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NO. 12

OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

O. M. Melanson, M. L. A., the New Speaker-- Speech From the Throne Promises Prohibition and Other Important Changes

The fourth session of the present New Brunswick legislative assembly opened on Thursday afternoon with the customary ceremony. The lieutenant-governor's salute of thirteen guns was the only portion of the usual proceedings which was omitted. The weather conditions were not entirely favorable but nevertheless the attendance of spectators both within and without the house was large. Admittance to the galleries and floor of the chamber was by ticket and the rush of spectators began long before the arrival of His Honor.

The session is the second to be held during the present war, and it is a peculiarly interesting one. A guard of honor furnished by the 164th Battalion under Major Pincombe was in service dress. The officers who attended the lieutenant-governor on the floor of the house were in like dress and instead of civilian clothes, returned soldiers, the majority of whom had been wounded in France, were on guard at the doors.

Two members of the legislature were in khaki. Lieutenant Percy A. Guthrie, of Fredericton, and Captain L. P. D. Tilley, of St. John, recruiting officer for New Brunswick. A third member of the house who is in service during the present war was not present, and did not arrive in Fredericton until the 13th. This is Lieutenant-Col. F. H. Black, Secretary who was in France with the 6th Mounted Rifles.

Governor Wood was attended by a military staff composed of Col. H. H. McLean, Col. G. W. Fowler, Col. Mersereau, Col. Powell, Major Rogers and McLoughlin, Captain Robertson, Lawrence, Risner, Corbett, Hayward, Lieutenants McLoughlin, Evans, Teed, Doane and others.

O. M. Melanson, of Westmorland, was elected speaker on motion of Acting Premier Murray, and seconded by L. A. Durell, and was escorted by them to the chair.

Speech From the Throne The speech from the Throne regretted Premier Clarke's illness, the death of the late Speaker, Dickson, and the burning of the Dominion parliament building, and loyally referred to the war and His Majesty's accident. It noted satisfactory commercial and industrial conditions in the province, and agricultural success. The public services had been well looked after, and the lumber industry was prosperous. Arrangements had been made to have the Crown Lands classified, and the financial position of the province was sound.

Prohibition Referendum A bill would be introduced during the session enabling the electors of the Province to adopt a measure providing for the prohibition of traffic in intoxicating liquors.

Railway Legislation Legislation would also be presented providing for the early completion of the St. John and Quebec Railway and insuring not only direct connection with the east and west sides of the harbor of St. John, but, as well, an independent route from that city to the New England States and a new channel for the export of the forest products of central and northern New Brunswick.

Election Law Amendments A bill to consolidate and amend the Election Law, as well as other measures, would be submitted for consideration.

O. B. Price, M. L. A., Moves Reply Dr. Price moved the reply. He spoke feelingly of the late Speaker, and then reviewed Canada's action in the war.

Speaking of the great gain in the stampage collections, he said that taking the years from 1902 to 1915 during the first period of seven years the total stampage amounted to \$23,000,000 superficial feet and for the last period 1,810,000,000 superficial feet; the difference in which estimated at \$1.50 per thousand would amount to nearly \$1,500,000 roughly speaking. The Department of Lands and Mines having gathered information compiled on the Customs Returns prove that fully as much lumber was cut in former years as has been cut during the latter period.

The Government's past and proposed railway legislation was praised, also its course re public works

five officials of the department who, from a sense of duty, felt that their place was at the front had retarded work somewhat, still substantial progress had been made. Agriculture had been developed and as such education is the basis of agricultural prosperity, and as agricultural prosperity is the basis of all other prosperity, it is a matter for congratulation that interest in agriculture was so greatly increasing.

The activities of the Department of Agriculture have largely increased during the past several years until today nearly every branch of agriculture is receiving a large measure of attention. From the years 1902 to 1907 inclusive, there was spent upon agriculture by the Provincial Government the sum of \$220,516.11. From the years 1910 to 1915 inclusive there was spent the sum of \$329,167.46, an increase of \$108,651.35 over the previous six years of \$198,551.35.

In addition to these amounts there was spent from the Dominion subsidy from 1912 to 1915 inclusive, \$172,555.50, making a total increased expenditure of \$501,122.81.

For the first period under review from 1902 to 1907 grants to agricultural societies never exceeded the sum of \$9,000. In the year 1907 the grant for this service was \$81,244.00 to 59 societies. In the year 1915 there were 115 societies with a grant of \$17,000.

In 1915 legislation had been introduced which provided for the classification of crown lands of the province and last year an amendment to that act made provision for the money necessary for carrying out that work. It has been stated that three hundred million superficial feet was the amount of the annual growth of the timber on the crown lands and last year (Continued on page 2)

How The War Stands Today

The battle of Verdun began on the 21st inst., still rages without any decisive result. Portugal's possible strength is 270,000 men. The Russians are advancing on the Turkish front and Persia the past week. They are nearing Trebizond. In the United States House of Representatives, March 7th, the McLemore resolution to warn Americans off the armed ships of the European belligerents, was tabled in other words killed--by a vote of 271 to 128. This, following a similar vote in the Senate a few days before, ranges the United States in the list of neutrals friendly to the cause of the Allies.

The campaign in Mesopotamia continues a deadlock. The British and South Africans are making good progress in the conquest of Germany's last colony--East Africa.

WELL KNOWN RESIDENTS HAVE PASSED AWAY

John Sleeth, Douglastown, and Wm. J. Allison, Whitneyville, Receive Final Summons

JOHN SLEETH The funeral of the late John Sleeth who died at his home in Douglastown on Friday night, took place on Monday afternoon. There was a very large attendance from Douglastown, Chatham and Newcastle, the deceased being a member of St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, Newcastle Lodge, No. 92, I. O. O. F., and Miramichi Lodge No. 18, F. & A. M., and very popular with his brethren and fellow workers. The Oddfellows attended in a body, and a large number of Masons came over from Chatham. The services at the house were conducted by Rev. Alex. Fitch, pastor of St. Mark's, assisted by Rev. W. B. Rossborough, of Longville. The choir of St. Mark's attended in a body and the hymns sung were "Thy Will Not Mine be Done" and "Forever With The Lord."

The pallbearers were Messrs. Wm. Dixon, Edward Drapeau, Geo. Henderson, Hugh Kirkpatrick, Robert Simpson and Albert Melancon, Chatham. There were many beautiful floral tributes, among them being: Wm. & Sons, Newcastle Lodge, I. O. O. F., Wm. & Sons, Ever True, Redbank Lodge, Campbellton, Miramichi, Wm. & Sons, Miramichi, Lumber Co., Wm. & Sons, Bell's, Douglastown and Wm. & Sons, Chatham.

Wm. & Sons, Miramichi, Lumber Co., Wm. & Sons, Bell's, Douglastown and Wm. & Sons, Chatham. The body was taken to Chatham, accompanied by the Oddfellows and Masons and many other mourning friends. At Chatham it was met by other Masons, led by the band, and internment, with Masonic and Oddfellows rites, was in Riverview Cemetery where a child of deceased also rests.

Deceased was 53 years of age. He was a native of St. John West and removed to Douglastown twenty years ago last July, and he engaged as the chief engineer in the mill there, continuing his work till last fall, when he took sick with lung trouble. He recovered and worked during December, but took a relapse and never returned to work.

He was 46 years old, formerly Miss Minnie Drake, of St. John West, and the following children--Chester, Marion, Gladys and Pearl, all at home. The surviving brothers, and sisters are: Joseph and William of St. John West; James of Anahst, N. S.; and Mrs. Margaret Austin and Mrs. Wm. Thompson of St. John West.

WM. JAMES ALLISON

The death of Wm. James Allison of Whitneyville, occurred of pneumonia, at noon, Saturday. Deceased had been sick about a week in the woods where he and his three eldest sons were lumbering on their own account, and had come home nine days before his death. He was thought to have only a bad cold and appeared to be recovering, when pneumonia set in.

He was 46 years old. Deceased was the son of the late David and Margaret Allison of Waynton. He is survived by his widow, formerly Miss Annie Sherrard, of Boom Road, and eleven children--Alton, Raymond, Douglas, Edith, Hubert, Russell, Robert, James, Willie, Ernest, and a baby boy six months old. The following sisters and brothers also survive: Mary (Mrs. Roy Edwards), Portland, Me.; Mrs. Rachel Oldfield, Portland, Me.; Martin, (Mrs. Hiram Harris), Seville; Janet, (Mrs. Edward Dunnett), Duluth, Minn.; Geo. and Charles in the West, and Wheeler, of Duluth. Deceased was a member of Whitneyville Presbyterian Church, and of Whitneyville Orange Lodge. The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, interment in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Whitneyville. There was a large attendance. Services were conducted at the house by Rev. J. F. McCurdy, assisted by Rev. H. E. Allaby. The Orange Lodges of Redbank and Whitneyville attended in a body and the Orange burial service was read at the grave. The pallbearers were six brother Orangemen--Peter Forsythe, Addington Mc-

Lean, Clifford Parker, Fred Whitney, Gregory Dunnet and Edward Dunnett.

WM. S. MCKNIGHT

The death of Wm. S. McKnight occurred at his home in Irma, Alta., on the 5th inst., at the age of 84. Deceased was a prosperous farmer of Irma, having removed to the West about thirty years ago. He was a native of Napan, N. B. He was a Presbyterian, and generally respected. He leaves three children--James, of Irma, with whom he resided; and Mrs. W. S. McKnight and Mrs. Hoyt, of St. John N. B. The following brothers and sisters survive: Joseph G. McKnight, Douglastown, N. B.; and Geo. McKnight, Mrs. Thomas Jardine and Mrs. Wm. Gillis, of Napan. Deceased's wife, who predeceased him several years ago, was Miss Elizabeth Greenham, of Kouchibouguie, N. B. The funeral took place at Irma, on the 8th inst.

JOSEPH LOBBAN

Joseph Lobban, one of the men burned in the Maritime foundry fire at Chatham, succumbed to his injuries and died at an early hour on Monday morning. He was 42 years of age, and is survived by a wife, one son, Roy, with the 55th battalion in England, and four daughters at home who have the sympathy of the community. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and was largely attended.

MRS PATRICK LLOYD

The death occurred at Ferry Road, Tuesday morning at 2 o'clock of Mrs. Patrick Lloyd, aged 78 years. The funeral took place on Saturday morning to All Saints Cemetery at Miramichi. Much sympathy is extended to the family and relatives.

Never to Buy German Goods

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Institute was held last night. Four new members were received, making a total membership of forty-two, of whom 17 were present. A resolution was moved and carried, a large majority voting, that the members abstain forever from purchasing German-made goods. A special meeting of the Institute will be held on next Tuesday evening, the 21st inst., when Miss Hazel Winter, supervisor of Women's Institutes for New Brunswick, is expected to be present.

The Secretary was directed to call the attention of the Town Improvement League to the unsightly condition of some of the old buildings in town.

BORN

At Newville, March 10th, to Pte. and Mrs. Stafford McCormack, a son. At Douglastown, March 12th, to Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Keoughan, a daughter.

Recruiting Committee Resume Meetings

A. A. Davidson and R. C. Clarke go to Fredericton Meeting--Big Rally in Redbank and Whitneyville Next Sunday.

The West Northumberland Recruiting Committee met in the Council Chamber on the 10th inst., after a break of over two months. Among those present were: W. A. Park, president; Mayor Stothart, E. A. McCurdy, A. A. Davidson, R. Corry Clarke, Judge Lawlor, C. E. Fish, Rev. Dr. Harrison, Rev. S. J. MacArthur, Recruiting Officer James W. Davidson and others.

R. Corry Clarke was appointed secretary pro tem. Mr. Park said that the meeting had been called to dispose of recruiting bills and to discuss how the work of recruiting can be further assisted. Several bills were disposed of, amounting, including what were passed at last meeting, to \$34,19.11 for necessary expenses of recruiting rooms and work.

The Chairman presented Ald. David Ritchie's resignation as secretary. Ald. Ritchie had been ill part of the winter, and now he would have to be absent from town much of his time.

The resignation was accepted and R. Corry Clarke unanimously elected permanent secretary.

NEWCASTLE TOWN IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE

Will Endeavor to Secure Another Good Council--Public Meetings to be Held--Ald. Hayward and Stables Offer for Re-Election.

Newcastle Town Improvement League executive met in regular monthly session in the Council Chamber on the 9th inst.

There were present--Jan. M. Troy, President; Mayor G. G. Stothart, V. P.; Ald. H. H. Stuart, Sec. Treas.; Ald. C. C. Hayward, Ald. Jas. Stables, Rev. P. W. Dixon, Rev. S. J. MacArthur, Rev. M. S. Richardson, and Messrs. J. Andler, F. E. Locke, E. A. McCurdy, A. E. Petrie, T. A. Scribner and D. W. Stothart.

Minutes of February meeting were read and confirmed. Ald. Stuart, following up his paper read at the previous meeting, moved the following:

Resolved, That this Town Improvement League request the local School Board to make provision for teaching of Manual Training, Domestic Science and Canadian Civics in all its School departments above Grade V. This was seconded by Rev. P. W. Dixon.

Rev. S. J. MacArthur said he had looked over the prescribed Civics text book, and it appeared to him that profitable instruction in Civics could only be given at a much later period than Grade V. The matter of educational reform was now being agitated very much in Britain. The London Times says, that 2,600,000 lbs. are wasted in Great Britain because of not receiving an education useful in earning a livelihood. Some steps must be taken to remedy this state of affairs.

Rev. Father Dixon said that the Teacher could teach Civics incidentally along with many other subjects. Questions on Civics are set on Government examinations, and the subject should be taught. Rev. Mr. Richardson said that Civics was a most important study. Children are leaving school without any knowledge of how their own town is governed. When he had gone to college he had to begin to study How Canada is Governed--what he should have been taught in the common schools. Mr. Stuart's motion was a splendid move, and he would heartily support it.

Rev. Father Dixon said that children have so many things to study that it is impossible for them to learn them all--especially since they seemed to think they must go to the

Chairman endorsed the motion. On the vote being taken the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. McCurdy reported that he had had an interview a few days ago with Vice-President W. C. Clarke of the Dominion Alliance, in Fredericton. He had been assured that the Dominion Alliance secretary, Rev. W. D. Wilson had good knowledge of Temperance matters and that it would have been very difficult to get a better man. The T. I. L. Committee had asked President Donald Faxon, Jr., to name a date for a Newcastle meeting, or ask Mr. Wilson to make arrangements. They had impressed upon him that we were very anxious to have both together. While in Fredericton, Mr. McCurdy had acquainted Vice-Pres. Clarke with the position taken by the T. I. L. to keep its own separate organization, but to co-operate with the Alliance, with which it was thoroughly in sympathy. Mr. Clarke had told him that the Alliance legislative committee was in close touch with the local government and expected to have the opportunity of seeing the proposed temperance legislation before its introduction. It looked, also, as if the Dominion Parliament would, at least legislate to render entirely effective any measures of Prohibition the provinces, or any of them, may adopt.

Rev. Father Dixon said that he did not like the idea of the Referendum. It was the duty of the legislature, elected to represent the people, to pass all laws. If they did not do right the people could turn them out at the end of their terms and elect better men.

The Chairman asked how things were going in town--any more raids? Ald. Hayward--Yes, one the other day.

Rev. Father Dixon asked when the appealed case would come up for trial.

Ald. Hayward said it was expected to be tried early next month. There had been four cases against the Miramichi Hotel this month. The Police Committee were greatly handicapped for room to store the seized liquor. A conviction had been secured in the case of the liquor seized at the railway station, but the case was appealed. There were several cases appealed, and these must take their course in the courts.

Rev. Father Dixon complained bitterly of the law's delay. He thought that very much of the delay caused by appealing Scott Act cases could be avoided.

Rev. Mr. Richardson agreed with Rev. Father Dixon.

The matter, after general discussion, was left in the hands of the Police Committee.

Rev. Father Dixon said that some children, who should be at school, were running wild on the streets.

Ald. Hayward said that the Chief of Police was chasing trunks up. He had chased one fellow into a trunk. 12 cases of truancy had been dealt with last month. Sometimes children were let out of school because of the rooms being too cold.

The Chairman--What is the trouble with pictures every night. But Civics was an important study. The Chairman asked Mr. Andler to give his views and also explain the custom in Swedish schools. Mr. Andler said that Manual Training had done him a lot of good when he went to school. In Sweden every school has Manual Training and Domestic Science taught, so many hours weekly, to all pupils--manual work for the boys, domestic science for the girls. The common schools course in Sweden is eleven years--two years in primary and nine in what is called the Normal School. Manual training and Domestic Science begin in the third or fourth Normal year, that is, the fifth or sixth year the child is in the school, and continues through every grade. In the third or fourth year the common school pupil may be transferred to the High School, and there they get the same vocational training as in the Normal course. Children are admitted to school at the age of five or six. The Chairman endorsed the motion. 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They had impressed upon him that we were very anxious to have both together. While in Fredericton, Mr. McCurdy had acquainted Vice-Pres. Clarke with the position taken by the T. I. L. to keep its own separate organization, but to co-operate with the Alliance, with which it was thoroughly in sympathy. Mr. Clarke had told him that the Alliance legislative committee was in close touch with the local government and expected to have the opportunity of seeing the proposed temperance legislation before its introduction. It looked, also, as if the Dominion Parliament would, at least legislate to render entirely effective any measures of Prohibition the provinces, or any of them, may adopt. Rev. Father Dixon said that he did not like the idea of the Referendum. It was the duty of the legislature, elected to represent the people, to pass all laws. If they did not do right the people could turn them out at the end of their terms and elect better men. The Chairman asked how things were going in town--any more raids? Ald. Hayward--Yes, one the other day. Rev. Father Dixon asked when the appealed case would come up for trial. Ald. Hayward said it was expected to be tried early next month. There had been four cases against the Miramichi Hotel this month. The Police Committee were greatly handicapped for room to store the seized liquor. A conviction had been secured in the case of the liquor seized at the railway station, but the case was appealed. There were several cases appealed, and these must take their course in the courts. Rev. Father Dixon complained bitterly of the law's delay. He thought that very much of the delay caused by appealing Scott Act cases could be avoided. Rev. Mr. Richardson agreed with Rev. Father Dixon. The matter, after general discussion, was left in the hands of the Police Committee. Rev. Father Dixon said that some children, who should be at school, were running wild on the streets. Ald. 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