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JAN. 9, 1917

FINANCE DEPARTMENT OTTAWA

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New Home, \$29, at J. R. Webster's.

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For Sale—A range almost new also number of kitchen utensils. Apply to B. W. Fielding, Church Avenue, Kentville. sw

### Town Planning

By L. R. Fair, Aylesford, N. S.  
Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Kentville Board of Trade—

When I was asked to give you a short talk on Town planning or town improvement, it seemed that the latter subject had already been given attention, as apparent in your new cement sidewalks, street improvement, new brick and stone buildings and other signs of progress.

Town planning we now hear so much about is the revival of an old and long neglected science and art. It was once highly developed, and probably reached its finest expression among the Greeks. It should be of great interest to us, a young and growing country, where there are such opportunities and where there should be the patriotic ambition to attain the highest artistic expression of our national life.

To bring about ideal existence for those concerned, one must necessarily seek first principles. The law of gravitation is the element governing action in masses as expressed in physics, and in Political economy, to quote Henry George "Tis fact that men seek to gratify their desires with the least exertion."

Since the time when man condemned to earn his own living by the sweat of his brow, his life has been work. His work is the exertion of force against resistance. So coming back to our starting point, human activity is fostered and conserved by easing the paths of endeavor. A street is acknowledged to have two main functions, first as a channel of communication, and secondly, as a frontage for buildings—the architect's opportunity.

Artificial conditions which curtail the inherent rights of man—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are all a costly dam, which often causes eventually a wash out. Hill tops, under normal conditions, have not been markets. Primitive dwellings were in the hollows near the stream or lake border for the ease of life and of work. Later on men sought the hills for protection.

The modern exponents of civic art from whom we have derived most are Raymond Unwin of English garden city fame and Thomas Mawson, Prof. Town Planning, Liverpool University.

Town planning saves money. This statement is so obvious that it hardly needs illustration or proof, but if the latter were needed, it can be very easily supplied by the complementary statement that lack of town planning costs money. We all know that large sums of public money are now being spent to rectify the errors, which lack of foresight has handed down to us. The horrible examples of haphazard growth which occur in so many of our Canadian towns and cities need not be brought before your notice. They are so self evident that every thinking man has at some time or other been distracted by them.

Any arrangement which tends to the conservation of human thought, time, energy, or life is good. Town planning does all these things, it therefore must also be good.

A town or city is the expression of the life of its inhabitants. Its public buildings should be grouped to give due prominence to the dominant note of administration and Government. The formation of a civic centre is an economic advantage, as well as monumental. Even when the buildings are quite small an effect of dignity can be secured by grouping, that would be impossible if such buildings were detached and isolated.

Then in regard to our Railway stations, are they not often in the meanest and most impossible situation. The Railroad is a big factor in the life of a town, and its entrance should be the subject of grave consideration. The Railroad station today corresponds with the city portal of the old cities. Should we not endeavor to make it and its surroundings a thing of beauty and meaning. Some Nova Scotia towns as seen first from the Railroad depot are certainly not prepossessing.

A problem which is present to some degree in every city is that of housing the people. Conditions which are dangerous to health, safety and morality often prevail occasioned primarily by lack of guidance in urban growth, by poor planning of buildings, faulty construction and defective sanitation. The result of bad houses is ill health, both physical and moral, and there-

by industrial inefficiency, unemployment, and a long chain of preventable social maladies, which are very costly to individual and social achievements.

Individuals may beautify their properties, but, if the town as a whole lacks the community interest, the result will not be as satisfactory.

Each town or village has some natural or other feature peculiar to itself—one, a manufacturing centre, another a shipping town, another a summer resort, an historic point, etc., etc., and in considering town improvements, it is well, of course, to bear in mind your history and future.

Kentville seems to be an ideal residential town, and perhaps, a few remarks on housing and adjacent grounds would be good.

A number of available small cottage homes located on an open square, just off of the more public streets of a town, is a very attractive feature and at once appeals to the man or woman, who is looking about for a place to settle. Seven cottage homes fronting on a rectangle, which is, we will say, fitted up either boulevarded and set out in order with some shade trees, etc., or as a safe playground for the children a small fountain, a covered playroom for rainy days, a few permanent shady seats, which can be used by the older ones at the end of the day.

These areas, while fairly generous in size, do not take as much space as the individuals yards, are common to all seven homes, and children are always in sight of the parent. These plots can be made a beauty spot in the town, attractive alike to the passer by and the owners. Each family has a pleasant outlook, children are safe, being off the public street, and the results are—much greater than could possibly be accomplished with the same cost, if built in different localities in the town.

Each town should decide on their residential and manufacturing districts, etc. Many localities are spoiled for residents, owing to some stable, foundry or other objectionable building in their midst.

The more healthful locations are generally on the higher ground, and while not so near the centre of business, are more desirable. A few minutes walk is exercise often needed by the man whose work is indoors at a desk or counter.

Vacant lots are a great annoyance when kept in an untidy, dilapidated or unsanitary condition. Owners could well afford to keep their lots in a more attractive state, as they would sell quicker at a higher price. Unoccupied areas at junctions of streets, even if quite small or of unequal dimensions or irregular outline, can be made beauty spots, which transform the whole aspect of a street or neighbourhood. Shade trees are splendid, if placed and spaced with judgement. Sometimes, however, they need thinning out, but take thought before destroying in a few moments what has taken many years to grow.

If you are fortunate enough to have near or just off a principal street, a plot large enough for a small park or green, this may be shrubbed, laid out, beautified and fitted here and there with sheltered seats and will be found a good investment and appreciated by the tourist and citizen alike.

A Public Comfort station of small size, placed in a suitable location is a convenience which marks progress, and adds much to the sanitary condition of the town.

—Meriden, Conn. Journal: Having decided to reduce the cost of living by raising vegetables, some of our home gardeners proceed to buy a pair of gloves to keep their hands from getting soiled, and a lawn chair to rest in.

Parents who took their child on the railroad from Omaha, Neb. to Portland, Ore. two years ago, have forwarded to the railroad the price of her fare. The parents say they thought a child less than 6 years old could travel free, but have learned the age limit was 5 years old.

Wanted—A capable maid for general housework. Apply to Mrs. J. P. Chipman, Chapel Hill, Kentville. 3sw

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Also all kinds of Fertilizer, Seeds, and Spray Material, on order Give us your order and save Money.

Daylight Saving has been made universal throughout the United Kingdom. All clocks will be moved forward one hour at 2 o'clock on the morning of April 8. The clocks will be moved back again on Sept.

To whom it may concern: This is to certify that I have used MINARD'S LINIMENT myself as well as prescribed it in my practice where a liniment was required and have never failed to get the desired effect.  
C. A. KING, M. D.

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THE sole head male over 15 years of age, a quarter Dominion land in person at the D or sub-Agency for proxy may be in Lands Agency (certain conditions)

Duties—Six months cultivation of the years. A home nine miles of his at least 80 acres. A habitable house residence is perfect. In certain dist good standing section alongside \$3.00 per acre.

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A settler who has stood right may stand in certain acres. Duties—out of three years erect a house work.

The art of reduction in case toy land. Live out for cultivation duties

W. W. Deputy of the

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It is hard to farmers realize possibility of the get what com will require this less it is an al wise farmer will utilize soon. Anging you may n. As even now i what you want had we have of Basic Slag

C. O. C. W.

### SIXTY OF PROGE

We have ing reputat square deal prepared to ditions by grade trees customers a PRICES. D fruit trees a is nothing p our illustrat der direct a agent's com will be sure

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