

THE DISPATCH.

VOL. 8. NO. 43.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., MARCH 26, 1902.

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1902.
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T. A. LINDSAY, Mgrs. Maritime Provinces, St. John, N. B.
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WANTED.
 A second-class female teacher for District No. 10, Foreston, Carleton County, N. B. Wanted to commence the first of April.
 T. HARVEY, Sec. of School Trustees.
 March 12th.
 Subscribe for THE DISPATCH

TEACHER WANTED.
 A second class teacher to take charge of the school in school District No. 6, Aberdeen, at once. Apply, stating salary to
 E. H. CARLE, Sec'y.
 Highlands, Carleton County.
 March 19.

THE FESTIVAL CONCERT.
Large Audience Greeting the First Concert of the Woodstock Festival Chorus.

The first concert given by the Woodstock Festival Chorus on Tuesday evening, March 18th, in the opera house, was attended by a large and appreciative audience, and although the price of tickets was higher than usual, everybody was satisfied that it was well worth the price of admission. The local chorus was assisted by about 25 members from Houlton making in all a chorus of nearly 100 voices. Many people were surprised at the good work done by the local chorus, considering that they have only had about six weeks practice previous to the concert. Much of the credit is due Dr. Baker, the conductor, who has taken a deep interest in the work, and also Rev. Mr. McIlwaine, of Houlton, who came over here and assisted on different occasions. While all the six selections sung by the chorus were encores, perhaps the one most appreciated was, "For His Is the Sea." There may have been an absence of lights and shades in all the pieces still the effect on the whole was very good.

Madame Bouton was the real star of the evening. She has a voice of rare sweetness and power, coupled with a most charming stage appearance. Her rendition of Verdi's "O, Don Fatale," brought forth much applause, as did all her selections, and her rendition of "Annie Laurie," completely captivated the audience. In her last encore she was accompanied by Mr. Archambault in a duet, which was a very fitting conclusion.

Mr. Archambault, the young basso with a heavy sonorous voice, which he has under control, came in for a good share of applause. He was heard at his best in Vulcan's song from "Philemon and Baucis," and as an encore sang the "Palms," which was loudly applauded. His next song was Schumann's "Two Grenadiers," which was nicely rendered, but would have been much more appreciated had he sung it in English. As an encore he sang "The Yeoman's Wedding Song," receiving much applause.

The young violinist, Miss Josefa did excellent work and made a favorable impression. Her playing gives evidence of conscientious study.

Miss Jessie Porter played the accompaniments for the choruses in a very efficient manner.

The people of Woodstock are under obligation to Mr. Chapman for the organization of the Festival Chorus in town, and for bringing with him the very best musical talent, which would not otherwise have been heard. As a conductor he knows his business, and was a great help to the chorus at their rehearsal the afternoon of the concert. He outlined the plan of the Festival Concert at Littleton during the coming summer and hoped for a large delegation from Woodstock.

The members of the Chorus wish to thank Mr. John Graham for the use of the opera house which he placed at their disposal for practice.

Clare Wins His "Case."

The boys tendered a farewell supper to Charles F. Clare on Monday evening and a most enjoyable evening was spent. After a splendid repast prepared with artistic skill by Host Monahan the following list of toasts was proposed and responded to.

The King,—National Anthem.
 Our Guest,—Chas. F. Clare.
 Imperial Defences,—H. Baird, S. R. Ross, Banking Institutions,—F. Fisher, H. McLauchlan, A. Munro.

Educational Institutions,—A. W. Young, I. Draper, H. W. Martin.

Commercial Institutions,—B. Griffith, H. Dunbar, C. T. Dalling, H. Stevens.
 Ladies,—M. Tapley, J. F. R. Balloch, D. Campbell, A. G. Kirkpatrick, F. Davidson, I. Churchill, G. Campbell, R. W. J. Parkins, N. F. Thorne.

Press,—A. W. Young.
 Jewellers,—W. Townsend, C. T. Dalling.
 Our Host,—Monsieur Terry.

The chair was occupied by N. F. Thorne in his usual acceptable manner and much of the enjoyment of the evening is due to his ready wit and genial manner. In proposing the toast to the guest of the evening Mr. Thorne presented Mr. Clare with an elegant suit case and read an address signed by all those present, expressing the regret all felt at the departure of Mr. Clare and wishing him every success in his new field.

Mr. Clare replied briefly thanking the boys for their kindness to him and for their kind words and good wishes.

An interesting feature of the evening's entertainment was the after dinner "laughlets," furnished by several members. H. W. Martin and H. Dunbar also favored the audience with recitations and songs.
 Mr. Clare goes to Campbellton on Thursday to assume his new duties.

Debating Society.

The regular meeting of the Young Men's Debating Society was held on Thursday evening last in the Woodstock Business College rooms. President Holyoke in the chair.

The debate for the evening, Resolved that voting should be compulsory, was handled with a degree of ability which was surprising in young speakers. That the society is doing a good work is evidenced in the marked ease and freedom with which some of the young men can rise to their feet and give an intelligent and fairly logical address.

The debate was opened by H. Saunders in a careful and pointed speech. He contended that a compulsory voting law would remove many of the existing evils. It would prevent employers of labor using their influence to prevent their employees from voting if they felt that their votes would hurt the party interests. It would secure a full expression of public opinion on any question submitted whereas now sometimes only a very partial vote was secured and that general public interest would be stimulated.

E. K. Connell in opening for the negative defined the term "vote," as the full and untrammelled expression of the will of an elector with regard to the question at issue. If we made voting compulsory we defeated the end in view. To compel a man to vote would be to take away the rights of every free citizen. He cited the attempt in Belgium to make voting compulsory and how with an increase of 4 per cent. in the number of votes cast three fourths of the extra votes had been cast blank. That we would not be able to enforce a compulsory law, we would simply antagonize a large part of our citizens. Then the question of corruption was one which must be considered. If these voters were being influenced now by bribery, would there not be a larger number influenced when they were compelled to vote. He went back into English history to show that there had never been a time when such a system had ever been considered.

N. F. Thorne in seconding for the affirmative stated that we had the right to make voting compulsory and to inflict a penalty for non compliance just as we had in the case of the jury system. That the compelling a man to vote did not take away this freedom of expression, but simply compelled all citizens to take an active interest in the questions at issue. That too frequently those whose votes were of least value were most prominent at the polls and that the "stay-at-homes" were often those who were disgusted with things political and these would be reached and their weight would be felt towards the betterment of society.

W. Carey Hay in seconding the negative made an eloquent and telling speech. He said that the affirmative must be able to establish 1st. That our present Franchise Act is not satisfactory. 2nd. That a compulsory act would remedy existing evils. 3rd. That the number of votes polled would be increased. He went on to answer these points in turn and made a strong argument against a compulsory act.

Messrs. D. Campbell, W. Balmain, J. Balloch, W. Saunders and D. Nicholson spoke in support of the negative.

Messrs. H. McLauchlan, A. W. Young, H. P. Baird, R. E. Holyoke and H. D. Stevens contended for compulsory voting.

The subject was one in which it seemed difficult to work up much of an argument, and it was interesting to follow the various arguments pro and con.

President A. D. Holyoke in the capacity of critic gave a careful review and sustained the negative view believing that they had put up the best arguments.

It was found necessary to appoint new leaders for the open debate for Thursday, March 27th, owing to the inability of one of those previously appointed to act.

The question, Resolved, "That Trusts are Beneficial to a Country," will be fought out by, affirmative—W. Balmain, N. F. Thorne, H. Saunders. Negative—A. D. Holyoke, A. W. Young, E. K. Connell. This will be an open meeting and a special program of music, etc., will be rendered in addition to the debate. It is to be hoped that there will be a good attendance.

Election of Officers.

At the annual meeting of the Orange Grand Lodge held at Fredericton last week, the following officers were elected:—

Grand Master, A. D. Thomas, York.
 Senior Deputy Grand Master, J. A. Lindsay, Carleton.
 Junior Deputy Grand Master, Henry Wise, Northumberland.
 Grand Treasurer, P. E. Heine, Moncton.
 Grand Director of Ceremonies, J. W. Clark, Moncton.
 Grand Lecturer, J. D. Copp, Albert.
 Deputy Grand Secretary, D. H. Charters, Moncton.
 Grand Chaplain, Rev. J. D. Fulton, Kings.
 The officers were afterwards installed by Past Master A. J. Armstrong.

The Woodstock Hospital.

Although last Wednesday was wet and disagreeable, some twenty ladies met with the provisional board of directors in the W. C. T. U. rooms, to discuss methods of bringing up the hospital fund to a figure which would insure the enterprise being a success. Dr. Rankin stated for the Board that already \$1600 was pledged, that a sale of a house and lot would bring \$800, that the local legislature would give \$500 at the beginning of its fiscal year next November, that there were still other sources confidently relied upon; and principal among these were the contributors throughout town and county, who would average about \$2 each. He thought such a list would total up \$1000, if there were any to undertake so much hard work. The Committee found itself quite unequal to such a problem, and decided to ask the advice of their friends in this matter. The ladies did not know what they were expected to do, and so came without any plans of action; but approved very cordially of the project. They thought, moreover, that no steps should be taken by them without first obtaining a larger representation of ladies, except perhaps to organize, which they did. Mrs. F. H. J. Dibblee was appointed Chairman; Mrs. W. B. Belyea, Sec'y; and Mrs. (Dr.) Kierstead, Treas., of the Womens' Auxiliary Committee. This committee adjourned to meet again this afternoon at 3 o'clock, with others who were, in the former hurriedly prepared invitation list, overlooked; and will then mature their plans. It is not sure just when the Committee will begin their house to house canvass, but it is not likely anything will be done in that way, till after the churches have taken their collections next Sunday.

The clergymen in town, in response to a request from the directors, have agreed to make Easter a "Hospital Sunday," to preach appropriate sermons; and take subscriptions. Although the Rev. Messrs. Berrie, Wiggins and Fash had made prior arrangements for their regular Easter services, they promptly complied with the wishes of the Committee, who were anxious that these churches should have an opportunity of carrying out their suggestion of a "Hospital Sunday," made at a former joint-meeting of clergymen and physicians; and of making an appeal to their congregations, before the Ladies' Auxiliary anticipates them in their personal canvass of the town. It was announced last Sunday in the Methodist, Baptist and Reformed Baptist Churches, that next Sunday there will be distributed in the seats of these respective churches, cards which, when signed by contributors and amount specified, will be collected on the usual offering at both services.

It is now understood that the Board intend to rent a building; and not, as at first was supposed, to buy or build. Drs. Hand, Rankin and Saunders have been appointed to find a house suitable for a hospital.

The following subscriptions have been received by the Board of Directors:—

Previously acknowledged.....	\$1621.00
The Bank of Nova Scotia.....	50.00
James Queen.....	50.00
John H. Watt.....	5.00
Inspector Mearher.....	5.00
Miss Minnie Carmen, (paid).....	3.00
Total.....	\$1734.00

Base Ball.

The first game of the season was pulled off on Saturday last at the Driving Park, between the Woodstock Business College and the African Giants score 8 to 3 favor of the bookkeepers.

The game was quite speedy considering the amount of "glass" still on hand. When the College team gets in shape they should make a good run. Battery—Nicholson and Mercer, Umpire—O'Hagan.

The Woodstock Business College will play its first match game on Easter Monday at the Driving Park, when they meet the Houlton Business College team. Weather permitting this should be a good game.

The team will line up as follows:—Nicholson, p; Mercer, c; Wallace, s; Martin, 1 b; Drysdale, 2 b; Grant, c; O'Hagan, 3 b; Harmon, 1; Loane, r.

Any challenges addressed to W. H. Martin, capt., will receive careful attention.

Great Flood at Edmundston.

EDMUNDSTON, March 24.—The ice in the St. John started at 2 p. m. yesterday, and made a jam four miles long. The water here raised twenty five feet. It is two feet higher than ever before. The water in the Madawaska river raised to the foot of the bridge. It is in great danger.

One bridge, half a mile below here, has been carried away.

A number of washouts on the Temiscouata Railway are reported. There are two washouts at Edmundston—one near Murchie's mill and one at Cochran's mill.

The water in the Madawaska is running over Main street.

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