

HALF CENTURY OF TELEPHONE WAS OBSERVED

Staff of N. B. Telephone Co. and Guests at Ball —J. H. Hawthorne a Special Guest.

The semi-centennial of the telephone was observed Wednesday night at the Royal Ball Rooms by the local staff of the New Brunswick Telephone Co. and the occasion was a joyous one. The anniversary was observed by holding a ball. Each member of the staff invited a guest and the special guest of the evening was James H. Hawthorne, Fredericton's original "telephone girl" who from 1886 to 1889 was operator, manager, trouble hunter and every thing else in the Fredericton exchange of the Nova Scotia Telephone Co. Mr. Hawthorne was requested to give reminiscences of those early days of the telephone service and did so in his own way which was extremely amusing. He described the methods employed then, the difficulties encountered and the instruments used. The exchange in those days was in Mr. Hawthorne's backshop.

The Committees

The reception committee of the ball was as follows: Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ebbett and Miss E. M. Whitlock. The Committee of Management was as follows: Mrs. R. M. Sutton, Miss E. M. Whitlock, Miss M. B. Henry, Miss M. K. Forbes, J. V. Smith and A. J. Ebbett.

Order of Dances

The order of dances contained twelve numbers and three extras each named from something in the telephone service. They were as follows: Waltz, No. 1876; Dan Tucker, All Lines Busy; Fox Trot, Number?; Waltz, They Don't Answer; Novelty Did You Get Them?; Supper Waltz, I'll Ring Again; Supper extras, 1. There's no one on the line, now please excuse it; 2. Pay Station Calling, please hold the line; 3. That line is out of order; Fox Trot, Information?; Balloon Dance, What Number please?; Fox Trot, Yours for Service First; Waltz, Past Due, Please remit.

City Affairs

Gave Successful Concert.

The choir of St. Andrew's Church gave a successful parlor concert at the home of Major and Mrs. J. S. Scott last evening.

In the South

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Edgecombe, who are now sojourning in California, have the Mail's thanks for a splendid collection of picture postal cards.

On Official Report.

W. W. Hubbard has been appointed official reporter of the House of Assembly. G. W. Maddison of Moncton is his assistant. Mr. Maddison was in the press gallery at the last session a representative of the Moncton Times.

Intercollegiate Basketball.

The basketball squad of Acadia University arrived from Wolfville last night and registered at the Windsor. Tonight the Acadia team will meet University of New Brunswick at the U. N. B. gymnasium in the second intercollegiate match. Acadia defeated Mt. Allison University at Wolfville last week.

Political Rumor.

A report emanating from Ottawa states that the veteran Senator King will shortly resign his seat in the upper House, and be succeeded by Hon. W. E. Foster of St. John who was appointed Secretary of State in the Liberal cabinet and defeated in the general election. Hon. Mr. Foster is now on his way to Ottawa, to confer with Premier King.

Supper and Sale at St. Paul's.

The Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's Church held a very successful supper and fancy sale in Fraser Memorial Hall, Wednesday evening. Some three hundred people sat down to a very inviting supper. Several large beautifully decorated tables well laden with good things and the charming ladies of the church were very attentive to the guests. The fancy tables occupied the auditorium upstairs where excellent work was displayed for sale. Mrs. W. M. Burns, president of the Ladies Aid and her numerous assistants are to be congratulated on the excellent service and attention provided.

ASSESSMENT PROPOSALS ARE AMENDED

City Council Considered Report of Commission in Special Session — Made Some Important Changes.

The City Council was in special session last night upon legislation relating to Aid to Victoria Hospital and, later sitting as committee, considered the report of the Assessment Commission. For a time it was doubtful if the report would come up as some members wished to let the matter go for another council to deal with, but after a time the report was taken up and a number of its suggestions were adopted. There were important amendments however and the proposals will not be presented in the form which the Commission suggested.

Some of the Changes.

In regard to assessment of insurance business the section was amended so that the current rate would apply to the first premium only, in the case of life insurance. In fire insurance the current rate is to apply to forty per cent. of total premiums. The minimum assessment is to be \$25 and \$10 for special minor lines.

The exemption on household goods was reduced from \$500 to \$300. The proposed exemption on income was taken out but the existing exemption of \$300 was increased to \$400. Stocks in trade are to be assessed at total valuation as at present. The proposal was fifty percent valuation.

Definition of Income.

The definition of income as proposed by the report was adopted. In regard to stocks and bonds the proposal was that only income from them be assessed. That was adopted. Adjournment was made without day being set.

Reception Tonight.

Immediately following the adjournment of the House of Assembly this afternoon the House staff cleared the Assembly Chamber and began preparations for the reception to be given tonight by His Honor the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Todd.

CHIEF JUSTICE RECALLED FORMER DAYS IN HOUSE

Ceremony of Swearing in Took Place This Morning — Assembly Chamber Was the Scene.

The ceremonial of the swearing in of the members of the House of Assembly which took place at eleven o'clock this morning in the Assembly Chamber, attracted quite an attendance of spectators. The Chief Justice Sir Douglas Hazen, swore in the members and the clerk entered their names in the roll. Premier Baxter was the first to take the oath and Hon. Mr. Veniot the Opposition leader was the second.

His Honor the Lieut. Governor was present also.

Remarks by Sir Douglas

Sir Douglas Hazen took the opportunity to address the assembled members after the oath had been taken. He referred to his own days as a member of the House and to the changes which had occurred since. He had been elected, he said, upwards of twenty-five years ago. Looking about he could see but four members who had sat with him in the House at that time. They were Hon. Mr. Veniot, Dr. S. R. Leger, B. E. Smith and Hon. H. I. Taylor.

Legislators of Excellent Class

Sir Douglas said that New Brunswick had been greatly favored by the high class of men who served within her legislative halls. There was a tendency to decry their efforts and he regretted that such was the case. He closed his remarks with an expression of the hope that the deliberations of the House would be helpful.

Court Took Afternoon Off.

The Court of King's Bench adjourned for this afternoon at the request of certain jurymen. This interruption of the suit of Coleman vs Monahan was not liked by R. B. Hanson, K. C., counsel for the defence, who said that it would be impossible to finish this week. He objected to the proposal that night sessions be held. S. L. C. Coleman has been the only witness examined having been on the stand two days and a half.

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