

LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BUSY SEASON DISCUSSING ROADS, SCHOOLS AND FINANCES.
BY-LAWS PASSED, DEPUTATIONS RECEIVED

The total expenditure on the roads of Lambton during 1921 amounted to \$201,455.46, according to the annual report of John McCallum, county road superintendent, submitted to the county council on Wednesday afternoon and adopted. The outlay was detailed as follows, on provincial county roads on which there is a government subsidy of 60 per cent road construction \$11,934.28, bridges \$16,590.15, maintenance \$29,751.28; on county roads which the government subsidizes to the extent of 40 per cent, road construction, \$16,708.79, bridges, \$14,043.17, maintenance \$57,876.54; machinery \$35,760.12; special grants to towns and villages, \$10,022.42; superintendence, \$3,744.70; gravel pits \$5,034.03.

After he had completed the reading of last year's report, the superintendent said that the work to be carried on during 1922 would be based on the appropriation granted and that he did not wish to outline it until he had consulted the advisory board. The demand for road construction was great, probably greater than the council would feel like backing, and greater than he would advise, the superintendent added, but if the roads were to be made and maintained fit for traffic much money must be expended. Greater improvements had been carried on during the last four years than in the twenty preceding years. In closing, Mr. McCallum asked for the close co-operation of every member of the council during the year.

Government Grant.
The matter of turning the amount of the government subsidy on the expenditures on designated suburban roads, over to the suburban road commission as requested by the latter body, was also broached and in this connection, Clerk Huey read a letter from W. A. McLean, deputy minister of highways for Ontario, in which it was stated that it was the intent of the act that the amount returned by the government based on the outlay, on suburban roads, should be handed over to the commission and should not be expended on other roads. Superintendent McCallum also expressed the opinion that it should not be diverted to any other fund.

A deputation from the township of Sarnia appeared in support of a petition signed by 75 ratepayers asking consideration of the improvement of the lake shore road and the pavement of the section between the Perche bridge and school section number 3, which was effected by blowing in of sand from the shore. It was pointed out that the traffic on the road was very heavy during the summer months and that many automobiles had become fast and had to be towed out owing to the condition of the road. This petition was referred to the advisory board.

The council was addressed Thursday by Rev. John Morrison, D. D., R. Shirrett and C. S. Woodrow, all of Sarnia.

A discussion of the request of the ratepayers of Sombra township for the construction of one and three quarter miles of permanent concrete road on the 16th sideroad, to link up with a permanent highway in the county of Kent, the petitioners agreeing to pay 20 per cent of the cost, featured Thursday afternoon's session of the Lambton county council. The discussion crystallized in the submission of a motion by deputy reeve B. Armitage of Sombra, second-

ed by Reeve Victor Green, to the effect that the superintendent proceed with the work, and that 10 year debentures be issued by the county to cover the cost. The motion, however, was not voted on. Several of the councillors expressed the opinion that the township should pay the interest on the debentures and that the motion should be drawn up by the solicitor, and consequently a committee composed of Reeves, Lindsay, Smith, Green and Sproule was appointed to consult the solicitor on the matter and report on Friday. The cost of the road was estimated at \$40,000.

Lake Shore Road.
The question of improving the lake shore road in Sarnia township and the laying of 410 rods of permanent road and asked in a petition presented on Wednesday, also bobbed up periodically but no definite move was made in this connection the advisory board recommended that the city of Sarnia would pay 10 per cent of the cost, and the ratepayers 30 per cent of the cost, that the work be carried on. Reeve Leslie Harkness, of Sarnia township, pointed out that the road in question was not of benefit solely to summer resorters, as had been suggested but that it was a main travelled road and saw the only means of egress for a large number of farmers. He also said that in view of the distance of the road from Sarnia and the fact that only one or two Sarnians own property there it would not be fair to ask the city to contribute to the cost.

Report on Schools.
Henry Conn, public school inspector for West Lambton presented his annual report showing that 106 schools and departments were open in 1921 as compared with 102 in 1920. A total of 3456 pupils were enrolled and the average daily attendance was 2341, an increase of 261 over the previous year. The percentage of attendance was 68 per cent or computed on the new basis, 87 per cent. 18 teachers were employed in the urban schools of the inspectorate and 88 in the rural schools, 9 males and 97 females. The receipts for the year were \$255,043 and the expenditures \$197,027. The average annual cost of instruction per pupil was cited at \$37.96, in the rural schools \$39.47 and in urban schools \$32.86. A total of 481 pupils tried the entrance examination and 351 were successful, a percentage of 73.

Finances.
A statement showing the condition of the finances of the county from the date of the last report, December 15, to January 25 was submitted by John E. Leckie, county treasurer, including a balance of \$27,978.85, the total receipts during the period were \$199,001.31, and the disbursements \$193,646.41, leaving a balance on hand of \$5,354.09. In commenting on the statement, the treasurer said that the county rates from several municipalities were in arrears and he suggested that the municipalities follow the statutory regulations in regard to the collection of rates, as an interest charge of 6 per cent. was added after December 20.

Ex-mayor William Nisbet and Alderman Thomas H. Cook addressed the council urging consideration of an increased grant to the Sarnia general hospital. The request was referred to the finance committee and Warden Davis stated that it would be given full consideration.

Following the submission of the report of high constable W. A. Scott, for 1921, the Lambton county council, at Friday afternoon's session, passed a resolution recognizing his attention to duty and endorsing his action which had recently been subjected to criticism. The resolution was proposed by reeve J. B. Scott of Petrolia, seconded by reeve Nicholas Sitter of Bosanquet, and unanimously adopted by a standing vote. The text of the resolution read as follows:

In view of the fact that certain statements regarding the action of our high county constable W. A. Scott, have been given considerable publicity, we, the members of the Lambton county council wish to call the attention of the public to the true state of affairs and inform the people that the county council recognizes in their high constable a man who has done his duty; a man who can be neither influenced nor intimidated and that after efforts to influence and intimidate him had failed a campaign of slander was staged against him with the hope that possibly an easier man might be appointed in his stead.

Therefore be it resolved that this council unanimously endorses Mr. Scott's action.

There was no discussion on the resolution. It was read by its sponsor and passed without comment of any kind.

Permanent Road.
The construction of a permanent concrete road, one and three quarter miles in length on the 16th sideroad of Sombra township to connect up with a permanent highway in the county of Kent was practically assured by the adoption of a resolution that \$32,000 be raised by way of a temporary loan and \$8,000 by the issuance of 10 year debentures to cover the cost of the road which was estimated at \$40,000, the petitioners having agreed to contribute and already subscribed 20 per cent. of the cost, namely \$8,000. A standing vote was also taken on this question and there were only two adverse votes.

Financial Report.
The report of the county auditors, D. P. Shaw and M. D. Cameron, was submitted and read by the former and adopted by the council. It showed that the total receipts of the county last year were \$553,870.97 and the total expenditures \$490,614.41, leaving a balance of \$63,256.56. The gross assets, including the county buildings and property were cited at \$287,987.82 and the total liabilities \$178,693.59.

The only recommendation made by the auditors was that the treasurer's bond be increased from the present figure of \$10,000 to \$30,000 or \$40,000 and a motion was subsequently adopted on the proposal of reeve L. Lindsay of Brook, seconded by reeve F. Jennings of Theford, raising the bond to \$30,000.

Many By-Laws.
A grist of by-laws were put through the committee stage including one to raise \$80,000 by way of a temporary loan for expenditures on the county road system under the highway improvement act, and one to raise \$75,000 by way of a temporary loan to meet current expenses. The other measures were: by-law granting \$150 to the women's institutes; by-law granting \$10 to the Sick Children's hospital, Toronto; by-law granting \$1200 to aid the township and union agricultural societies of the county; by-law granting \$1000 to the Sarnia general hospital; by-law granting \$1350 to the Petrolia hospital; by-law fixing the rate of pay for grand and petit jurors at \$4 a day; by-law appointing Fred Jennings as a member of the county board of audit; by-law appointing Dr. James Newell, a member of the board of education for the village of Watford; by-law appointing R. Kirkpatrick school trustee for the town of Petrolia and Dr. F. Walters trustee for the town of Forest; by-law granting \$100 for maintenance of suburban roads; by-law granting \$25 to each of the public libraries of the county; by-law granting the children's aid societies of the county \$500; by-law granting \$50 to the Salvation Army rescue home in London. By-law granting aid to the teachers institutes of east and west Lambton and to the National sanitarium, Muskoka were defeated.

Good Road Convention.
Upon the suggestion of warden W. J. Davis, a resolution was passed authorizing the advisory board to confer with the advisory board of the Kent county council relative to the linking up of roads of the two counties, and to report at the June session.

Reeve Hackett of Enniskillen suggested that the land adjoining the gravel pit in his municipality be sold as it is of no value to the county. The suggestion was referred to the advisory board. A resolution of sympathy was extended to reeve and Mrs. Rickett of Alvington in the death of their son.

A suggestion by Reeve Victor Green of Sombra that the advisory

board be delegated to attend the annual good roads convention at Toronto to be held at a discussion regarding the personnel of the board. Reeve Sproule of Oil Springs stated that it had been intimated that the striking committee had chosen only members from the south part of the county to constitute the advisory board and that while he would try to be fair, if it was decided that the board should go, he would try to get a man from the north part of the county, to take his place.

Reeve Sitter of Bosanquet moved that a representative from the northern half of the county be added to the board, but after further discussion and the introduction of an amendment that the question of adding another member, representative of north Lambton, be left to the striking committee, the matter was dropped and the personnel of the board remains as originally drafted.

WATCH OUT, OR FEBRUARY
I'LL GIT YOU

The month of February does more damage to the Canadian people than any other. It does so much damage that it is positively dangerous. Most deaths occur in February. March comes next and January third. Vital statistics have proven this beyond doubt.

Why is February an assassin? What weapons does it use? Pneumonia and bronchitis. Doctor Amyot, the deputy minister of health, says: "The human system becomes peculiarly susceptible to these diseases about February, because that is the month of greatest exhaustion after the hard winter. I imagine, also, that people about then are getting down to a fixed diet in which there is not enough green stuff, such as lettuce, cabbages, and so on. The cattle at that time also are probably getting less green feed than at any other time, and so the milk does not supply the lack. The vital resources are getting exhausted after the hard fight against the cold."

If you would save yourself from being a victim of February, Doctor Amyot advises, go to bed when you feel a cold coming on. Stay there till it is gone. Take care of yourself after it has left you.

ARKONA

Mrs. Stanley Catt is visiting at her home in St. Thomas this week.

Mr. Norman Stoner is attending the Tractor Demonstration in London.

Mr. A. E. Stoner had several automobiles stolen on Sunday evening. Detectives are on the trail.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Lucas attended the funeral of the late Mr. Hilborn of Theford on Sunday.

Mrs. Jackson and daughters, Miss Mabel and Laura returned from a few weeks visit in Toronto and Michigan.

You can afford a Fordson Tractor this year, the price being reduced to about \$450.00 delivered.—R. Morningstar.

The Women's Institute are putting on a debate and concert in aid of the Memorial Fund in the Methodist Church on Feb. 14th, 1922. Debate: Resolved that the Country Girl will make a better wife than the City Girl.

INWOOD

Miss Beverly Tichenborne is visiting in Toronto.

Rev. A. McVicar attended a Presbyterial meeting in Sarnia last Monday.

Mrs. M. S. Crawford was in London Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Mr. Johnston Vance was in Thamesville a couple of days last week.

Miss Irene Hume of Petrolia is visiting her cousin Miss Lena Hartley.

Mr. J. P. MacVicar and daughter, Effie, were in St. Thomas last Saturday.

The local hockey team motored to Alvington last Friday night and defeated Ebenezer 4-1.

Mrs. Arthur Bishop of Sarnia spent a couple of days last week with Mrs. J. A. Bishop.

A number of young men motored to Sarnia Saturday to see the Sarnia-Glencoe hockey match.

Mrs. A. W. Richardson of Whitely was the guest of her brother, Mr. M. S. Crawford for the weekend.

Messrs. Kenneth and Allan Bruce, and Miss Elizabeth Johnson of Bruden were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. J. A. Bishop.

Mrs. McIntyre of St. Thomas and Mr. Alex McLarty of Manitoba spent a day recently at the home of their cousin, Mr. A. P. Campbell.

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FEEDING OF FOWL

Requirements if the Birds are to lay well and prove profitable

That hens may do all that is expected of them, and hoped for from them in the way of egg production, they must be tended properly. Of prime importance in this direction is their feeding. Experience has shown by actual test at the Dominion Experimental Farms that for successful feeding it is necessary to use grains, both whole and ground, green food, animal food, a liberal supply of water, and grit and oyster shell. Charcoal, says the Assistant to the Dominion Poultry Husbandman in his bulletin on "Poultry Feeds and Feeding," can also be used with advantage. In this bulletin the subject is dealt with very fully and analytically and, studied in conjunction with another publication from the same source by a different author, namely, the superintendent of the Experimental station at Cap Rouge, Que., on "Beef Scraps versus Skim Milk for Egg Production," may be accepted as about conveying all the information desired by intelligent people who would be successful with the breeding and rearing of poultry. The one conclusion arrived at by both authors is that grain alone is insufficient for the feeding of fowl. They must also have animal and mineral food in some form. The most valuable of these are green cut bone, beef scrap, and skim milk, the two last mentioned being preferable. Of these two skim milk is the best aid to egg productivity. It can be fed either sour or sweet, but always one or the other, and not alternately lest bowel trouble result. Green cut bones for the same reason, must be given in moderation and absolutely fresh. Beef scrap and meat meal have been found by experiments to be the equal of fresh cut bone and meat and are higher in protein content. Table scraps with grain are satisfactory for small back-yard flocks, but farm flocks need something more, the run about space, being larger and more diversified. Another important point for the poultrymen to observe is regularity in feeding no matter what method is pursued. Garden truck, clovers and alfalfa, properly cured and the tubers as roots of Jerusalem artichokes, are especially good for winter feeding. Sprouted grains, particularly oats, keep the breeding stock in good condition.

POTATO CANKER

Potato Canker or "wart disease" of the potato is a disease happily only known to most Canadian farmers by its name, perhaps to some few by its notoriously dangerous character to the potato growing industry in other countries.

Some ten years ago the Federal Department of Agriculture succeeded in averting the very near danger of its introduction into Canada from abroad, principally from Europe. The Department then placed an embargo against the importation of potatoes from Europe with the usual emphatic objections generally resulting from such measures. Today Canada has every reason to be grateful for the foresight of the Department. In Great Britain, notwithstanding every effort towards the eradication of the disease, some 22,000 cases and more have been reported during the period of one recent year. The disease affects potatoes in various degrees of severity; either there may be slight infection or wholesale destruction of the crop, rendering useless all efforts to harvest a yield. Moreover, the disease persists under certain conditions in the soil for 10 or 15 years, always re-infecting a crop even when planted after an interval of so many years' duration. The presence of this disease has caused Great Britain and other European countries serious losses, not alone within their own borders but also in the valuable export trade in potatoes. Canada is quite free from this disease which causes such serious losses in other countries; but the danger once more looms on the horizon, since this disease has been discovered in certain areas of the United States.

Canadian farmers are well advised to continue their vigilance, especially as potatoes imported from the United States are concerned. The person who through neglect on his part causes the disease to become established in Canada, will cause this country serious injury, probably of a lasting and irreparable character.—Division of Botany, Central Experimental Farm.

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