

The Municipal Council Expresses Its Views On Important Matters

The Greater Part of Wednesday Was Spent In Discussion—Ex-Councillors Seymour and Wetmore Heard—North Lake Wild Land Tax a Topic of Discussion—The Delegates to N. B. Municipalities Union Report.

The York Municipal Council at its meeting on Wednesday afternoon, devoted much time to a discussion of matters of great importance to the ratepayers of the County. During the discussion several of the new members were heard to good advantage. Two ex-Councillors, Fred Seymour of Douglas and Thomas Wetmore, North Lake extended greetings. Mr. Seymour took advantage of the opportunity to express sound views on the financial and other problems. During the afternoon reports were submitted by the delegates to the Union of Municipalities Convention, and there was a long discussion on the wild land tax and other matters, including improved market facilities in the city of Fredericton.

The Council reassembled at 2.30 p.m. with the Warden in the chair. Roll call showed all the members present except Coun. Fisher.

Miss Hawker of Halifax, representing the National Institute for the Blind was heard in support of an application for a grant of \$150 for the present year.

Ex-Councillors Heard

Ex-Coun. Fred Seymour on being called upon briefly addressed the council. He warmly congratulated the warden on his appointment and also the new county solicitor. He went on to say that there had been a big improvement in the financial condition of the county since last September and he hoped that it would continue adopting a reminiscent mood he referred to his long career at the board and his association with seven different councils. It had been a good training for him and he had learned something from every council. He congratulated the Council on the way that business had been carried on, and he thought that provincial governments and even the

government of the Dominion might take a leaf out of the book of the York County Council. He considered that one of the most serious problems facing the council was the collection of delinquent taxes. He had every sympathy with the poor man who tried to pay and could not, but had no sympathy with the tax dodgers. The present financial position of the county was not as good as he would like to see it, but that was no fault of the council. He had sat at the board when times were good and also during the worst period of depression in the history of the country. When he first took his seat at the board there was a bonded indebtedness, which had been incurred to provide for the cost of the Municipal Home. He had been instrumental in having that indebtedness paid off and was proud of it. The county now had a large bank overdraft and his suggestion was that it should be taken care of by a bond issue. As he had previously said, the collection of delinquent taxes was the major problem confronting the council, and he would suggest that every effort be made to reduce the amount owing. Conditions were much better than was the case a year ago. While the county had an overdraft of \$66,000

it had a property valuation of \$8,000,000 and he was not alarmed for the future. The county had rich natural resources and it had a wonderful asset in its people. In closing he wished the Councillors one and all a very Happy New Year.

Mr. Wetmore

Ex-Coun. Thomas Wetmore of North Lake was next called upon and responded with a happy speech. He congratulated the Councillors on their election and in referring to the financial position of the county said it was not as serious as it might be. He was satisfied that the good old county of York would come out on top and discharge its obligations. He told the council that he was a native of London England and advised the councillors, when they could afford it, to pay a visit to the old country, as he was sure they would be well repaid.

Coun. Doherty wanted to know how it was that having come from London, Mr. Wetmore had found his way to such an out of the way place as North Lake.

Mr. Wetmore said that he enjoyed living on the border of the United States and would not want a better place or among finer people. He lived near Grand Lake, one of the most beautiful spots in the province. He hoped that all of the councillors would pay him a visit during the summer months and if they did he could promise them a good time.

Committees Named

The warden named as the finance committee, Couns. Ebbett, Gaynor and Saunders.

The following were appointed as a sheep claims committee: Couns. Manuel, Estey, Young, Dunphy, M. Briggs, Stannick, Doherty, Wetmore, E. Gould, Graham, Whitehead, Grant, Malone, Fisher and Dobie.

Municipalities Union

Coun. Graham moved that the delegates to the N. B. Union of Municipalities be asked to make a report.

Ex-Coun. Seymour, who was first called upon, said that the meeting was held in Saint John and had been very successful and the delegates had been pleasantly entertained. Many resolutions had been considered by the Union and in his opinion the number was too large. No government could afford to ignore a resolution unanimously adopted by the Union, but the government could not be expected to consider resolutions upon which the Union itself was not a unit. In conclusion he praised the work of the union, which he declared was capable of doing valuable service to the province and he hoped the county would continue its membership.

Secretary Treasurer Scott also reported on the Union Convention. He said that matters connected with the administration of justice, always presented a problem. During the last year a legal medico expert was brought to York County from Montreal, to examine a bullet used in a shooting case before the court. The man was acquitted, but the county had to pay that witness \$150 for his services. It was paid on the order of the deputy Attorney-General and the County had no say in the matter. Mr. Scott next referred to the unsuccessful effort of St. Stephen delegates to stop outside farmers from peddling farm produce in that town. The Union failed to approve such a proposal and rightly so. In Fredericton it made no difference to the citizens what part of the province a farmer came from who sold produce in the city. The Secretary-Treasurer was hopeful that the government at the approaching session of the Legislature would enact much useful legislation that had originated within the Union of N. B. Municipalities.

County Solicitor McNair, who was called upon he agreed with the remarks of Ex-Coun. Seymour that provincial governments would do well to follow the example set by Municipal Councils. He believed that the Union of Municipalities had a great career of usefulness before it. He thought it important that the brains of the country should be utilized for the good of all. Good results would come from linking up the practical political minds with the business leaders of the country. In closing he thanked the council for the honor conferred upon him by appointing him County Solicitor. It was not so much the salary he cared for, but the opportunity to render service to the Municipality that appealed to him.

Warren Morrison, another delegate also delivered a brief verbal report. He said that the proceedings were

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Fragrant and flavoury "SALADA" TEA

'Fresh from the gardens'

Sam Hill, Cincinnati Enquirer, has never yet seen a woman who couldn't keep a secret—in circulation.

If a man finds that nearly everybody is late in keeping appointments he decides he may as well be, too.

One may have to be pretty desperate before he will repeat Henley's poem about being the captain of his soul.

This winter has been just our snow shovelling after another.

Molerns depend on the front page instead of the back fence, but it's the same kind of gossip.

Background is any part of the story or article that comes before the words: "Then came the depression."

Speaking of the hard-boiled, the only animal that fears none and commands deference from all is the skunk.

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