quickly passing into the hands of women. "We have lost the men teachers because we have lost the job for them. We have not adapted our educational system to the ever changing conditions around us."

In supporting his statements regarding the rural depopulation of the English-speaking people this speaker explained that on account of the difficulty of educating the children in the country many parents were forced to move to town. "In every case," he said, "these are the very best class of farmers we have, men who have made a success of farming and who were usually leaders in their community. Their farms are sold to inexperienced men who must struggle along on inadequate capital, and who have little time for public questions affecting the section. Under consolidation, this movement would be checked," continued Mr. Iversch. "The children would receive a competent public schooling and three years of high school education in their own neighborhood. They would spend every night at home during this period, where they would add to the social life of the district and incidentally be under the eye of their parents."

Consolidation in Manitoba  
According to this authority, without exception all schools that have adopted consolidation in Manitoba have remained consolidated despite the increased expenditure. Though the winters there are admitted to be much more severe than in Ontario, and under consolidation children living ten and twelve miles away are driven to school, the attendance of these pupils is twenty-five days more per year than that of the children who live in the village within a few minutes' walk of the school house. Mr. Iversch stated that despite the bad state of the roads in the winter time in his district, the twelve covered vans operating in connection with the school had not averaged losing one trip apiece during the last seven years.

In the winter these vans which convey the children to the schools are heated by coal stoves, which make them as comfortable as the school rooms. The stoves are bolted to the floor to prevent fires, in case of the rig upsets. The vans, which are driven by contractors, call at the door of each house along the route, and by law are not allowed to wait more than two minutes for any child. In summer lighter vehicles are used.

Some of the Advantages  
The expense of keeping up a consolidated school is naturally higher than the cost of maintaining the three or four schools under the old system, but the change is certainly worth it. Where one large building is used to serve the locality, fewer and better teachers can be procured. One instructor will not be responsible for the training of children in

all grades from the lowest to the entrance class. A high school education can be given which will fit the young people for university without going away from their own home. With a central seat of instruction, more agriculture may be taught, with the result that the country boy may learn something regarding the theoretical side of his father's business. With van routes established, general good roads will soon follow. Consolidated schools materially add to the value of farm lands in the neighborhood.

The children are almost universally in favor of consolidation, but some of the older people are not. The chief antagonists to the movement, which will cost more money and will not return dividends in the form of cash immediately, are men who do not really value education themselves, and who, in the majority of cases, have no children of their own. These people should look to the future. The country districts are being depopulated; we need some way of keeping the young people on the farm, or all remaining social life in rural Ontario will vanish, and with its departure the gradual passing of the agricultural land into the hands of inexperienced foreigners. Consolidation will undoubtedly help to check this movement.

Reason alone is well worth the increased expenditure necessary for its adoption in the bulk of the school sections in older Ontario—Gordon Furrow, in The Globe.

## Vandals Abused Pastor's Horse

Oshawa, April 15.—Throughout East Whitby, great indignation is felt over an act of vandalism committed on Rev. Mr. Simpson's horse at Raglan. Mr. Simpson, who lives in Columbus, had gone to Raglan to address a meeting at the church and as is customary, had tied his horse in the church shed. While in the church, some young bloods started to work and cut the tail and mane, and clipped one side of the animal. While suspicious as to who the guilty parties are, no definite information has as yet been secured. Members of the local police force were at Raglan last week and looked up a couple of suspects, but the pair proved a perfect alibi, and were not arrested.—Reformer.

## Secumbed to Operation

Mr. Gray Passed Away in Toronto Hospital.  
A message reached the city this morning that Mr. Gray, proprietor of the Paper Mills in Thurlow, just south of the city, had passed away in Toronto General Hospital, following a serious operation. The news came as a great shock to his many friends. Mr. Gray had not long been a resident of this city, where he lived on Foster Avenue, but he had made himself very popular. His friends had been called to his bedside.

## Big Motor Carnival Will Tour Ontario In July Next

Band Concerts and Open-Air Speakers will be Feature of 900-Mile Camping Trip of Michigan Pikers' Association  
A motor caravan, big and spectacular as a circus, with a band and open-air speakers in the cause of good roads, will be seen in Toronto on July 16 and 17. The Ontario Motor League has received a letter from the manager of the Michigan Pikers Association giving details of the tour. The latter association is an organization whose object is to promote construction of highways and to carry on education propaganda. The principal feature of the tour of which is an annual automobile tour of two weeks. This year the trip will take in 800-mile stretch from Sault Ste. Marie to Toronto.

Last year when a trial trip of the route was made the bridge on the Blind River at Algoma Mills was not finished and autos had to be changed. The government has given assurance that the bridge will be completed and open for traffic by July.

The manager of the association in his letter says that the prospects are that 40 cars and 12 motor trucks will take part in the tour, comprising a caravan of between 200 and 300 people. The party will be self-contained. Some of the trucks will carry complete camp equipment. One of them will be fitted out as a complete kitchen, another will carry

provisions; a third will be an auto-repair shop and so on. It is expected that 20 or 25 "camp-followers" in unofficial cars will trail the party. These will be welcome, and their number will be encouraged.

The party will leave Hamilton on July 14. They will reach Toronto on July 18, and leave for Toronto in time for dinner. They will move from here next morning.

It is hoped that the Ford Company's band, considered one of the best in the United States, will be able to accompany them. The Ford company's moving picture department is expected, both taking pictures and giving displays in the different towns of a good road nature. Shows will be made frequently along the route and open-air addresses delivered and band concerts held. The whole thing is expected to result in a whirlwind raising of goods roads sentiment.

Several 800 people intend to take part in the trip.  
The Michigan Pikers Association has asked the Ontario Motor League to co-operate in seeing that the route of the Canadian part of the tour is properly marked. The O.M.L. will send out a roadside car to see that this is done.—Peterboro Examiner.

## OBITUARY

MRS. SARAH DENTON

Mrs. Sarah Denton passed away last night at the home of her son, Mr. Matthew Denton, 29 Bridge street west, at the age of 74 years. She was born in England and was a daughter of the late William Izzard. Her husband predeceased her several years ago.

Mrs. Denton had lived in Canada for 49 years and for the past year in Belleville. She was a faithful member of the Methodist Church. For many years she had been in poor health.  
Surviving are four sons and five daughters, the sons, William of Manitoba, Harry of Edmonton, Charles of New York and Matthew D. of Belleville and the daughters, Mrs. A. Floyd, Toronto, Mrs. E. Simmons, Alberta, Mrs. Wesley Parham, of Massachusetts, Mrs. Alfred Anderson, of Alberta and Mrs. W. Jeffrey, of Sidney.

## A Little Talk About Baseball

The teams in the Willowdale League this year are stronger than ever. President "Ray" Hunt says that this league will enjoy the best season since its inception. All clubs have announced their line ups, and present indications are that the race for the E. G. Saylor Trophy will be a tough one. If "Gannonhall" Scott and "Duke" Hennesey work on the points for Hillcrest's "Pit" the fans are going to see the best battery that ever worked together. Scott is rated as the best amateur ball pitcher in Ontario, while Hennesey has no comparison in the amateur ranks. He has gained thirty pounds in the last three months.—Toronto Telegram. It will be pleasing news when Scott finally announces where he intends to summer. So much of this same kind of twaddle about Scott was carried on last year that it was a forgone conclusion in the Central League that Lindsay was the only team that had a chance for the championship. But "Gannonhall" proved easy picking for all the Central Leaguers and should be even easier this summer.—Oshawa Reformer.

Mille's Worm Powders prove their value. They do not cause any violent disturbances in the stomach, any pain or griping, but do their work quietly and painlessly, so that the destruction of the worms is imperceptible. Yet they are thorough, and from the first dose there is improvement in the condition of the sufferer, and an entire cessation of manifestations of internal trouble.

Miss B. Swanson is in Hospital  
Clothing Caught Fire While Sitting Ashes—Brother Suffered Also  
OSHAWA, April 15.—About 6.30 Tuesday morning a very sad and painful accident occurred at the home of Mrs. Swanson, 52 Drew St., when Miss Belle Swanson was seriously burned as a result of a spark catching in her clothing while sitting in a chair. Her brother, Mr. B. Swanson, was the only person

## AN INTERNATIONAL MANIFESTO

Written for The Ontario by  
Clas. M. Rice, Lawyer, Denver, Colorado

The Western world, through economic necessity, is linked in a common bond; its nations must hang together or hang separately, to use the Benjamin Franklin phrase. They must stand together in the adversity following the great war of destruction or fall into the abyss of anarchy, one by one—and that abyss is not so very far off.

This in substance is the effect of the Allied Supreme Council which was published a few days ago, a document that will be made much of in history, envisaging as it does the internationalism embodied in the League of Nations instrument. It separates more distinctly than anything that has come from the society of nations the new world from the old.

The memorandum, as it is modestly termed, asks us to forget the bitterness and enmities of the recent conflict, to bind the wounds of war, to pick up the defeated foe and help it to regain its independence. Humanitarianism it may be, but is it not a marked departure from the old, unwritten law of a nation? A necessity it may be, and doubtless is, but it illustrates the modern interdependence of nations upon nations. It is a necessity for those who have the power of life and death over the defeated to lift the latter to its feet if the world structure is not to crack.

Germany and Austria, the Allied Council declares, must be given material support; they will be invited to trade with the outer world and encouraged to resume manufactures. Russia must be weaned from its economic madness and new republics and monarchies must be buttressed by the stronger. There is no nation so strong, not even our own, that can remain unscathed if the other nations go down in the welter. The war is over. It lasted so long and brought such exhaustion to both victor and vanquished that there is extreme danger to our common heritage. The war to put down mankind's enemy so endangered the whole foundation of society that we cannot afford the luxury of revenge. Punishment must be kept within bounds.

A treaty of peace, imposing terms upon the greater enemy nation, signed and sealed a few months ago by European and Asiatic powers, is

down stairs at that hour and apparently did not notice that her clothing was burning till it had made considerable headway.  
Her brother, Mr. D. A. J. Swanson, who has just recently returned home, heard her calling for assistance and quickly hastened to her aid but by that time her clothes were a mass of flames. Although it was only a matter of thirty seconds or so till he was able to smother the flames, she was in a very critical condition.

Mr. Swanson who worked so heroically to save his sister, was also burned badly but not seriously. His hands suffered the most and it will be a matter of six weeks or so before he will be able to use them. His feet and legs were also burned but not as badly as his hands.  
Doctors Rundell, Donovan and Kaiser were summoned to the house but beyond relieving her of the severe pain, were unable to do anything further till she was taken to the hospital.

At the present time of writing the doctors state that her condition is very grave and that there is little hope for her recovery. Miss Swanson is the principal of the Cedar Dale School and was in the midst of considerable work making preparation for her entrance class. Her keen sense of duty was shown when before being taken to the hospital, she was heard to mention her class at the school.

Everything possible is being done to aid her recovery and her many friends in town hope to see her improve steadily. Her condition at time of going to press this afternoon was still very critical.

S. S. NO. 4 THURLOW  
St. IV.—Queens Mitchell, Jim Moorman.

St. IV.—Arthur Turner, Beatrice Moorman.

St. II.—Erwin Hill.

St. III.—Aldora Reid, Alice Moorman.

St. II.—Lulu Mitchell, George Moorman, Hazel Gray, Marie Fitzgerald.

St. I.—Annie Reid and Marion McDermott, equal; Ethel Barlow, Clarence Barlow, Gordon Virvan.

M. Anderson, Teacher.

8000 bonds for the purpose of assisting in the erection of a Soldiers' Memorial Hospital was defeated, the vote being 375 for and 220 against, and 583 favorable votes being necessary to carry the by-law.

The Glasscoot Co. will put up a factory on the old smelter site, bringing clay from near Washago at the north end of the lake, and manufacture sewer tile. It is expected the plant will be in operation in August.

## Women's Missionary Society John St. Ch.

The Women's Missionary Society of John St. Presbyterian Church held their annual Easter meeting last evening in the lecture room of the church, with a good attendance. The auxiliary president, Mrs. S. Russell, presided. The program which was exceedingly interesting and instructive, was given entirely by the members of the "Home Helpers" department. The offering was the largest at any Easter meeting, in the history of the society. There was also one new life member. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served and a pleasant social half hour spent.

## Men Who Have Marrying Manias

Kid McCoy, the famous boxer, is a hero of the ring in a double sense, in that he is just getting married for the seventh time.

The myrtle number seven, by the way, seems to be about the limit in matrimonial ventures as regards men.

That is to say, there are several cases on record of seven brides having been led to the altar by the same individual, but there is no instance of this number having been exceeded. Of course bigamists do not count in this connection, otherwise the notorious Witzoff, with his two hundred odd "wives" romps home an easy first.

Probably the best known example of a much-married man is afforded by Sir Gervase Clifton, the historian of Jamaica, who married seven wives, five of them being domestic servants, from his own household. His matrimonial ventures all turned out happily.

Nat Goodwin, the actor, was married five times, and was about to repeat the experiment for a sixth time when he died, early in 1919. Not long before he wrote and published a book entitled "Why Beautiful Women Marry Nat Goodwin."

Curiously enough, it is women, and not men, however, who are most prone to indulge in many marriages. There are plenty of American ladies, for instance, who have exceeded the seven limit; the record probably being held by Mrs. Townsend, of Nebraska, who in 1917 wedded her fifteenth husband.

## The Overall Style Spreads

Newspapers Ignore Request of Clothiers to Suppress News About Movement

Birmingham, Ala., April 14.—Birmingham newspaper publishers have flatly denied the request of a committee of retail clothiers that news of the "overall" movement throughout the South be suppressed on the ground that it was damaging the retail clothing business.

The publishers informed the clothiers' committee that their papers would continue to report the overall movement, which they considered legitimate news.

The "Tampa idea" of wearing overalls as a means of fighting the high cost of clothing has spread to many cities throughout the South, where business and professional men as well as other workers are going about in blue denim. It was reported here Saturday that when the demand for overalls began, some retailers had raised the price from two dollars to six dollars a pair.

Mass meetings and public demonstrations are being presented in connection with the movement in many places throughout the South. It was reported that there were 4,000 members of the Overall Club in Birmingham alone, all pledged to wear blue denim until the price of clothing comes down.

Building permits issued in Winnipeg this year show an increase of over \$500,000 over the same period last year.

The Catholic Globe house at Herring Cove, N.S., was badly damaged by fire, which started by a spark falling upon the roof.

Wallaceburg chief of police has notified tobacco dealers and restaurant keepers that the use of the

## County Disasters

Kingston Has a New "Oldsmobile Eight"

ENTERTAINED NE

A Traveller Had Near Death When Trying Train at Brock

Now Oppose Hydro

The Scott Farmers represented at the meeting on April 10, their own behalf against the Hydro-Electric ship. The Hydro ce

he excelled for light. Biggs was afraid the his torial, with an addition per cent. in the materi involve every farmer contract, into quite a instead of the Hydro be going to be an encumbrance since has been a number of names sign are opposed to any further of the line. A deling to Toronto on Thurs view the Hydro Comm effect.—Oshawa Reformer.

Date for Deer Hunting

The first sitting of the Game Committee of the took place last week. Biggs was chairman. It was decided to local sports that it was decided not date for killing deer on the dates being the 5th day to the 20th day of Nov days inclusive. The quing dogs for deer hunt contravention nature as over until the next me than further information.

"Doctored" the Coal Bill  
Mrs. Alex. Ernest, wife dealer at Walkerton, ha to changing the weight husband's customers, the weighing them all up pounds as she appea pounds up. She was fined \$100 and sentenced to 2 jail. As her husband was ly fined \$100 and sent week's imprisonment for plicated in the affair, tment inflicted on the wo closing episode of one of interesting cases which ead a docket in Bruce Oshawa Reformer.

Entertained Newcomers

The party of Scotch bo bived Saturday at Fairm from overseas were enter hospitable manner last n Young People's Associati Methodist church. The g entertained to supper from till 7.30 o'clock, following entertainment was given in day school hall. Wall president of the Y.P.A., man, and addresses were by Rev. W. A. Hamilton, Rogers, Miss Ruby Davan Herman Fowells played a first movement of the G tuor by Beethoven, and Dyke, of the staff of the Free Hospital, gave a lecture dealing with that institution. James C one of the guests, gave an recitation and at the clo evening Capt. W. Douglas, in charge of the boys on t ney from Scotland, in a ne thanked the Y.P.A. for the tally.—Brockville Record Times.

Steamer Columbia Damaged

Fire broke out late Saturday in the hold of the Columbia, which was tied to at the rear of the Continent ing in Ogdensburg. The boarded the vessel and with als-fought the flames. T was in a dangerous section ship and only quick work vessel from absolute destruc firemen after a hard battl succeeded in checking th and ultimately smothering the damage done was not cons

"Olds" Agency

It is interesting to note other automobile agency h established in Kingston. T car to be handled is the Old Eight, and Mr. Neil Stewart, The General Motors Corp will be the local agent. Mr. is the son of John Stewart, Smith, and is very well kno thought of both in Kingston