

The Edmundston Observer

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WHOLE No. 18.

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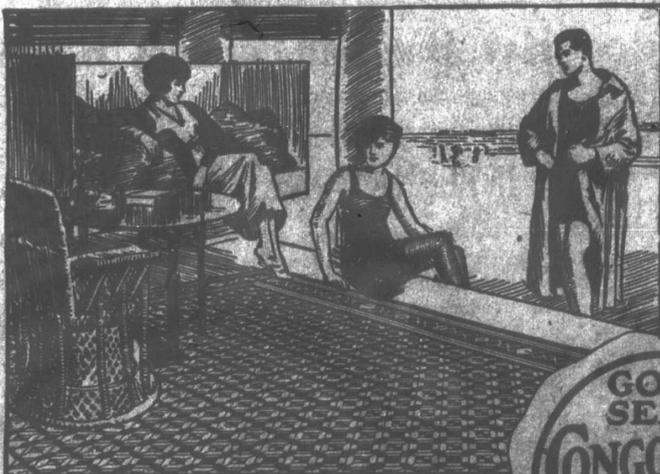
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THE ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING

The school meeting was held in the School building on Monday, July 10, at 7:30, J. M. Stevens, K. C., in the chair. There were about 80 present. The secretary, Leon Belanger, reported as follows: Total Receipts, \$27,725.55. Disbursements, including notes in the bank \$29,372.85. Construction account, receipts \$97,129.04. Disbursements \$68,064.11, distributed as follows:

Contract No. 1, Foundation	\$22,879.07
Contract No. 2, Building	19,759.44
Contract No. 3, Site	1,500.00
Purchase of P. Gagnon, F. Gagnon, Carriere, Interest and miscellaneous	25,125.60
Total	\$68,064.11

It was reported that Mr. Patterson had had charge as principal of the schools and associated with him were Misses Regina Martin, Therese H. Bute, Anna McLaughlin, and Miss Martine Hall in the school proper. Miss E. Landry was in charge of the school belonging to the C. of E. and rented by the school board. Miss Anna D'Aigle and Miss E. Cote had charge of the two class rooms in the Pierre Gagne building. Four Sisters and Miss Martin had charge of 5 departments at the convent. Two new departments were opened last fall, one in the Convent and one in Joe Carrier's house, the latter in charge of Miss Antoine Albert, for the first term, and Miss Eva Levesque for the second term. It was reported that Callix Savoie had been engaged as principal for the year. Mr. Savoie comes from Sussex and is very highly spoken of. He will be assisted by the same staff with the exception of the Misses Cote, Landry and Irene Martin, resigned, these being replaced by Miss L. St. Pierre, Miss D'Aigle and Miss A. D'Aigle all holding 2nd Class certificates.

Considerable discussion was caused by the following minority report read by Walter Belyea, the retiring trustee:

"I do not leave to submit a minority report as your Trustee."

"On November 18, 1921, I was elected a member of the Board of School Trustees to complete the term of S. E. Burpee, resigned. In accepting the position I fully appreciated the responsibility accompanying that of a trustee in whose hands are placed in trust the property and funds of the District.

"Knowing that construction of the foundation for the Central School was proceeding at the time of my election, I asked to examine the contract at the first meeting of the Board and was informed that no contract had been signed. On examination of the minutes I find that on September 12, 1921, the Board awarded the contract to Mr. Dugal but no contract was signed until December 21, 1921, while on October 11, the minutes show that my colleagues voted \$5,000 to Mr. Dugal. Subsequently I learned that an additional \$3,000 had been paid on account by the trustees previous to my joining the Board for which I fall to find any authority of the Board recorded in the minutes. In addition to this the chairman and secretary paid a further \$3,000 after I joined the Board without a motion of the Board or without my consent, making a total of 11,000 paid to the contractor before the contract was signed or an estimate received from the architect. When the contractor asked for further advances I objected on the grounds that the Board was dealing with trust funds and should not disburse those funds without fully safeguarding the District by having a contract signed and a progress estimate from the architect. As previously stated a contract was finally signed on December 21.

The estimate of cost for the foundation submitted by Architect R. A. Frenchette, as per Karsh plan, was in the vicinity of \$35,000. Mr. Dugal's tender being 29,774. Architect Frenchette's estimate for the foundation, which was finally constructed as per plan submitted by himself, was in the vicinity of \$18,000, being a reduction of 45 per cent of the estimate for the Karsh foundation. With such a vast difference, I believe the Board would have been acting in the best interests of the rate-payers by calling for new tenders or at least having a definite cost price agreed upon and embodied in a contract before allowing construction to commence or paying out of public moneys. On the basis of a 45 per cent reduction as shown by difference in estimates the contract figures should have been about \$19,500. Instead of \$22,700, a difference of over \$3,000, the majority of which should have been saved to the District had a contract been signed before work was commenced. The only figure recognized as the cost of foundation when work began was 29,774, and the District confirmed the Contractor in his

right by paying him money on account; the only thing left to be done was to make the best possible contract which was for \$22,700.

"On February 3, 1922, tenders for the completion of the School closed, the lowest legal tender being submitted by J. A. Grant & Company, Limited. (Continued on Editorial page)

POLICE COURT NEWS

A sad case of youthful delinquency came before the magistrate J. B. Michaud this week in the person of Adelard Perrault who said his home was in St. Hubert, P. Q. A number of places had been broken into and thefts made, viz. David's bowling alley, where a quantity of cigarettes had been taken, Dennis H. Burgoyne's poolroom, where goods to the value of \$25 had been stolen, Dennis Martin's Garage where a bicycle had been purloined, Ovide Michaud's store where the thief had helped himself to butter, preserves and a buffalo robe. There was no proof to the identity of the thief, although the similarity of the thief in breaking and entering pointed to the same person. The suspicions of the police were aroused when it was reported that a stranger had bought a flash light from a local drug store, and had paid for it with nickels, and it was known that a quantity of nickels had been stolen from one of the pool rooms mentioned. Perrault was arrested on Monday morning by Police Chief Savage, who found him camping out on the outskirts of the town. He acknowledged the thefts, and consented to the jurisdiction of the magistrate, who sentenced him to two years in Dorchester.

Francis Grandmison, a resident of Edmundston, who has been working on the new Queen Hotel was arrested on complaint of his wife for being drunk, and beating her. His case will come up next week.

On Monday Johnny Hebert was before the Magistrate for assaulting the Secretary of the Driving Club, J. W. Hall, on the Race Course the day previous to the last races. The charge was laid by the Association in order that its officers and members be protected. He was fined \$20 and costs. On paying the costs the fine was allowed to stand.

A lively school meeting was held at St. Annes recently it would seem, as on Tuesday Alexander Michaud was before the court on the charge of assaulting Joseph H. Parent. The row was caused through a discussion of school matters. For the fun of the fight the defendant was fined \$10 and costs.

WHY NOT HAVE A HOSPITAL?

For the past six weeks there has been a regular stream of patients going to hospitals in this and other Provinces from Edmundston. During the past few weeks the town purchased the Emmerson property and the land is going to be turned into a park. The house is a large and commodious one, and can be put back a little distance from the road. With a little alteration it would make an ideal place to start with. Eventually Edmundston will have a hospital. It is impossible for a growing, prosperous, progressive place like ours to do without modern ways of dealing with sickness and accidents. If eventually, why not now? It is not a question of money, or of taxes, it is a question of humanity. It is not a question of taking a patient to Woodstock, or Fredericton or Montreal, it is a question sometimes of hours and minutes. It is not only in regard to the hospital where the Physician can perform his task with the best equipment, it is the care and supervision the patient gets after the critical operation has been successfully accomplished at the hands of trained nurses.

Edmundston is big enough to have a hospital. Surely Edmundston will soon be too proud not to care for her sick and maimed and will take steps to provide for them.

PREPARING FOR BRIDGE OPENING

A meeting of the general committee of those who have charge of the celebration here when the International Bridge is to be opened on Sept. 4 was held Wednesday evening in J. W. Hall's office.

There were representatives from Madawaska, Me., present and matters were gone into at length. Martin Therault, the general manager, reported what had been done up to the present time and outlined his plans for the future. The question of changing the date in order that the Governor of Maine might be present was gone into and it was thought that as the movements of the executive officer of the State of Maine was so uncertain, it was unwise to alter the date, as the chances were it would not be possible to pick a date that would fill the requirements of the situation, and at the same time be suitable to him. There is a very urgent hope, however, that the Governor will be able to be here. It was decided to ask the hotels to tender for a banquet for a hundred covers. The choice of speakers and the matter of inviting public men here for the day was left to County Commissioner Daigle of Madawaska and Pius Michaud, M. P., and the Hon. J. E. Michaud. Matters in connection with publicity, and decoration of streets and other matters were gone into and the meeting adjourned at a late hour. Another meeting will be called by the Chairman J. W. Hall at an early date.

HORSE RACES NEXT WEEK

D. E. Scribe of The Observer was a guest on Wednesday of the Edmundston Driving Club. The indefatigable Secretary J. W. Hall, who has done so much for the initial success of the Club took his over the grounds and showed him the work that has been done during the past few months. It is little short of marvellous that so much has been accomplished and the greatest credit is due Messrs. Emmerson and Miller who have had charge of the work. The club is situated just outside the town limits on the road past the Martin settlement, and no more picturesque place could have been found; the hills surround it on all sides, and the location of the stables and grand stand leave nothing to be desired.

The stables are located on the far side of the track, and have been built with the comfort of the horses in view. Running water from an artesian well is brought to the stables, and there are twenty-four stalls in the two separate stables. The grand stand which is nearing completion is on the entrance side and will accommodate over a thousand people. This stand is built of substantial timber and no expense has been spared in making it not only a permanent and absolutely safe structure, but to afford the maximum comfort to sightseers on the days of races. F. D. Tweedie from Woodstock has been brought here by the race track association to take charge during the races to be held here next week, and talking with him he said "The track has been laid out to the very best advantage; it is wide and well graded, and will be after use and in the course of the summer one of the best tracks in the Province." Mr. Tweedie in talking of the grand stand said that it was an exceptionally well built structure, and gave the dimensions. It is 45 feet deep, 100 feet long, and as before stated, seats over a thousand.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday the first real races and the real opening of the track will take place. There are forty-nine entries and some well known horses will be here, horses such as College Swift owned by J. W. Gallagher of Woodstock and imported to this province by J. W. Hall, the club secretary, some years ago. This horse has a record of 2:11 1/2 and is about eight years old. Another well (Continued on Editorial page)

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