

County Council Adjourns To Meet at Call of the Chair

County Finances Discussed at the Meeting on Tuesday Afternoon---Auditor Armstrong Reports a Deficiency of \$1200 In the Late Secretary Treasurer's Accounts---Mr. T. V. Williams Appointed to Make an Audit---Some Sharp Criticism Over Patriotic Fund Matters,

The Municipal Council of York County adjourned yesterday afternoon to meet at the call of the chair. It is probable that the next meeting will be early in February, although it may begin at an earlier date. The recess is taken to permit of an independent audit of the accounts of the County.

Mr. Thomas V. Williams, auditor of railway accounts for the Provincial Government, was appointed yesterday to do this work. In order to assist in the arranging of the accounts, the acting secretary-treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Glenn, has been instructed to request all tax collectors, poor masters and highway supervisors to forward all receipts to the secretary-treasurer's office. By the request of the Council, Mr. George E. Armstrong, County Auditor, appeared and gave information concerning the condition of the County accounts. He said that he had been compelled by circumstances to make up the books covering the period since the July meeting. In response to questions, he said the deficiency appeared to be \$1,200, although that amount might be altered as various facts came to light. There was one instance of the late Secretary-Treasurer having credited a collector twice with the same amount. This reduced the deficiency.

Warden A. B. Neill, who was elected by acclamation when Coun. Alex. Brewer, of Douglas, withdrew, paid a tribute to the memory of the deceased Secretary-Treasurer, and Coun. Alex. Brewer did likewise. A letter of condolence is to be forwarded to the bereaved family.

Second Session.

When the session opened Tuesday afternoon Rev. E. E. Lake, the chaplain, offered prayers.

The election of Warden was the first item of business.

Coun. A. B. Neill was nominated by Coun. Lawson, seconded by Coun. Haining.

Coun. Alex. Brewer was nominated by Coun. Sloat, seconded by Coun. Hugh Smith.

Coun. Alex. Brewer Withdraws.

Coun. Alex. Brewer said that he had been surprised at the first session to be told that he was in line for the Wardenship. He never had suggested that he wished for the nomination. He had been offered the honor some years ago, but then had declined. At the present time he was not in position to become a candidate, and with the consent of the Councillor who nominated him, he wished to withdraw. He felt that seniority in the council had not received the proper consideration in connection with the Wardenship in years past. If the Parish of Douglas sent him again to the Council he might be a candidate for the office.

Councillor Neill Elected.

Councillor A. B. Neill was declared elected, and was escorted to the chair by the retiring Warden.

Warden Neill thanked the councillors for the honor conferred upon him. Like Coun. Brewer, he could say he had not sought the honor. He felt that the office was one which would tax the abilities of any man called to it. He made feeling reference to the death of Secretary-Treasurer Bliss. The latter was a man with whom he had been associated for many years, and who always was willing to impart any of his extensive knowledge on legal and on municipal matters.

Warden Neill made brief reference to the business which would come before the Council, particularly the Patriotic Fund.

Tribute to Late Sec.-Treasurer.

Coun. Alex. Brewer followed Warden Neill and paid a glowing tribute to the worth of the late Secretary-Treasurer, mentioning his marked ability as a lawyer and a municipal official. The

speaker had been acquainted with the deceased for seventeen years, since the time that he was deputy secretary-treasurer under Secretary-Treasurer John Black. All regretted his untimely death.

On motion of Coun. Douglass it was decided to tender a letter of condolence to the widow and daughters of the deceased, and on the motion of Coun. Hunter, a committee composed of Coun. Young, Coun. H. A. Smith and Coun. Pickard was appointed to draw up the letter.

Patriotic Fund.

Coun. H. A. Smith asked if there was a communication concerning the Patriotic Fund.

Warden Neill then read a letter in which notice was given that the Provincial government would meet Tuesday night to receive objections concerning the apportionment of assessment for the Patriotic Fund for 1917. It was announced that the sum apportioned to York County was \$36,000. The central committee of the Patriotic Fund had decided upon this amount.

It was announced that in addition to this there was an apportionment of \$4,344 to the town of Marysville. Fredericton's apportionment is \$22,000, and that of Sunbury county \$6,357.48.

Coun. Sloat objected that the county of York had nothing to say with regard to what it should raise for the Patriotic Fund, and how it should do it. Others told the county what to do, and it did it. It was time to call a halt.

Objection Taken.

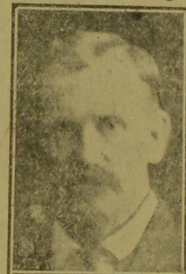


R. Graham.

Canada the strangling hands of the middleman. He knew of no greater middleman than the Patriotic Fund. People in the County of York were disgusted with hearing the words "Patriotic Fund." They could see how it was administered.

Protest From McAdam.

Coun. Lawson thought that the Patriotic Fund should be kept up. There was no person's business how a soldier's wife expended her money. Providing that money was all that had to be done. He wanted to know if all the



Coun. Lawson

other counties were paying in the same proportion as York. He believed that the contribution to the Fund should be a provincial and not a municipal matter. The people of McAdam had been unjustly treated by the Patriotic Committee when all allowances from the fund were withdrawn from the dependents of C. P. A. men because the railway was paying an allowance to them.

Coun. Pat Graham believed that the Patriotic Fund should be a Dominion matter. New Brunswick was being imposed upon. Quebec was neither sending her proper proportion of men to the front or her proportion of money into the Patriotic Fund.

Coun. Alex. Brewer remarked that the provincial government of Quebec had contributed \$1,000,000 to the Fund.

Coun. Pickard pointed out that all objections could be made before the Provincial Government at the session held for that purpose, a committee being appointed to represent the Council.

Outside Opinion.

Dr. Ryan, of Boiestown, a councillor for Northumberland, gave instances of the administration of the Patriotic Fund in Northumberland, and strongly advised that all councillors be members of the Patriotic Committee.

The Warden of Kings county also gave some information. He said that any councillor who thought York the only county taxed for Patriotic purposes should learn something.

On motion, the following committee was appointed to wait on the Provincial Government in regard to the mat-

ter of the Patriotic Fund: Coun. Alex. Brewer, Coun. Douglass, Coun. Everett, Coun. Pickard and Coun. Lawson.

Acting Secretary-Treasurer.

On the motion of Coun. H. A. Smith, Mrs. W. J. Glenn was appointed acting Secretary-Treasurer for the county during the pleasure of the Council.

In response to a query, Coun. Stairs stated that the books of the county were not yet in condition for presentation to the Council.

Coun. Grant asked why, if County Auditor Armstrong had been working on the books for six weeks, they were not in condition.

Coun. Hunter explained that the books were in bad condition. Practically nothing had been done on them for six months, and no entry had been made since December 1st. The County Auditor had been compelled to do the work which the Secretary-Treasurer should have done, and he did not have it completed yet.

On motion it was decided that County Auditor Armstrong be asked to appear before the Council and state his case.

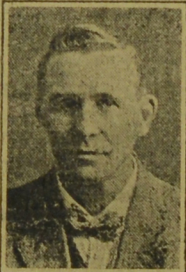
An Independent Auditor.

Coun. Stairs reported that the bond guarantee company in which the late Secretary-Treasurer was bonded desired that there be an independent audit of the accounts of the county. Mr. Thos. V. Williams had been suggested and highly recommended for the position.

The Auditor's Statement.

County Auditor Armstrong appeared and was heard. He stated that he had to make up the books since the last meeting and desired that another

(Continued on page three.)



Coun. Stairs

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AMERICANS FROM ROUMANIA.

Engineers Who Quit Oil Fields at Last Minute en Route Home.

London, Jan. 2.—Seventy-five American engineers who escaped from the Roumanian oil fields during the German invasion, have arrived at Gothenburg on their way home, according to a despatch to the Morning Post from Stockholm.

The engineers quit the oil fields at the last minute, they say, and several persons were killed when the rear car of their train was shattered by the German artillery fire.

FIRE IN INTERNMENT CAMP.

An Austrian Burned to Death in Northern Ontario Camp.

Toronto, Jan. 1.—Fire broke out on Saturday in the building in the internment camp at Lauren, on the Canadian Northern railway, in Northern Ontario, and an Austrian named Powell Klotory, who insisted on going back into the flames to rescue his belongings, was burned to death.

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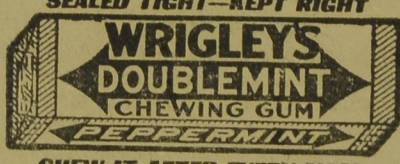
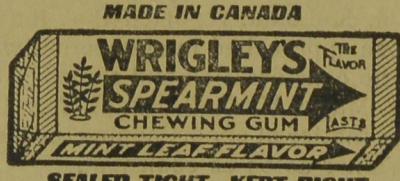
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