

A Doctor's Statement

Baie St. Paul, C.C., Que.
March 27th, 1907.
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The County Council.

(Continued from Seventh Page.)

Coun Williams—I am much of the same opinion as Coun Connolly. For my part I believe the Court House good enough at the present time. I think with very little expense this Court House will do. The time is not a good one to add \$20,000 or \$25,000 to the \$14,000 indebtedness now owed by the county.

Coun Owens—I think this is the case of a doctor with a sick patient. It is a way of feeling his pulse. Our money conditions are poor and I am positively not in favor of the resolution.

Coun Fleming—How are we going to find out? I think it is plain this house is not suitable for a Carleton county Court House. If we don't condemn it some other body will. If we don't want a new one we want to repair this one. I am not in favor of leaving this as it is today and having the judges move their court down to town and held in a Dominion building. It was something for the county to be ashamed of.

Coun Gillmor—I think the Court House is good enough just now but my orders are to use it as long as we can and then build in Woodstock. I would not go in for one dollar of expenditure on this building. I am for a new Court House and in Woodstock when the time comes but let us "hide a wee".

Coun Balmain—I don't want to sit silent and listen to this. I think it is up to this county to do something now. My impression is the county of Carleton has the poorest lay out for holding court in the province. For the councillors to come and stave this off is not doing justice to the ratepayers. The time is more opportune when times are hard because materials must be cheaper and are cheaper. Labor is cheaper. Contractors are ready to bid sharp and lower. Money can be got as readily as if the times were better. All the judges have spoken strongly and so have grand juries. This is one of the wealthiest counties in the province. The way I feel is that Carleton county is able to build a \$50,000 Court House and that it would not cause any man distress. But \$15,000 or \$16,000 would build a building creditable to the county.

Coun Melville thought we should decide first if we need a building. I admit the town is the place for a Court House but there are other matters of importance. But, suppose the building is put up we are told that if we want to we cannot work on our building in the town of Woodstock. There are many questions to be dealt with of more importance than the Court House question. Many counties such as Northumberland are wealthier than Carleton county.

Coun Brown. (Woodstock) Northumberland county has put up a Court House costing \$45,000. The county of Albert with a bonded indebtedness of \$22,000 has put up a Court house costing \$5000. Madawaska erected a court house costing \$15,000 with a bonded indebtedness of \$12,000. Victoria county has a bonded indebtedness of \$19,000. They have recently expended money on their Court House. The county of Albert has property worth about two thirds the valuation of the town of Woodstock. I am in a position to say that Carleton county bonds will be taken bearing the low rate of 4 per cent for all money needed. I think when you come to figure up the expense of repairing this Court House, that the building of a new one will be on the long run the cheaper policy. This building is old, cold and decrepit.

Coun Gillmor. My people say this to me, Don't spend a dollar on the old building, if you have to spend money spend it on the new one. Woodstock town is the place, but make this building do for a while yet.

Coun Bradley. I have been misrepresented as opposed to the building of a new Court house in the town. I am in favour of it when the time comes. We do not intend to put any repairs on this building, only make it decent. But this is a very hard year I know men on the delinquent list of taxpayers who have notes to meet from \$50 to \$500 for phosphate, bought to raise the potatoes, which proved such a poor crop. The time is not opportune.

Coun Stevens. It has been made to appear that the town wants this Court House from a selfish standpoint. Of course the town is not in-

different in the matter. But it must be remembered the town must bear its share of the taxation for this or any other purpose. If ten years go by the same arguments will be presented against this move. As a native of Albert county I can confirm what Coun Brown says. As to the point that labourers from the county will not be allowed to work on the new building I think that will not be found to be the case. I do not believe the town council of the town of Woodstock would exact any license and I can hardly think councillors are serious in putting forth that point.

Coun Williams—I congratulate the town of Woodstock on the men it has sent to this board, and I must say they have sent a man in Coun Stevens who is a little ahead of the others they have sent. I do not agree with him altogether but I listened to his argument with pleasure. We have a bonded indebtedness of \$14,000. I am in favour of a new Court House in town when we build one. This year we have \$2000 of a surplus. If we go on in that way in a few years we will have a surplus of from eight to ten thousand dollars. If we build a Court house now we will have to raise say some \$1400 a year extra. I think the people are not for this expenditure just now.

Coun Connolly—I agree with the other speakers that we should not put any repairs on this house. I do not believe in spending money that way, any more than to make it clean and make it look respectable. But I do not believe in throwing good property away.

Coun Tompkins—I am in favour of building a new court house in town but not at the present time. One reason is because of the bonded indebtedness. This year our farmers have made a bad speculation in the potato raising. Some of the councillors have spoken as if we add to our bonded indebtedness we shall all be more happy. It must be remembered that the Grand Juries who have made presentations for a new court house have represented only certain sections of the county. I do not favor a new court house now.

Coun Brown. (Northampton) Ever since I have been here, there has been this talk that the time is not ripe, and there has been the same talk about putting it off for two years. I think every councillor should now put himself on record as to what he is willing to do. The grand juries have recommended a new court house, the judges all say we should have it and the newspapers urge it. Let us not put it off any longer. We are here to represent the people, and now is the time to make a move. As to our bonded indebtedness I judge from the auditor's report that we have a surplus this year of \$4000 and that the county now owes \$10,000 I hope every councillor will put himself on record and that this work will be undertaken according to the terms of the resolution.

Coun Williams—I must correct Coun Brown. The bills ordered paid at this session must come out of the \$4000. That will probably leave us a surplus of \$2000.

Coun Melville—We have to pay a considerable sum of money according to an account rendered to us by the local government, for the support of lunatics, which will eat into our surplus. We want to go slow as to raising the indebtedness of the county. A few years ago there was a proposition that the county should raise \$50,000 for a bridge across the river. We escaped that by the good sense of the council. I move in amendment that this matter be laid over for another year.

Coun Bradley seconded the amendment.

Coun Stevens—This agitation for the Court House is nothing new. There has been a call for it for years past. I must emphasize again that the town people pay their full share of the taxes for this or other county purposes, and we have our poor in the town as well as in the county.

Coun Kinney—All the resolution says is that a committee be appointed to get estimates as to the probable cost of a new building and as to what we may likely get for this property here, and report at the June session. We are not committed if we pass it to build a new Court house. My colleague and myself when we went to the people pledged ourselves to a new court house, and if we had not done this, I think we would not be here today.

Coun Fleming—Coun Kinney has come nearer to the truth of the situation than any other who have spoken. We are not committed to the Court house by this resolution. I, for one, want some information. It seems to

me it makes a great difference as to whether the building will cost \$15,000 or \$50,000. Supposing we build one to cost \$20,000. Mr Brown says the money can be secured at 4 per cent. That would be \$800 per year, and then we have another asset in the county in such a building.

Coun Lamont—I would ask the warden what plans and specifications will likely cost. If the cost would not be great I would go in for getting them. I would like some more information.

Warden—I think they would cost perhaps \$50.

Coun Lamont moved in amendment that this matter be laid over till the June session. When I have more time to think over this I will guarantee that I will vote one way or another.

Coun Bell. (Richmond) I am going to second this motion of Coun Lamont's. I favour a court house but would like the matter to rest until June for further information.

Coun Stevens—I cannot see any thing to be gained by Coun Lamont's motion. Some discussion has arisen about getting the plans. If we do not build just at once they will not be wasted, they can be used when we do build. All the councillors agree that it is only a question of time.

Coun Tompkins—When the June session comes we will have these plans on our hands. People are changeable and when we do come to build we would likely not be satisfied with them.

Coun Bull. It seems to me we have to do something. This building as it is now is not suitable for holding court. It is a pretty bad state. The only thing in the original motion I don't like is the tendering for the purchase of the old building, otherwise I think we want the information.

If considerable repairs are not put on this building, it will not be decent in a couple of years. If we do not go on to build we must do this and I think that would be throwing money away.

Coun Williams—I would only favor enough expenditure to keep the house clean, stop the water from running in it, and stopping up the holes.

Coun Phillips—I am sorry I cannot support my colleague's resolution. I think it is a mistake to attempt the Court house at present.

Coun Bradley—I think we can show some little improvement on this building by next June.

The amendment to the amendments that the matter lie over till June was then put and declared lost.

The amendment that it stands over for another year was then put and resulted in all the councillors supporting it but the following who voted nay: Couns. Stevens, Brown (Woodstock), Balmain, Brown (Northampton), Fleming, Bull, Hay, Kinney, Keenan.

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8.20 A MIXED—For Aroostook Junction, and intermediate points.
12.15 A EXPRESS—For all points North; M Presque Isle, Edmundston, River du Loup and Quebec.
1.35 P MIXED—For Perth, Junction Plaster Rock, and intermediate points.
4.50 P MIXED—For Fredericton, etc., via Gibson Branch.
5.42 P EXPRESS—For Houlton, St. Stephen M (St. Andrews after July 1st), Fredericton, St. John and East; Vancboro, Sherbrooke, Montreal, and all points West, and North-west, and on Pacific Coast, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc. Palace Sleepers, McAdam Junction to Montreal; Pullman Sleepers, McAdam to Boston; Pullman Parlor Car, McAdam to St. John.
ARRIVALS.
11.41 A. M.—EXPRESS—From St. John and East St. Stephen, (St. Andrews after July 1st), Boston Montreal and West.
12.15 P. M.—MIXED—From Fredericton, etc via Gibson Branch.
12.55 P. M.—MIXED—From Perth Junction and Plaster Rock.
5.42 P. M.—EXPRESS—From Fort Fairfield, Caribou, Presque Isle, Grand Falls, Edmundston and River du Loup.
6.30 P. M.—MIXED—From Aroostook Junction.
11.05 P. M.—MIXED—From Fredericton, St. John and East; St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Houlton, Vancboro, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc.
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