

# The Weekly Monitor

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### BRIDGETOWN PAST AND PRESENT.

The Town of Forty Years Ago Contrasted with the Present, from Impressions Given by The Weekly Monitor Files of Early Years.—Water, Sewerage, Electric Lighting, Telephones, Macadamized Roads Among the Benefits Gained.

(Continued from last issue)

The first important advance made by Bridgetown was in 1887 when the mountain springs at the north of the town were turned into a channel to furnish a pure water supply to the town. They were led into a reservoir back of the farm of Arthur Marshall and from there piped a distance of about a mile to Bridgetown. The town had not then been incorporated and the movement met with great opposition on the part of some of the more conservative of the taxpayers. THE WEEKLY MONITOR led the agitation in favor of the acquisition, and by the time the new water system was established the movement was looked upon with almost universal favor. Two springs were at first sufficient to supply the demand of the citizens, but in 1900 it was found necessary to turn in another spring, and in 1908 so greatly had the demand of the manufacturers and householders increased that it was found necessary to connect with the reservoir the lake known as Croeskill Lake, on the summit of the mountain, thus furnishing a supply which is likely to be adequate to all demands of the town for many years to come.

The next boon Bridgetown was able to secure was electric lighting. In 1887 Mr. Arthur Stalis conceived the idea of placing a dynamo in a building on Queen Street, which had previously been in use as a wood-working factory, for the purpose of securing power for electric lighting. Most of the merchants welcomed the new method of illumination, and a few householders ventured upon the introduction of the lights into their houses. As a business venture it was not, however, an eminent success at that period. It was regarded as a luxury, few being inclined to look upon it as a household necessity as it is felt to be at the present time. Eventually Mr. Sulis sold his proprietary interest to Mr. J. W. Beckwith, who with characteristic enterprise improved the plant and extended the system, until it became so generally recognized as an indispensable means of lighting that, finally, in order to acquire additional capital to develop the plant Mr. Beckwith formed a company known as the Bridgetown Light, Heat and

Power Company. This company secured land and water power at the south of the town known as Walker's Falls. The plant was removed from the Queen Street building and a power plant was constructed upon the location named, from which the town now gets its splendid illuminating all night service.

During these years the public spirit and enterprise of the community made steady growth, and the more ambitious citizens began to nurture a hope and aspiration of seeing Bridgetown take a position among the incorporated towns of the Province. Here again THE MONITOR lent its influence to the progressive movement and the desired object was accomplished in 1898 when by a vote of a majority of its citizens Bridgetown became an incorporated town.

#### SEWERAGE

By this time the necessity was becoming apparent that Bridgetown's greatest need was a system of sewerage. Fortunately the natural topography of the town lent itself to an easy system of drainage. In 1903 the first sewer was laid through the congested section of the town. Again in 1907 an extension of this system was made so that Bridgetown now has a system of sanitation equal to any town in the Province.

#### MACADAMIZED ROADS

During these years, especially following incorporation, much attention had been paid to the streets and sidewalks and great quantities of gravel had been spread as a top soil over the clayey constituency of the roadbeds, necessitating the yearly expenditure of a considerable amount of money. The conviction grew, and finally became general, that this money and material were only wasted and that permanent methods of road-making must be applied in order to secure the very necessary advantage of good roads for the town. Finally in 1909 a public meeting was held at which by a vote of a majority of the ratepayers present, it was decided to secure legislation empowering the town to borrow money for the purpose of permanent improvement of the streets. During the last two years an excellent beginning has been made at this important work

of street macadamizing, the business section of the town being now completely covered, and with the coming season a still further extension of good streets will be laid. It is also proposed to carry along the improvement of the sidewalks conjointly with the streets, wherewith a great step in civic progress will have been made.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

While these civic improvement were being effected, the industrial and architectural features of the town were steadily growing. The educational facilities, as represented by the little old-fashioned, one-story school-building became entirely inadequate to the growing needs of the youthful population. In 1902 the sum of \$10,000 was voted for a new school-building. The embryo citizenship of the town is now nurtured in this fine public school-building, attractively and suitably located with ample playgrounds and park-like surroundings, and presided over by six instructors each having charge of a separate department. Though doing good work there are indications that it will not be many years before another extension of school accommodation will be required, and it is hoped that at no distant date Bridgetown will introduce practical features of manual training and come in line with the other progressive towns of the province.

#### TOWN HALL

A Town building was erected in 1900 for the purpose primarily of housing the fire-fighting equipment. An upper story was added which was fitted up as a Town Hall, providing a place for the business meeting of the civic board and police court, and a tower was added to contain the fire alarm bell. This building is centrally located on the corner of Middle and Albert Streets, and has saved the town considerable in rental while proving far more convenient for the needs of the fire department, which, as at present organized, is in an admirable state of efficiency. A private system of fire alarms connect the houses of the firemen with each other, connecting with a centralized alarm box. The

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### Farmers' Meeting At Lawrencetown

In spite of the almost impassable roads and rain, a large number of our representative farmers gathered in the Temperance Hall on Saturday evening, Jan. 18th.

Messrs. Messenger and Hunt, who had been appointed a committee to obtain data on the expense of building, equipping and running an evaporator, reported favorably. As far as they could learn from visiting the evaporators now in operation in the Valley, the industry, even with the present low prices for evaporated stuff, was a profitable one, especially as a side line to an apple company. After the meeting, by a standing vote, had shown itself in favor of the project, a committee, consisting of A. A. Hunt, E. C. Shaffner, A. J. Wilson and R. J. Messenger, was appointed to find if the surrounding companies would support the enterprise.

Dr. J. B. Hall opened the subject of co-operative buying of supplies, pointing out that the apple companies should buy through their officers direct, their supplies consisting of seeds, fertilizer, flour, feed, etc.

After some discussion a committee, consisting of A. J. Wilson, E. C. Shaffner, A. L. Morse and F. H. Longley, was instructed to ascertain from their respective companies the amounts of fertilizer they would require and hand them to the Secretary of the meeting, R. J. Messenger, by Saturday, Jan. 25th, who, with the managers of the companies, would be the order.

Mr. E. C. Shaffner opened a very animated discussion of the Fruit Marks Act, which kept the meeting until a very late hour.

The Act had been interpreted and misinterpreted and juggled with until neither inspectors nor producers knew what it meant.

Other speakers were S. E. Bancroft, J. S. Longley, J. B. Shaffner, Arthur Bishop and R. W. Elliott.

Mr. E. C. Shaffner read a proposed amendment to the Act, and he was appointed to bring the matter before the Fruit Growers' Association at Middleton.

### Lawrencetown Literary Club.

The "Club" spent a very enjoyable evening last Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Daniels, some thirty-five members being present.

The following program was presented:—  
Current events of the week—Miss Johnson.

Events of the year 1912—Dr. F. W. Young.  
Address, "Joseph Howe"—Dr. L. R. Morse.

Solo, "Down by the Old Millstream"—Mrs. W. W. Bent.  
Reading, "The Beginning"—R. J. Messenger.

Reading, selections from Joseph Howe's writings—Mrs. H. Phinney.  
Duet, "The Homeland"—Miss Muriel Bishop and John Moore.

Reminiscences of Joseph Howe—by president, J. B. Hall.

After discussion it was decided that Rev. Mr. Muir lecture under the auspices of the Club, on Feb. 12th. Next meeting Jan. 22nd, will be a musical evening in the Methodist church.

### Entertainment

The entertainment to be given in the County Home Institutions Recreation Hall, Church Street, next Monday evening (21st inst) will be first-class in every respect.

Amongst others the following ladies and gentlemen have promised assistance, and their names are a guarantee for an excellent program:—  
Mrs. Ruggles, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. A. R. Bishop, Mrs. Harlow, Misses Reed and Burns, Revs. N. A. MacNeil, B. J. Porter, E. Underwood, Messrs. F. V. Young, R. W. W. Parry, F. Cole, A. Burns. It is also hoped to be in attendance, in any case there will be special band selections. As may be judged from these names, the programme will be a pleasantly varied one of vocal and instrumental solos, duets, quartettes, readings, stump speeches, etc. The proceedings will commence at eight o'clock sharp. Tickets at J. I. Foster's—two for 5c. Give a bumper house.

### MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HOLD ANNUAL SESSION FOR 1913

Superintendent A. F. Hiltz Presents Annual Report of the Institutions Showing Satisfactory Conditions.—Makes an Effective Plea for the Lighting of Buildings by Electricity.—Medical Officer's Report and Municipal Nurses.

The Council met at the Court House, at Annapolis, on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, A.D., 1913, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Present:—W. G. Clark, Warden; Frank Elliott, Freeman Fitch, Jos. I. Foster, Watson Bent, William E. Armstrong, Edgar Porter, Elias Rawling, William C. Healy, Frank W. Willett, William FitzRandolph, J. C. Grimm, A. D. Thomas, J. Bartlett Gillis and A. Stanley Brown, Councillors.

The Warden opened the Council with a few appropriate remarks, congratulating the Council on their unbroken ranks and their unanimity in all business matters, and expressing the hope and wish that the same would continue to the end of their session.

The minutes of the Semi-Annual Session were then read and approved. The report of the Superintendent of the Annapolis County Hospital was then read. The following was the report:—

#### REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF COUNTY HOSPITAL.

To the Warden and Councillors of the Municipality of Annapolis Co. Gentlemen:—

I beg to submit the Superintendent's report of the Annapolis County Hospital for the year ending November, 30th, 1912.

RECORDS OF INMATES 1911-1912.  
No. of Inmates Nov. 30th, 1911 49  
Admitted during the year 6  
Discharged 55  
Died 7

No. Inmates Nov. 30th, 1912 46

It will be seen by the above table that two patients were discharged during the year. Six were admitted and seven died.

Of the number of inmates remaining in the Hospital, at the end of the year, twenty-six were from Annapolis County, four from Hants, two from Kings, four from Yarmouth and six private.

The number of inmates in the Hospital at the close of the year 1912 was forty-six, or three less than the previous year. A number of applications are in hand; the necessary blanks have been forwarded for the admission of as many as can be accommodated.

#### IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS.

The re-roofing of the Hospital has been completed, and minor improvements and repairs have been made throughout the building.

The hot water tank, so long noted for its efficiency, has been replaced by one with a capacity of one hundred gallons, whereas the former one contained but forty gallons.

The present system of lighting the Hospital with lamps, beside being inconvenient and out of date, is a menace to the protection against fire.

This has been a source of worry to those in charge, since it is quite possible for a patient in a state of excitement to overturn one of these lamps with serious results. These lamps were replaced by electricity, the danger of fire would be reduced to a minimum. The extra cost of lighting with electricity would be equivalent to a greater amount of insurance. Or it may be that the present rate of insurance could be so reduced as to meet a portion of the extra cost of lighting, and with a greater degree of safety; by this I mean that the present amount of insurance against the risk of fire from the use of lamps, is not equally as good as a smaller amount against the risk of fire with the electric light.

#### OCCUPATION AND RECREATION.

During the summer months, all patients who are not on parole, or engaged in work on the farm, spend the greater part of the day in the open air, under the supervision of the attendants.

Those on parole, with but a few exceptions, generally observe the regulations, and enjoy the privileges accorded them. A lantern lecture by the Rev. Mr. Underwood was very much appreciated by those who were able to be present. Outside of this we do not have as much in the way of entertainment as we would have liked, but there are rumors about that a

number of Bridgetown's talent purpose giving us several pleasant evenings during the coming winter in the hall.

Occupation, too, has been a feature of the year. Those who have been able and willing to work have been employed on the farm; not only has their assistance been a material help in carrying on the work of the farm, but while thus employed were better contented than if they were idle. In mention of the work performed the female patient must not be forgotten, for a number of these assist in the household duties, which are of no mean proportions.

I need not mention the result of the year's farming since your Committee will present to you the report. Suffice it to say that the crops have been good, and notwithstanding the fact that the season for harvesting the hay was unusually bad, the new barn is filled with hay of the best quality and in the pink of condition.

The completion of the new barn fills a long-felt necessity, and can only be fully appreciated by those who have labored under the disadvantages of the old. The old barn, even to stand the present winter out, required extensive repairs.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Papers: Monitor-Sentinel, Middleton Outlook and the Annapolis Spectator, magazines and other reading matter have been supplied by various friends. All the above are appreciated by the patients, and for which we are deeply indebted.

The Rev. Dr. Jost and the Baptist deacons conducted the religious services at the Institution during the year. We are also deeply indebted to all those who in any way assisted in these religious exercises.

We are indebted to all those who made it possible in having the Xmas entertainment, and to those who so generously responded to our appeal at this time for contributions, all of which were acknowledged by the Secretary-Treasurer in the Monitor-Sentinel.

I have pleasure in bearing witness to the general efficiency of those associated with me in the work of the Institution, and to the excellence of the services they have rendered. The harmony which prevailed between the employees of both Institutions is also worthy of note.

May I be permitted to extend my thanks to the Committee and to all those who are in any way connected with the Institution, and for the courteous and considerate manner in which you have dealt with me personally and with the various matters pertaining to the Institution.

Your obedient servant,  
A. F. HILTZ.

The report of the Committee appointed to report in reference to the advisability of opening a new road at Granville Ferry to be known as Pickup street, was then read, and was, on motion of Councillor Healy, ordered to lay over until the afternoon session.

Councillor Healy then gave notice that when this matter again came up for consideration, on account of the

large damages called for, he would move that further consideration of the matter be deferred until next session.

Ordered that the Warden nominate a committee to appoint standing Councillors.

The Warden named Councillors FitzRandolph, Rawling and Elliott.

The report of the Health Officer was then read and the motion adopted.

The following is the report:—  
REPORT OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER.

To W. G. Clarke, Esq., Warden of Municipality of Annapolis Co. Sir:—

I beg to submit herewith the following brief report as health officer of the Municipality for 1912. During the year we have been very free of severe contagious diseases. For the first time for some years we have been entirely free of outbreaks of the mild types of small-pox. Acute poliomyelitis that was so severe in one family in Dalhousie in 1911 has not occurred this year.

Scarlet fever of a mild nature has appeared in different sections, but not severe, and has been kept well within bounds by strict quarantine measures. Diphtheria has only been reported twice during the year, and there have been very few cases. Our people are learning the benefit of rigid quarantine measures, and, although they seem severe at times and a hardship to those confined, it is very plain to see that in the long run in preventive measures of this character it is better to err on the side of too strict quarantine than with too much laxity.

During the first part of the year I attended, as representative of the Municipality, the Convention for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, held in Halifax. Most of the counties in the province were represented by members of the Municipal Council and Health Officers. Representatives were also present from the Conservation Commission from Ottawa, and the Canadian Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Resolutions were introduced calling upon the Government to take some advance steps regarding this disease, and to grant assistance to Municipal Sanatoria for the care of advanced cases and also to enlarge the Sanatorium at Kentville to increase its usefulness, in incipient cases. A Municipal Sanatorium for a county as small as ours hardly seemed necessary at the present time, but another way of dealing with this disease in rural districts that has been successfully tried is that of the employment of Municipal nurses. These are given special training in this disease and are then employed to visit patients suffering from tuberculosis and instruct them in caring for themselves, and teach their friends how to care for them, and spend their whole time in passing from one to another of these cases, and rendering any assistance possible to restore health or prevent the spread of the disease.

This proposition appealed to me as much more practical for us at the

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### SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

Deposits of \$1.00 and upwards received and interest allowed at highest current rates.

A. F. LITTLE MANAGER, Bridgetown  
F. G. PALFREY MANAGER, Lawrencetown.  
E. B. McDANIEL MANAGER, Annapolis Royal