

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY WILL BUY LAND; PRESTIGE OF TOWN AND COUNTY WILL BE MAINTAINED

**Bull and Smith Land Will Probably
be Choice — Trustees of Connell
Estate Will be Asked to Give
Required Land**

**Meeting Enthusiastic, With Motions and
Amendments Galore—Secretary Asks
For Instructions**

The meeting of the Agricultural Society Saturday afternoon was full of significance for all who are interested in the development of the County along progressive and up-to-date lines.

The question of land, for society purposes, has been the chief topic at every meeting held lately and those actively in charge of this important feature moved in a way consistent with the importance of the question to be decided, virtually, on their recommendation.

President C. L. Smith occupied the chair and a large audience was present, everyone being deeply interested.

Secretary Holyoke read some further propositions in reference to the land required by the society.

Henry Duthie 30 acres for \$3,500.
B. Colpitts 23 acres \$3,000.
Chas Smith 22 acres \$4,000.

A. B. Connell 8 acres, in fee simple, corner of Elm and Connell streets.

Mr. Holyoke said that the Duthie property was an exceptionally good piece of land and if any fault could be found it would perhaps be the location. There was access to this property from Connell road and Main street, and it would take very little to put it in shape. The land committee had consulted counsel relative to land of the late John W. Connell, belonging to the town, and were advised that it would be difficult to secure any of this land without consent of the trustees.

The C. L. Smith land was situated along the St. John river and it would not be difficult to put in shape for park purposes.

The committee also looked over the Watson property but did not get a price. Mr. Watson was present and would perhaps say something about this land.

Mr. Watson—"This is the first I have heard of it, but the land is there and if suitable you can probably get it at a reasonable price, so far as I am concerned. There are others to be consulted and I could hardly give a price until it was talked over."

Mr. J. S. Leighton—"What would it cost to put the Duthie land in shape?"

Secretary—"I did not consult an engineer and cannot say what it would cost."

Mr. Jas. Gallagher said the Watson land could be made a splendid property by acquiring the Dent land alongside.

Mr. Perkins—"We don't seem to have advanced very rapidly as yet and in order to reach some definite end I would move the following resolution:—That the land committee be empowered to buy land necessary for purposes required not less than 22 acres—at a price not to exceed \$4,500."

Mr. J. J. Rogers—"4,500 is too much. Any ground I have seen is not worth it."

Mr. Chas. Connell—"The price is too high. What about Island property?"

Mr. J. S. Leighton—"Why set the price at \$4,500?"

Mr. Perkins—"It is not set at \$4,500, but is not to exceed that amount."

Mr. Leighton—"What objection is there to buying the Duthie land at \$3,500?"

Secretary Holyoke—"The Duthie land is the best land and the question is one of location. There are 30 acres at \$3,500, a mile above town. The question is will we pay this price for this land out of town or more for location in town."

Mr. E. J. Briggs—"The Duthie land looks about as handy to town as any we can buy. It is not as far away as the old park. It is handy for the country people from nearly all sections and if it can be bought for less than any other it is the ground to buy."

Mr. G. W. Shaw—"It would be a good idea for the whole society to look this ground over."

Mr. J. J. Rogers—"The prices submitted so far are simply extortion. Better take time and think a little bit. We made a mistake in selling the park and were deceived."

Mr. Grey—"I agree with Mr. Rogers in some matters. We did not all agree to sell the old grounds—I was opposed to it. The quicker we get after new grounds the better it will be. It may be too late if longer delayed. The Watson lot and the Duthie lot are both good. The Watson lot is handier to town and is perhaps the most desirable. Better get Mr. Watson's figures. The price named in the resolution is too high and I would move an amendment—That the committee be empowered to procure not less than 22 acres at a price not to exceed \$3,500."

Mr. Perkins—"From the tone there would seem to be little confidence in committee."

Mr. Leighton—"That is not fair. Why didn't the committee bring in a recommendation?"

Secretary Holyoke—"My own position is rather peculiar on account of certain conditions and I don't think I am divulging any secrets when I state that in event of having to pay \$4,500 the Bull and Smith land were in view on account of being near town."

Mr. Briggs—"As I understand Mr. Perkins motion it is very fair. If committee can buy for \$2,000 they will undoubtedly do so—they are not compelled to pay \$4,500."

Mr. Phillips—"My view is that the cheapest proposition is not necessarily the best one. We must consider what will ultimately be the best. The matter of paying a little more money might be best on account of convenience to railways and other considerations. My opinion is that people will not travel far to an exhibition very often. While it is well not to go too fast we must get at something very soon if we are to hold an exhibition next fall."

Mr. E. W. Jarvis—"I am not a farmer but as a business man I think that exhibitions are very necessary. In reference to land there are some important features to be considered. You must be located for water and of course if you are out of town you will not be able to get town water. The buildings are more easily taken care of if centrally located. If you build so as to provide a skating rink you can lease easily and get a revenue. If in town the building could also be used for other purposes. You will also have the benefit of fire protection. If out of town it may be much more expensive in the end."

Mr. J. Carr—"The question is relating to buying at a certain price. A vote on the amendment will settle the question."

Col. F. H. J. Dibble—"Our means are limited and we have an offer of eight acres given outright. It is a fair site, with a chance for park close by. The entrance can be arranged. The trustees of the Fisher estate have agreed to give the land and more if necessary. From a point of economy it would be well to examine this land."

Mr. Jas. Gallagher—"There seems to be quite a change of heart on the part of the trustees, they must have been reading the papers. It is a very simple thing to donate eight acres of land in a swamp. Why not give us the seventeen acres? When you get roads and improvements made, this swamp will be an expensive gift."

Mr. Shaw—"The ground referred to is simply a regular cedar swamp, and it would cost altogether too much to put it in condition."

Mr. Leighton—"It seemed to be the unanimous opinion of the meeting two weeks ago that Bull and Smith property at \$4,500 would have gone through. If located there we can have a skating rink, same as in Chatham and get a revenue. I will move an amendment to the amendment—seconded by Mr. Stockton—That this committee be authorized to purchase land from the Bull estate and C. L. Smith at a price not exceeding \$4,500, providing the trustees of the J. W. Connell estate will not give the society enough land for exhibition and track purposes."

Col. Dibble—"Committees were appointed to look up sites. I was mover in an effort to get lower part of Island—this was refused, we then asked for another lot—it may be swampy but can be cleaned up easily. Possibly you can get 18 acres. The amendment to the amendment (Mr. Leighton's) was put and carried."

Pres Smith—"The optimism is very very gratifying—we can now go ahead and succeed—and we will succeed."

Mr. E. J. Briggs—"I hope when the committee reports it will be a complete report and we can go to work at once getting out lumber and other things necessary."

Secretary Holyoke—"The mortgage on old park was due Oct 15th, 1913. The interest has not been paid—nor the principal. I called on parties interested and if collection has to be made I will require instructions from the society."

The Secretary was instructed to take the necessary steps to get the money due.

President Smith announced that at the next meeting, Dec. 29th, the dates of the exhibition would be fixed.

MUNIA

Times are pretty good around Munia.

The roads are good and lots of driving.

Miss Rosa MacDougall was the guest of her sister, Mrs. O. J. Wright last week, returning last Monday.

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21-50

Mrs. J. Jackson and three sons were the guests of her mother, Mrs. Wm. Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Jensen, passed through here on their way home Saturday night, where they will reside at Moose Mountain.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Clarke were the guests of her sister, Mrs. Isaac MacDougall.

Mr. Jack Paul and David Noddin were pleasant callers at Naisy Corner Tuesday evening.

Mrs. L. E. Giberson was the guest of Mrs. Wm. MacDougall.

Miss Mae Paul of this place will return home Wednesday from Florenceville, where she has been attending school.

Mrs. George Wright was visiting relatives at Fort Fairfield.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wright and family, also Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wright and family, were the guests of Mrs. Wm. Wright Sunday last.

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