

THE ACADIAN

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Editorial

Our pulpits are our work clothes. Each of us live some kind of a sermon every day.

OUR FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

A most important coming event in the civic life of our town will be the public meeting of citizens to take into consideration the proposal to procure more efficient fire-fighting equipment. This meeting, which will be held in Parish Hall on Tuesday evening of next week, should be very largely attended by citizens as the issue is one which is worthy of the most intelligent consideration on the part of our people. It is a pity that this gathering should interfere with the opening session of the Fruit Growers' Association which comes on the same evening, but we presume that was unavoidable. It is understood that Mayor Phinney is anxious to have this matter, which has been pending for a long time, decided upon before the end of his term of office.

There is no doubt but that the purchase of additional appliances for the use of the firemen is desirable and we believe will be approved by citizens generally. In fact at a public meeting held several years ago an amount was voted especially for that purpose. Just what type of appliance is best suited to our purpose is the problem that has been much discussed and must now be decided upon. There are those who hold that if a low priced machine will fill the bill that it would be unwise in the light of present financial conditions to make a large outlay for a more costly appliance even though the latter might be more efficient. Others hold that the best is none too good. At the meeting next week the pros and cons will be presented and a decision arrived at.

Wolfville has during past years been singularly fortunate in the matter of fire losses, but we cannot ignore the fact that a wooden town is always menaced by this danger, as has been fully demonstrated by the experience of other communities. We have an excellent water supply, thanks to the enterprise and far-sightedness of the men of long ago, and a capable and loyal band of fire fighters, but nothing should be neglected that will provide the best possible efficiency obtainable. "Be Prepared" is an admonition which we cannot afford to disregard.

THE REASON FOR THE SURPLUS

The conditions presented in the financial statement of the provincial receipts and expenditures for the last fiscal year furnish much food for thought to the people of Nova Scotia. If it could have been shown that the very large increase in the revenue and the considerable surplus on hand at the end of the year was due to a wise development of public resources and a wise policy of economical administration, the result would be greatly to the credit of those in charge of the public affairs of the province. That this revenue and surplus is practically due wholly to the levying of burdensome taxation at a time when the public generally are finding living conditions extremely difficult to finance naturally does not stimulate any great amount of enthusiasm.

One thing in connection with Nova Scotia's finances which must impress even the careless student of provincial affairs is the very great increase that has taken place in legislative expenses during recent years. THE ACADIAN has before referred to this matter, not with any amount of trust that our legislators might of their motion undertake a reform along this line, but with the hope that Nova Scotians generally might realize the foolish waste of public money, needed in so many practical directions, that is going on from year to year. It requires no great amount of wisdom to recognize the unbusinesslike methods which are being followed nor the many very apparent opportunities for reform.

Meantime the crying need of better facilities for treating such problems as the care of the feeble-minded and other similar worthy undertakings receive no consideration on the plea that the condition of public funds does not warrant the necessary expenditures. The very respectable surplus which the ratepayers have been obliged to hand over during the past year should make provision for some of these neglected services.

FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, which is to be held in Wolfville next week, cannot but be regarded as a very important occasion. Time was when this was an annual event and Wolfville people were in consequence more familiar with the workings of the association than they are today. Of late years the meeting place has been changed annually, with a view to the securing of a wider influence upon the industry in the interest of which the organization exists. Whether or not the change of policy has accomplished the desired result is a debated question which it is not our purpose now to discuss. We wish merely to suggest that a warm welcome should be extended to the visiting fruit growers and that no pains should be spared to make their stay among us pleasant and the sessions of the association successful and profitable.

The apple-growers of this valley have many problems requiring solution in the growing and marketing of their product and such a gathering as will take place here next week should result in the clearing up of at least some of the difficulties which have to be grappled with. Apple-growing has become the great industry of this section and its carrying on provides the chief activity of our people. It affects, to some degree at least, every individual and interest. Organized sixty years ago the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association has proved a strong factor in what has so far been accomplished, but very much yet remains to be done in order that the Annapolis Valley and its people may realize the possibilities which lie within their grasp.

JUST PASTE THIS IN YOUR HAT

Every man should recognize himself as a factor in his home town and become a soldier of the common good.

Why not? We are mutually dependent, every one of us, from the sunrise to the sunset of life, for no man lives to or for himself alone. The utterly selfish man is a misfit in the scheme of human existence, is a libel upon a beneficent providence.

As we recognize these facts the town grows and prospers. A town that believes in itself and appreciates this fact of dependence upon each other will go forward with rapid strides, because its people work together for the common good.

We have in mind two towns. In one the population increased nearly 100 per cent. during the past ten years, while another town similarly situated, only twenty miles away, has increased about

one per cent. in thirty years. Why the difference? The other town is cut up into cliques and factions. Some sets won't trade or neighbor with other sets. The result is that thousands of dollars every month are sent out of that town for mail order purchases, whereas in the town first mentioned, where the people pull together, it has been estimated that the home merchants get about 98 per cent. of the trade.—Exchange.

THE LURE OF THE STATES

The other day a famous American statistician was prescribing for a gathering of Canadian business men. "Develop your natural resources and keep your boys in Canada," he said. Another speaker has quoted government figures to show that in the last nine years Canada has received from all countries 1,219,053 newcomers and in the same period has sent to the United States no less than 711,701 residents leaving a net gain of less than half a million.

A good deal of this emigration has seemed inevitable. The larger country tends to drain off the most-desirable citizens of the smaller, as surely as the city attracts many of the brightest boys and girls from the farms. And for the same reason, particularly for professional men and mechanics, are attractive rewards held out across the border where Canadians have won for themselves a name for reliability and hard work. Yet Sir John Williams does not hesitate to say that, man for man, those who have stayed in Canada have done as well as those who left. And from a national point of view every good emigrant is a distinct and regrettable loss.

Is it then the patriotic duty of Canadians not to emigrate? Patriotic it may be, but hardly duty—save in some individual cases. A man's duty is to produce for the benefit of himself and his fellows and if he can do that better on the other side let him go, and good luck to him. But that very large if should bar the way to thousands who now lightly pay their head-tax at the American border. The financial is not the only reward for one's services, and how many Canadians have discovered too late they have exchanged their birthright for a mess of American greenbacks? A given effort has generally for more important results in a young country than in an old one, just as, to use the familiar illustration, the sapling is more straightened than the tree. And for those who are content to build for future returns, emigration to the States or any other country in the world is not worth considering. We are at the stage which the United States experienced eighty or a hundred years ago when the foundations of her great businesses and institutions were being laid by men who builded better than they knew. And what they have done we are doing. Both the present and future are ours.

This is Canada's more than sufficient answer to the call of the States, and it deserves to be carefully weighed by all truly ambitious Canadians who feel inclined to move south.

WINDSOR WINS FROM WOLFVILLE

In Opening Game of the Valley Hockey League

We neglected last issue to make any mention of the opening game of the Valley Hockey League, which was played on December 31st at Windsor, when the home team defeated Wolfville by the score of 6 to 3. The following account of the game was taken from the Hants Journal:

About six hundred persons were present at the Windsor Ring on Monday night to witness the opening game of the Valley League, which was between Wolfville and Windsor.

The practice periods rather dampened our hopes of victory, the visitors registering a team heavy in weight, while the locals seemed unusually light, but once the players in action it could be readily observed that the locals speed was preferable to the visitors weight.

A noticeable and pleasing feature was the absence of rough hockey and a desire on the part of the players not to unnecessarily mix matters. T. Stackhouse, of Wolfville, officiated as referee, and while it may have appeared that Wolfville could have reasonably suffered two additional minor penalties, the whistle could not be complained of, and if all visiting referees deal with us as did Stackhouse on Monday night, we should feel satisfied. The only feature to mar the progress of the game was a disputed goal, but as Windsor's victory was not affected by that score, the win was clear cut. The goal in dispute was difficult to decide, but the signal of the judge passed on to the referee, should have been sufficient. The visitor's request for a change in this official was complied with.

The game resulted in a local victory of 6-3, and the inside story of it all is speed bursts. Four of our personnel showed that they were in fit form, but the remainder must press hard to a stiff course in training. White should prove a tower of wing strength, and the tricky little Johnny must be utilized.

Kuhn played a good game in the net, for his first appearance, making several difficult stops. He should recover more quickly however, and pay less heed to the voice of the spectators in rear of the net. McCann is the same old reliable defense star and a hard man to beat; G. Kuhn is a speedy little player and is sure to make good this season, but to be of full use to his team he must keep away from the box and spend all his time on the ice. Chambers and Taylor, two more intermediates, have found berths on the regular line-up, and played well Monday night. Singer strengthens the team and is a hard worker. J. McDonald fills his post at centre in 100 p. c. fashion and can take advantage of every opportunity. His cunning plays in the first game were responsible for two scores when he drew Eagles. Poole is keeping his position to a younger player and will manage the team from the boards. Frank has ranked as among the best and has figured prominently on our championship team for two years.

Wolfville's team has its weak spots, but the big noise is its defence. Eagles does all and more than is expected of him; Harvie is playing a strong defence and is dangerous in attack but possibly he is now more effective in that he is playing cleaner hockey. The Wolfville forwards are well conditioned and keep continually at it, but they lack the speed possessed by last year's line-up. Mason, we would select as among their three best.

GOING UP

Pat Murphy was on the spot when the explosion occurred and not a trace of him was found. In breaking the news to his wife the foreman said quietly: "Mrs. Murphy, ma'am, I'm sorry, but poor Pat is gone." "Gone," she said, "For good?" "Well, ma'am," said the foreman, "In that direction."

The most serious mistake in life is to take life too seriously.

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THE ACADIAN STORE

GRAND

Mr. Henry and Miss both of Halifax, spe with their aunt, Miss Mr. Roy H. Eaton, in Truro for Christmas home for Christmas Miss Mary Eaton, of Xmas with her parents W. P. Eaton.

Mr. and Mrs. N. S. the Christmas holiday Miss Annie Whitman teaching at Wolford days with her parents G. W. Whitman.

Mr. R. Leslie H. a few weeks in U. S. Miss K. B. Harvey with her parents Mr. Harvey, returning to week.

Miss Mary L. Fish spent a few days of her friend Mrs. S. A. B. Mrs. Buckell and spent the holiday at turned on Saturday.

Miss Marion Crane ville on Monday holidays at her home from Weymouth on she spent Christmas Miss Audrey MacO land, is visiting at the Mrs. G. C. Fickford tending Agricultural Mrs. John H. Law the Womens Institute 4th.

ABOUT THE (By The Acadian

A book of special interest of Nova Scotian ticular is R. P. Ball (McClelland and St. Edited selection of 1 Haliburton, not only "Slick" series, but also of similar spirit and who wish a renewed ance with the great do better than to m volume. Here they ishable part of H. shorn of the ephemer by the

formation about H as well as an unfaul tainment in the ma tor is a delightful to travel in imagin made by the Squir the inimitable clo who are forming a Canadian literature add this volume, best of the most fan writer.

WOODSTOCK T WANTS

An appeal is being or, aldermen, town ninent citizen of to their fellow ci Canada, urging s in the interests of is expressed by the

which they think be made at least. The signers of th they "desire or de tion in annual exp promise their sup strict economy.

"When a man, "owing chiefly to yond his control, losses and is obli property for about naturally expect First, a reduction ting off luxuries; any effort to incr is hard to see why circumstances should way."

The statement on the demands of subsidies and mo luxuries, and sug al indemnity of House of Comm be reduced to \$2. The slogan of t duction of Cana cent in five year

WHY I RESIG

A Scotchman whether he woul he withdrew a a back to-morro joking.

I told a woma to her husband, back, "Your l

A customer c didn't pay inte

I advertised "er" and somebo

You wouldn't the street, but th ing in gingham

P. O. Bo

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