

YORK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL GOT AWAY TO A GOOD START; PARISH ASSESSMENT DISCUSSED

A Suggestion by Councillor Robertson Caused Some Discussion But Was Not Acted Upon—An Address by the Chaplain—An Appeal on Behalf of the Blind.

The York Municipal Council met in semi-annual session yesterday afternoon at two o'clock. Roll call by the County Solicitor found all present except Coun. McMullin of Canterbury.

The Chaplain Rev. M. H. Mason, pastor of the George St. Baptist church, offered prayer, and afterwards on the invitation of the warden briefly addressed the board. He said that he was glad to note that Coun. Pond, who had been absent at the last session on account of illness was again at his post.

It was pleasing to note that since the last meeting Hon. C. D. Richards, County Solicitor, had become Premier and Attorney General of the province in succession to Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, elevated to the Supreme Court bench. He was sure that all would join with him in extending congratulations to the new Premier. He went on to say that old mortality had been busy during the past few months and had deprived the county of two well-known residents—John A. Campbell, ex-M.L.A. of Kingsclear who had lived to the ripe old age of 94 years, and Robert D. Forbes, a well known contractor of Devon. Mr. Campbell had been active in connection with the Fredericton exhibition, and Mr. Forbes, who was a native of the Parish of Stanley, had achieved success in his line of work.

The chaplain made reference to the period of world wide depression, and expressed the hope that York County would be among the first to recover from it. He was hopeful that the Hoover proposal, which he was glad to note now had the approval of France, would have a beneficial effect on business conditions. He thought that one of the real problems of mankind was in connection with industry, particularly with regard to the installation of labor saving machinery. New methods were being introduced, with the

object of saving time and expense but it should not be forgotten that the men who work for a living have to be cared for.

Conditions in Soviet Russia and child slavery in India were touched upon by the speaker. In regard to the latter he thought it was a bad state of affairs that children were being sold by their parents for the sum of three or four dollars per month.

Shocking Condition

Coming nearer home he praised the work being carried on by the Children's Aid Society, and cited cases where children had been taken from homes, where the moral conditions were not what they should be, and properly cared for. Although York County was no worse than other counties of the province he had been amazed at conditions which had been allowed to prevail in some sections. Children had been living in homes where they had no right to be and gross cases of immorality and even incest had been discovered. The Children's Aid Society was working hard to better conditions and was meeting with success. He hoped the councillors would work together for the good of the county and that their efforts would be worth while.

An Appeal for Blind

Prof. A. D. Campbell, a representative of the National Institute for the Blind, was next introduced to the council and made a spirited appeal on behalf of those who live in darkness. He said that he was a native of the province, having been born in "the buckwheat county," had attended the School of the Blind at Halifax, and had afterwards studied music in Germany. For eighteen years he had filled the position of musical director of the school at Halifax, but was now in the employ of the National Institute. Last year he said that the council had voted \$150 in aid of the work and he hoped

ed that this year they would make the amount at least \$200. The total income from New Brunswick last year handled by the Institute was \$4675, and it had expended in this province \$6,494.79, the balance coming from a trust fund invested in New Brunswick bonds. The sum of \$1253 had been expended last year for relief in York County and the City of Fredericton. The government of New Brunswick last year had given the Institute a grant of \$500, but he was quite sure the amount would be increased this year. He went on to say that blind people in Canada last year had earned half a million dollars, which went to show that it was important that they should be assisted to do useful work and earn a living. He quoted statistics to show that seventy per cent of the blind people became that way after they were twenty-one years of age.

Warden Saunders assured Prof. Campbell that his application would be given careful consideration.

Rev. Mr. Mason informed the council that the Ministerial Association of the city had arranged to hold divine service at the county jail at least once a month during the present year.

Auditor's Report

Secretary Treasurer J. S. Scott, at the stage, read the report of the auditor on the accounts of the municipality, which has already appeared in the Mail.

On motion of Coun. Morrison the report was received and referred to a committee.

Unfair Valuation

Coun. Robertson suggested that the assessors for the different parishes of the county be called to the city for a conference with members of the council. He said that there were some irregularities which should be straightened out, and it could only be done at a joint conference.

Coun. Hinchey expressed the opinion that nothing was to be gained by such a conference.

Coun. Boone was inclined to agree with the views expressed by Coun. Hinchey.

Coun. Morrison said that he had learned that there was a great deal of variation throughout the county regarding the assessment of black foxes. Some were assessed at \$100 per pair and others as low as \$40. He thought a more equitable system should be adopted.

Coun. Hinchey pointed out that some foxes were more valuable than others.

Warden Saunders said he had been given to understand that there had been a valuation of \$60 per pair placed on black foxes throughout the county.

Coun. Clarkson said that in his parish black foxes were assessed at \$100 per pair.

Coun. Seymour was of the opinion that good would result from a conference of assessors, but he thought it should be held in the spring before the assessment was made up. He held that it would be of little use to hold such a meeting unless there was co-operation.

Coun. Barry said that while he held the office of assessor, he followed a schedule prepared by one of his predecessors in office.

Coun. Manuel said that in his opinion the flat rate of \$2 per acre on wild land was unfair. In his parish there was some land worth ten times that amount. He did not consider it necessary to equalize the rate of assessment in different parishes. The county valuation stood for ten years and the parish warrants were made up from it.

Coun. Robertson said that there was a great variation now in valuation and there should be an improvement. He frequently met the people of five parishes and knew that there was great dissatisfaction over the present system. He did not agree with Coun. Manuel that it made no difference whether or not the valuation of different parishes was equalized. He hoped that the matter would be dealt with.

On motion of Coun. Hinchey the Council separated until ten o'clock Wednesday morning.

ART TREASURES ARE UNEARTHED IN JUNK STALLS

Hunting for art treasures in London junk stalls is the unusual occupation of Watson Bradshaw, of Southwark, or the last ten years, writes the London correspondent of "The Christian Science Monitor," he has regularly visited the Caledonian Market, Tower Bridge Road curb-side market and other pavement booths, and has amassed in his attic a collection of curios worth a small fortune. But none of them are for sale.

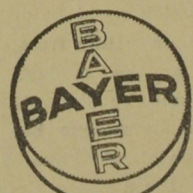
The Caledonian Market, situated in one of the poorest parts of Islington, is well known to most Londoners for the wonderful bargains that are frequently found there. Antique furniture, much sought after fireplace tiles, and varied bric-a-brac, salvaged from rubbish piles in slum districts, adorn the rooms of some of the smart houses in Chelsea and Westminster.

For a shilling (20 cents) Mr. Bradshaw one day bought an etching which turned out to be the original Raphael. Another picture, by the Italian master Annabale Caracci, he found by the light of a dim gas jet in a little antique shop in Southwark and secured for 18 pence. But one of his most romantic finds was a set of Delphini classics, bound in Russian leather, which he noticed in a broken-down perambulator. The books had previously belonged to his father who had collected a valuable library, which had subsequently been sold. But it cost Mr. Bradshaw only half a crown a volume to get them back again.

At any rate, nobody can accuse Mrs. Lindbergh of being the proverbial "ball and chain."

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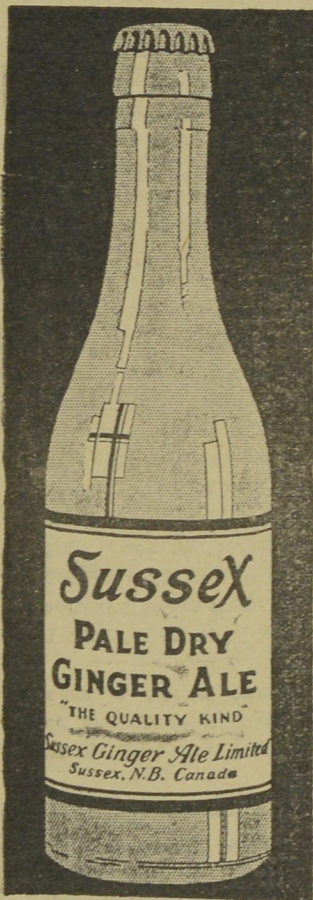
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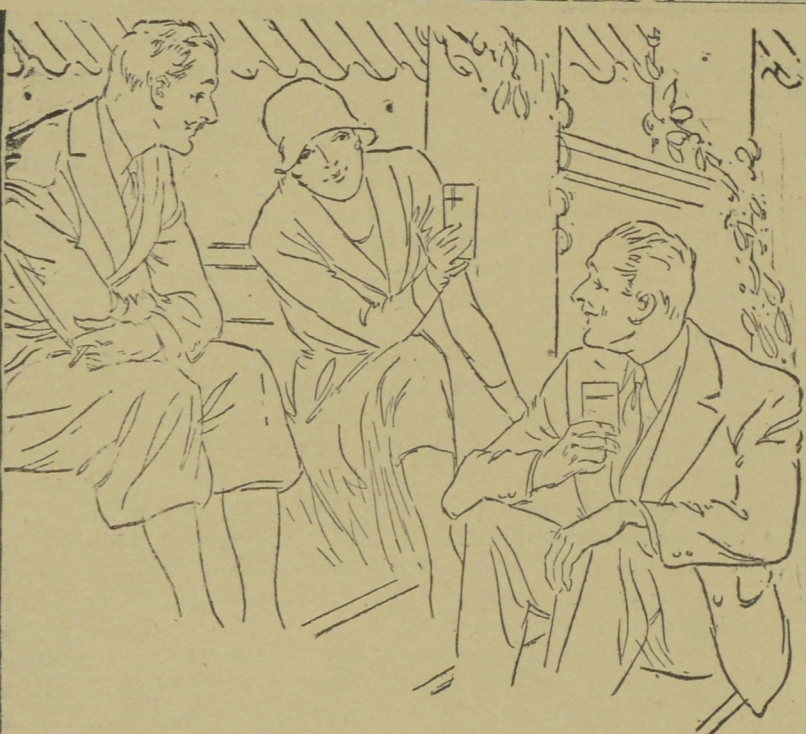
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