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Gas Supplies In Windsor Improving

WINDSOR, Ont., Feb. 5 — (CP) — Forty-five companies today were allocated small supplies of natural gas bringing hope for at least temporary work resumption of 5,220 workers, unemployed for nearly two weeks because of a severe shortage of industrial gas.

All told, the shortage has thrown out of work nearly 25,000 workers.

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Bedeque United Church

The History of a Methodist Circuit in Prince Edward Island

Tracing its Roots in the Cultural, Educational and Commercial Fields of the Community.

By E. S. D.

CHAPTER FIVE (Continued)

The number of men entering the ministry from the Bedeque circuit has been disappointingly small. The first one as has been seen was John Pope, who entered the ministry in 1830 after residence of only a year or two at Bedeque. It was fifteen years later before a second candidate for the ministry, Matthew Smith of Crapaud, presented himself to the quarterly meeting of the Bedeque circuit and asked to be recommended to district meeting or Conference which, upon learning that he had read Benson, Fletcher and Wesley, had served three years as a local preacher, was not in debt nor married, received him on trial and sent him to Ship Harbor for his first year as assistant minister.

Apparently in robust health when he went on circuit duties Smith showed signs of going into decline and the next year was granted three months rest from missionary labour. His doctors advised a voyage for the good of his health and journeying to England he stayed a winter with an aunt who was a persuasive Baptist. Upon his return he was both cured and converted. Methodist district meeting voted him ten pounds for past services and regretfully dropped his name from the list of probationers. If it were added that Matthew Smith became a famous Baptist preacher of whom a number of Bedeque still hold appreciative memories, the story of this second Methodist candidate for the ministry of the Bedeque circuit might be considered closed, save for the fact that Mr. Smith's turn-over from the Methodist to the Baptist way was gradual enough to result in the founding of a new short-lived sect.

Wesleyan Association

Rev. Matthew Smith, though believing the sacrament of baptism was for adults only by immersion could not see any pattern of church government to equal that of the church in which he had been brought up. He did the logical thing and combined as he thought the best of Baptist and Methodist doctrine to form a new church which never before has found mention in Island history. It was called "The Wesleyan Association." A news report in the Royal Gazette of Tuesday, December 19, 1889, tells of Rev. Matthew Smith waiting upon the Countess of Westmoreland at her residence in Charlottetown with an address from fifty-five inhabitants of the back settlement of Crapaud and adherents to the Wesleyan Association. Her ladyship was thanked for supplying them with means for establishing a place of worship and a school in their immediate vicinity, and was told that a site had been chosen for the chapel and liberal subscriptions received for its erection. Nothing further can be learned of this church but it is believed that eventually as Rev. Mr. Smith grew to be more Baptist than he was Methodist it became the Westmoreland Baptist Church.

Another chapel of the Wesleyan Association was opened for divine worship at Stanhope on Sunday, 11th Sept., 1842, by Rev. Matthew Smith, Association minister. Its ultimate fate is not known; but it may have swung Methodist, after Mr. Smith's departure for New Brunswick, where as Baptist minister he was widely known as the possessor of many preaching gifts, not the least a magnificent voice which could be heard, so his nephew, Wallace Lowther thought, a half a mile away. Preaching in Bedeque Methodist Church and Mr. Smith was always delighted to occupy a Methodist pulpit more than half a century after he had left the Wesleyan ministry. W. A. Leard recalled him using the same text and sermon he had preached from fifty years previously.

Militia Duties

In Bedeque of long ago, two duties devolved on every able bodied man from sixteen to sixty; to work on the roads and train in the militia. The three days road work required each year was seldom being or the Queen's Birthday, were often complied with very reluctantly. Militia training on the Island dates back to the formation of Phillips Calbeck's Company for the protection of the colony in 1780, but it is doubtful if Bedeque had much share in it till 1793, when the mother country at war with France, H. M. Island of St. John Corps of Volunteers was formed with David Murray of North Bedeque and John Robins of Lower Bedeque among the Prince County Regiment officers. Later, during the period 1800-1814, when for a time the war with the Americans stimulated militia training, Capt. David Murray and Ensign Peter Schurman were active in military affairs. In 1825 Squire John Wright and Isaac Schurman received commissions in the 2nd battalion of Militia. The latter's commission may still be seen in one of the old Schurman homes.

The most ambitious organization of Militia came in 1833 when twelve Regiments of militia were established on the Island with the Second Prince County Regiment, made up of men from townships 26, 27 and 28, having headquarters at Tryon, where the landlord, Frederick B. Holland, was major commanding. Though the majority of the officers at this time were from Lot 28, Bedeque was fairly well represented by Captain Joseph Pope, Captain John Wright, Lieutenant John Black, Lieutenant John Lee and Ensigns James Cole and Alexander Anderson. The surgeon of this Regiment was Dr. White, with Bedeque's Dr. Graham listed as surgeon for the 3rd Prince County Regiment which had headquarters at St. Eleanor's.

The Bedeque of Lot 28 mustered with the 1st Prince County Regiment, which, commanded by Major Thomas MacNutt, had headquarters at Princetown and surprisingly enough had no commissioned officers from North Bedeque. Headquarters for the 2nd Prince County Regiment moved to Bedeque in 1837, when, on the death of Major Holland, Captain Pope received his majority and succeeded to the command, with Lieut. Joseph Black and John Lee being promoted to captain's rank. On Friday, 14th August, 1840, the 2nd Prince County Regiment was called to Captain James Clark's place at Bedeque for inspection parade which in the interval between haying and harvest marked the climax of the year's training, after which the drudgery of drills was over for another year.

First Threshing Machine

Another drudgery, threshing by hand, was on the way out at this time. In July of 1841, thirteen years after the first threshing machine came to the Island, James Naraway, farm machinery agent, came to Bedeque, and, erecting a threshing machine at Nathaniel Wright's, informed the people of the Island through the press that he was ready to take orders for same. From Bible times threshing had been done on the barn floor; the doors open for the wind to blow out the chaff, while the threshers rhythmically beat a tattoo on the floor with their flails.

One of the Loyalists, Stephen Wright the elder, of North Bedeque, a mighty thresher in his day, did not live to see the successor to the flail. Speaking rather boastfully of his health in his barn on January 19, 1841, and saying that he intended to thresh all the grain there himself, Stephen Wright suddenly dropped to the floor dead. The father of the Middleton Wrights was gone in his seventy-fifth year. His neighbor to the north, Ronald Macdonald, died the previous month, aged 78. Death's harvest, the surest of all, continued to fill the granaries of eternity and the graveyards of Bedeque. Thomas Hooper died Feb. 14, 1837, aged 85. His older brother, Major, aged 82, went a year later leaving vacancies in the Kirk session and His Majesty's Commissioner of the Peace.

Diphtheria Epidemic

Death was no fearsome thing for the aged pioneer facing it with dignified expectancy or even faint welcome; only when it struck at youth in the seeming callousness of accident or epidemic did terror and horror fill the minds of those who were left. Nothing in Bedeque of the nineteenth century seemed so utterly wanton in its destruction as "black diphtheria" which took its dread toll mostly among the children. Many examples might be given but none more typical than in 1843 in the home of Nathaniel Huestis of South West Bedeque where five children, Elizabeth, Jesse, Martha, Stephen and William, died from diphtheria in three weeks. Gifted with the best voice among Bedeque Methodists, Nathaniel Huestis made his living as a farmer, kept singing-school as a hobby and was choir master for the sheer joy of it. But how could he sing the joyful hymns of Methodism in those dark days of March, while just outside the church door five red clay mounds made contrast with the last snow of winter? Yet he had faith to go on, sharing with his wife, Betsy, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Wright of Centerville, the conviction that though God's hand might not always be apparent in the epidemics of mankind, it was His will for them that they should not leave His gifts unused, and trusting some day to know more fully, he returned to his place in the gallery of the

At HOLMAN'S ---



GOOD NEWS

FOR FOOD SHOPPERS

Pre-Lenten SPECIALS On Sale

Saturday - Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday Morning

SUNKIST

ORANGES 2 for .59
288's—Regular 39c doz.

GRAPEFRUIT 4 for .25
96's—Regular 3 for 25c

PORK BUTTS lb. .50
Boneless—Regular 67c lb.

MOLASSES Gal. 1.07
Regular 1.30 Gal.

COFFEE 1 lb. Tin .63
Limited Quantity—Regular 67c lb.

DILL PICKLES .27
24 oz.—Regular 32c

Milk Lunch BISCUITS .24
1 Lb. Pkg. — Regular 27c

PINK SALMON .22
1/2 Lb. Tin — Regular 25c

Orange MARMALADE .39
24 Oz. — Regular 45c

PRUNE PLUMS .18
Choice Quality — 20 Oz. — Regular 21c

BAKING SODA 8c
1 Lb. Pkg. Reg. 10c

DICED BEETS 11c
20 Oz. Reg. 15c



"WHERE OLD FRIENDS MEET"

LOTS OF GUESTS

SAINT JOHN, N. B. — (CP) — During 1947 the county jail was host to 1,411 prisoners and collected \$8,827 in fines. Sheriff H. Coby Smith reported to Municipal Council, juvenile fines amounted to only \$120.

LONDON HEALTH PLAN
London County Council is to spend \$8,000,000 on a new health plan which will embrace all boroughs of the capital.

Lower Bedeque church and gave the beat for the singing of the hymns from Wesley's Book, probably such a one as Number 224:—

"I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers;
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life and thought and being last,
Or immortality endures."

(To Be Continued)

Wake Up And Sing Start The Day Right

Those who suffer from jumpy nerves, restlessness, irritability or a general run-down condition may need a good tonic to help build up the system. Milburn's Health and Nerve Pills have been regarded as such a tonic for more than 50 years. They contain the purest of ingredients and are made under the supervision of experienced chemists and pharmacists. You'll find Milburn's Health and Nerve Pills a real help in stimulating the nervous system and improving your general condition. Sold at drug counters everywhere, look for the trade mark the "Red Heart." The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

FORTUNE ROAD W. I.

The January meeting of the Fortune Road Women's Institute was held on Tuesday Jan. 13th with eleven members present. The meeting opened with the Ode, repeated in unison, this was followed by the roll call, each member answering with a household hint. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The different committees gave their reports and the following

were appointed: Sick, Mrs. Josephine MacMillan, Mrs. Justin Larkin. Programme, Mrs. William MacMillan and Mrs. Fred Larkin. Two contests were put on, won by Mrs. R. L. Burge and Mrs. Ernest Russell. A game of Bingo followed. The sum of \$3.15 was realized on night's entertainment. A delicious lunch was served by the hostess, Mrs. Justin Larkin. Mrs. Fred Ross invited the members to her home for the February meeting. The singing of God Save The King closed the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We have a carload of Manure Spreaders due to arrive in a few days. You would be well advised to book your order now as we do not expect to have another car before the middle of the summer.

We have recently installed a complete line of Welding Equipment, both Arc and Acetylene, and can take care of your Welding problems.

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Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday
See Demonstration of
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PANCAKE FLOUR

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13 - 14

SPECIAL!
Groves **MAPLE SYRUP**
32 oz. Reg. 1.15 16 oz. Reg. 59c
1.05 51c

CAMPBELL
TOMATO SOUP
3 Tins 29c
Regular 11c

LYNN VALLEY
PEAS
2 Tins 27c
Reg. 16c

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CANNED SPAGHETTI
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Van Camp's SPAGHETTI
WITH TOMATO SAUCE AND CHEESE