

THE COURIER

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Saturday, December 27, 1913

OTTAWA HAS TROUBLE OVER A WATER SUPPLY

Ottawa has had a very serious and deplorable experience in the matter of the water supply of the place. Not only has there been much illness, but also many deaths from preventable diseases.

In 1909 an agitation was started in the Capital for the purpose of obtaining a more pure article. This was not because of typhoid fever, but for the reason that a high rate of infant mortality and other complaints showed that there was a tainted source.

Nothing definite resulted from that, with the result that typhoid got a foothold, and has since levied a terrible toll.

The need for a remedy is admitted on all hands, but now there is difference of opinion as to the source of supply, some holding that the best and safest scheme would cost too much.

At this distance it looks as if the objectors are acting very foolishly. This is far too important a matter in any community for the matter of outfit to stand in the way.

Brantford, many years ago, went through the typhoid fever experience, to her bitter sorrow. The death rate from that cause, in more than one year, reached over fifty—in fact, once reached as high as 62.

The Courier, along with others, fought for a pure supply and the abandonment of wells. There was a bitter struggle, with the usual bugbears of expense, and all the rest of it. However, the idea of a municipal plant distributing the right article finally triumphed, and almost at once typhoid commenced to be controlled.

In a short time the deaths from such cause were reduced to three or four per annum, and during the last health year there was not one fatality recorded which had arisen from contamination of the municipal supply.

If the residents of Ottawa take warning by the experience of this community, they will get together in the decision to effectively remedy this thing, without any more bickering or nonsense.

MR. BALFOUR

The Montreal Star editorially speculates as to whether the Hon. A. J. Balfour is "a real comeback."

As to that, he has never been out, and although not to-day the titular leader of the Unionist forces, he is that in actuality.

His life presents a most interesting career. Tall and slight, he is the possessor of a most lackadaisical manner, but behind a seeming indifference he is a man of volcanic force, and also as a debater he is acknowledged to be without a peer in the House of Commons of the present day, and as to that, with only two possible equals in all the history of Westminster.

He comes of the famous Cecil stock, and his direct ancestor was one of England's greatest statesmen, William Cecil, who was Queen Elizabeth's chief adviser. The Marquis of Salisbury was an uncle, and when Balfour became a member of the House in 1874, at the age of 26, he was quick to recognize his latent abilities, though other observers did not rank him as a coming man—in fact, gave him no thought.

Finally he became a member of the famous "fourth party," headed by Lord Randolph Churchill, and composed of just four men, who afterwards became famous. They used to attack anything or anybody, and in particular were a great worry to Gladstone. In fact, their work served to greatly rehabilitate the Conservative party.

Later Lord Salisbury made him his Secretary, and then President of the Local Government Board. In 1887, during very troublous times with Ireland he was made Irish Secretary. People were amazed. They thought this young man, a student in every essential, most unfitted for a task which had broken down Forster and others. But he made good—most emphatically made good. He thrived in a post which had shattered the health of predecessors, and when he became christened "Bloody Balfour," promptly went to the Emerald Isle unguarded, in order to show what kind of a man he really was. At once the warm Irish hearts recognized his worth and fearlessness.

Later he succeeded Salisbury as Premier, and made good in the post for some time. Later he withdrew as leader because he deemed such a course might heal some restlessness, but to-day he is the spokesman on all vital questions, and not Bonar Law.

He is a man of the highest intellectuality, and has written much of

deep thought and great worth. The publication in 1895 of his book, "The Foundations of Belief," created a sensation. If it had been the result of the work of years it would have been considered as remarkable. To have been written by a man during his leisure moments while in the thick and forefront of public life, was little short of marvellous.

Among other things, he is an accomplished violinist and pianist. He is held in high regard by friend and political foe alike, for he has a most winning personality.

BRANTFORD WINS

Through successive stages the city has fought the Brantford Street Railway Company in order to obtain some thousands of dollars of back taxes, and, incidentally, to have the entire plant modernized.

It will be remembered that on Sept. 17th last Chief Justice Meredith rendered judgment that the Brantford and Grand Valley roads had forfeited all their rights, and must pay their overdue taxes. He gave them a year in which to make the plant efficient, but instead of accepting that they rushed to the Court of Appeals. Beaten there, it would appear that the municipality can take over the system. Of course, there is much to be looked into, bondholders to be dealt with, and so forth, but on the face of things such a step would seem to be well worth while.

It is known that even under existing circumstances receipts are steadily climbing up, and that the returns could be made much higher with extensions to Terrace Hill, Eagle Place, the factory district, and so on. The Holmedale extension, entered upon with some hesitancy, proved remunerative right from the commencement, and the same thing would probably be true of others.

With the city in charge, Hydro-Electric could be used, thus still further lessening the cost to private consumers. Fares could also, in all probability, be reduced, as surplus receipts commenced to grow.

Mr. W. T. Henderson, K.C., who has acted throughout for the city, has demonstrated a complete grasp of the situation and a keen knowledge of the intricate issues involved. He has met move after move without fuss or hurry, in a cool and calculating manner, and that fact is generally appreciated.

LAKE ERIE & NORTHERN

It was predicted that it would not be long before some move would be taken to complete the construction and equipment of the Lake Erie & Northern Railway, and it will be noticed that a move has already been made.

A vast amount of money has already been spent and a large amount of work accomplished, and the people of the centres to be served by the line, and those of the tributary area will sincerely hope that operations will again be soon renewed.

More than ever the great importance of this undertaking has become realized, and the all-round benefit when it is an actuality cannot easily be estimated.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

And all at once the gentle winter becomes zealous.

Two men of the name of Carter are running for the mayoralty in Guelph. No doubt they each hope to make a good haul of votes on election day.

President Wilson was the means of having a fire suppressed in a house. Meanwhile he hasn't been having much success in preventing Mexico from going to blazes.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell is 90 years old to-day, and is still alert, both mentally and physically. Canadians, irrespective of party, will extend hearty congratulations. He has certainly bowelled a good game all his life.

The light and power commission in Stratford reports a surplus of profits during the present year from Hydro-Electric of \$9558, and customers have grown from 318 to 1556. Did Brantford make any mistake in getting into the circle? Well, did they?

"In Brantford Mr. Rowell spoke at the Liberal nomination meeting on the high cost of living and its causes. The Liberals of the riding took immediate action to remedy the trouble by nominating Mr. Ham"—Guelph Mercury.

At that the people will refuse to swallow him.

"Despatches from Washington of December 15th give an illuminating glimpse into the effects of the tariff on the cost of living which no amount of Borden high tariff sophistry can offset."—Expositor.

The Borden tariff is the same as framed by Mr. Fielding and endorsed for years by the Expositor. Why the sudden change of view? Loss of office?

George Kett, a lake sailor, whose parents had given him up for lost in the great storm of November, walked into their home at Harrison on Christmas Eve.

To The Editor

THEY APPRECIATE IT.

To the Editor of The Courier: Dear Sir—Kindly allow me to thank you on behalf of the colored people of Brantford for the unprejudiced and fair way your paper gave the account of the shooting affair, which took place on the 23rd. It is one of the best write-ups I ever saw on a case of that kind, and is worthy of comment and attention of every member of the race, and not forgetting the police, for the able and justifiable way in which they handled the case.

We regret it happened at all, but such things will occur among all races, as well as ours. Thanking you very kindly for the space in your valuable paper.

JAMES WILSON, 60 Sarah Street.

Life Expensive

The cost of living still goes up, and troubles round us thickens, and yet whenever we dine or sup, we've got to eat or drink. To make our lives have proper force we should be lean and scrawny, but we're the muscles of a horse, and we're fat and brawny. The portly man gets up and while to his form some costly soups or a general warmth are giving. The clubman wrings his hands and whines the Cost will make us vagrants, while to his breath imported wines impart a pungent fragrance. We should be hollow-eyed and thin, our slats like washboards showing, if we'd denounce the men of sin who keep the prices going. But nearly all the kicking's done by fat and fussy sinners who have their pockets full of money, and swallow four course dinners. I do not hear the toiler wail or breathe fire threats of slaughter; he eats his dinner from a pail, and helps it down with water; he and his children share their woes, and warble "Yankee Doodle," and to the moving picture shows he takes the whole caboodle.

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CIVIC FINANCES FOR THE YEAR

(Continued from Page 1)

The Expenditures

How Brantford spent the money will be read with interest as follows:

Bank overdraft, 1912-13, \$ 11,448.00

Interest and sinking fund, 167,790.20

Street watering, 8,621.78

Sanitary, 2,249.78

Interest, 62,500.00

Public schools, 4,201.42

Separate schools, 21,847.00

Collegiate Institute, 6,000.00

Free Library, 4,121.88

House of Refuge, 1,950.74

Children's Aid and relief, 6,000.00

Hospital, 6,574.00

Park Commission, 1,780.00

Board of Health, 6,846.68

County of Brant, 2,250.00

Police Magistrate, 18,327.06

Police Dept., 18,742.00

Water Supply, 8,088.56

Elections, 15,624.35

Salaries (\$1200. O.S.), 1,565.02

Law costs and stationery, 1,117.82

Printing and stationery, 11,684.54

Street lighting (\$2600 O.S.), 2,881.89

Cemeteries, 3,808.74

Buildings and Grounds, 11,415.07

Sewers, 31,907.30

Board of Works, 750.75

Market, 21,287.31

Fire Dept., 12,268.25

Garbage, 1,155.81

Industrial, 4,636.38

Incidental, 2,215.80

Tubercular Sanitarium, 4,775.619

Total, \$477,756.19

Exceeded Their Estimates

The items which exceeded the estimates are as follows: Street watering \$621, sanitary \$49.78, Separate school, \$342, Board of Health, \$280, County of Brant, \$846, water supply \$242, elections, \$98, salaries \$924, law costs \$15, street lighting 38c, buildings and grounds \$868, market \$48, industrial \$155, incidental \$866, new sanitarium \$215. Total, \$662.73.

The items which are below the estimate are: Interest on sinking fund \$670, bank interest \$300, House of Refuge, \$378, hospital \$180, printing \$382, cemeteries \$518, sewers \$384, fire department, \$3,712, garbage \$388. Total, \$6,818.54.

With the City Police

The citizens of Brantford are credited with behaving in a very proper and decorous manner this Christmas tide. Yesterday's list at the Police Court was not heavy, and only four drunks were included. This morning's docket was lighter still, and not a drunk was recorded.

When it is considered that just 30,000 people come under the city police protection, this is, indeed, a very satisfactory state of affairs. There are seventeen of a police force for this considerable number and as the usual rate is one man of law to ten thousand of public, the chief and staff are to be complimented for their efficiency.

With The Boy Scouts

Where They Are and What They Are Doing

How I Became A Scoutmaster

By March E. Parker (Scoutmaster, 1st Royal Langley Park Troop)

One evening, after my day's work in the coal mines, I was taking a walk through some fields when I was surprised to see smoke arising from behind a clump of bushes. Immediately my thoughts travelled back to some thirteen years ago, when my comrades and I built our camp fires on the African veldt.

I went to investigate the cause of the smoke, and was somewhat amused to find five small boys, dressed as scouts, I asked them who they were and what troop they belonged to. They answered that they did not belong to any troop, and I gathered they were under the impression that men would consider it softness to spend their spare time training boys.

Finding that they were very interested in what I could tell them of my scouting experiences in the South African War, I gave them a little lecture on the subject; and when, after spending two hours with them, I turned to go, one of the younger boys asked me if I would consent to act as their scoutmaster.

At first I smiled at the idea, but on second thoughts, consented to take them for a month and see how we got on. The next evening I inspected their headquarters, and was glad to find that although it was a poor place it was spotlessly clean and tidy.

And then came the hardest part of the job I had undertaken—my first public parade with my little troop of five boys.

How we were laughed at! But I took my scouts to take notice, and nobly they obeyed this my first order. Every night, however, we had to stand the fire of foolish tongues. But at last we won. We got several new recruits to join our ranks, and people began to take a friendly interest in the troop, until, after a time we stood forty strong.

My pleasure can be imagined when we go for week-end camps, carrying with us tents and equipment bought for us by the very people who at first derided our efforts.

The Boy Scout In Australia

The annual rally took place at the Oval on August 16th, 397 scouts attended.

At a given signal all scouts rushed shouting their Patrol calls towards the saluting point where stood His Excellency the Governor.

The various items on the program were then carried out in a very creditably performed. They included ambulance work, bridge building, rocket apparatus, breeches buoy, rescue work from fire, cooking and signalling by means of field telegraph, telephone, semaphore, heliograph, and wireless (this being carried out by the troop of Sea Scouts, every instrument they used having been made by themselves).

There were also exhibitions of clay modelling, one piece of work being presented to some Japanese officers who were present. They accepted it and promised to give it to the troop of Boy Scouts in Nagasaki from the scouts of Western Australia.

Many other exhibitions of scoutcraft were also shown.

At the conclusion of the program the troops were formed up for a march past, which was executed in a quick and double time. A spiral rally was then formed, and the prizes distributed. His Excellency spoke in very commendatory terms, and expressed himself as quite satisfied.

His Excellency the Governor during his recent tour in the Midland district, proved, in a practical way, the great interest he is taking in the boy scout movement. At every opportunity he spoke of the advantages of the scout training, to boys individually and to the Empire generally.

There are now twenty-four troops registered in West Australia, including a Sea Scout troop at Perth, under Mr. McKail.

Royal Boy Scouts. Prince Frederick, the Crown Prince of Denmark, and his brother, Prince Knud, are both of them keen Scouts. They have passed their tests, and have become First Class Scouts.

Prince Frederick has got two proficiency badges, one as Interpreter, for his knowledge of English, and one as Pioneer for felling trees and bridge building.

Inspected Lungmotor

Last Tuesday afternoon, the District Patrol visited the Fire Hall and were given valuable information for

Prizes Coming

The prizes won by the Headquarters Patrol of Boy Scouts in the recent Provincial competition, consisting of two large cups and one shield, are on the way here. It is expected they will arrive early next week and will be presented at an early date.

The Following Are the Names of the Lucky Winners in the Turkey Contest

No. 65—THOS. HARPER, 14 Jarvis St.

No. 1277—UDNEY DAWSON, 88 Balfour St.

No. 2237—MRS. SMITH, 43 High St.

No. 18—A. H. TREMAINE, 50 Market St.

No. 1638—CLARENCE STOVER, 7 Riddolls Ave.

No. 1392—WM. ROLLO, Cockshutt Road.

No. 398—MRS. FIELD, 6 Wilkes St.

No. 1750—M. MARTIN, West St.

YOU PAY LESS HERE

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VERY SAD IS THE BIG LABOR WAR

Over Bodies of Little Orphan in Calumet Peace May be Declared.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 27.—(By four separate investigations of Calumet Christmas tree disasters which 72 persons, most of the children were killed, were being made to-day and a dispute was being waged as to who should bury the dead, peace-makers were at work, a supreme effort to bring about an end to the copper mine strike in region.

Over the bodies of the little orphans the leaders of the peace movement hoped to see an end to the labor strife which has torn the Calumet copper district for several months.

United in their grief over snuffing out of so many young lives the warring factions—mine operators, guards and strikebreakers, and the stricken union miners and their friends gave no thought to the labor battle that indirectly is blamed for the most gruesome horror in history of Calumet. There was a

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