

Mayor MacDonald Gives Review of Civic Problems

Complaining that most of the criticism received by the City Council was "for selfish reasons rather than for the good of the city" and that constructive criticism would be welcomed at all times, Mayor B. Earle MacDonald yesterday addressed the Charlottetown Rotary Club, giving a lengthy review of current civic problems and activities.

Rotarians Dr. Frank MacKinnon and Dr. Gil Houston were chairmen. The following guests were present: Premier J. Walter Jones, Messrs. Dougald MacKinnon, M.L.A., Milton Barkhouse, W. A. Gaudet, James Fullerton, City Clerk, and City Councillors J. D. Stewart and W. H. Beaton.

First Occasion

"I have often been privileged to attend your interesting luncheons," His Worship said, "but this is the first time I have come as your guest speaker. I have noted, at times, the few who like myself would sooner sleep than listen, and today it is my task to keep you awake.

"It is not my intention to try, as the Premier does, to give you something controversial. Rather it is my desire to tell you something which will of necessity or demand come within the next three or four years or not come at all, public opinion being the influencing factor.

"It is pleasing to see present today, what one might term a quorum of past Mayors and Councillors, who know the City's problems as well as if not better than I. You know, I sometimes believe it is much easier to get into the Council than to get out of it."

"I make bold to state to this meeting, which is composed of Charlottetown's leading citizens, that it is the duty of any interested citizen, if he feels he has the necessary ability, to offer himself as a candidate for election to the Council Board.

Lack of Attendance

"I feel that, if some of those who are so ready to criticize, and whose criticisms are not constructive, were to serve at the Board, then they could see and learn for themselves actual conditions, and not be influenced by listening to some biased opinions which are today being expressed. They must obtain their second-hand information in this manner, for it is deplorable the lack of attendance at our regular monthly meetings, and this must be the criterion of public interest.

"Just by way of information, I assume you all know your City was incorporated in 1855. Do you know the Mayor's salary at that time was \$324? Ninety-five years later, the salary of the Mayor is \$280. So, definitely, one does consider it an honour and one can consider himself doing the impossible. An exception to the old Biblical prophecy: 'A Mayor or Prophet is not without honor save in his own City.' A Mayor must be able to prophesy his election, or he would be foolish to nominate—hence a prophet.

"Do you know that in the history of our City, a Mayor became a Governor and after having served his term as the representative of His Majesty, came back again to be Mayor? Just keep your eye on ex-Mayor Prowse.

"More Than Meets The Eye"

"You can't be Mayor of Charlottetown and a member of the fighting squad in the Provincial Building at the same time. There might be more reasons for this than those which meet the eye. Evidently it's quite all right to be a member of Municipal Government and Provincial Legislature in any other Municipality except our own.

"Your City services have extended very considerably over the past twenty years.

"When T. W. L. Prowse was Mayor the required revenue was \$235,000.

"When Percy Turner was Mayor the required revenue was \$270,000.

"The City's revenue today is \$300,000, and will not be sufficient if we are to acquiesce in all the demands which are being made upon us.

High School

"Your Council is confronted today with the problem of a High School, to be erected outside our City limits to the north of the City, approximately on a projection of the centre line of our City, the cost of the land to be \$100,000 with an estimated building cost of \$600,000. To pay debenture interest at 3 1/2 per cent and amortize over a twenty year period with sinking fund investments earning the same rate of interest would require an amount of some \$40,000 annually.

"To this, add \$35,000 for salaries for the teaching staff and an amount of \$25,000 for maintenance, heating, lighting, insurance, equipment, etc.

"This makes an annual charge of \$100,000 to operate, and means that on a basis of a valuation of \$10,000,000. Real estate and personal property an increased tax of \$10.00 on every \$1,000, or your present tax rate of 3.25 goes to 4.25.

"Do the taxpayers of the City feel this is our problem, or is it the Government's problem? After all, who is responsible for the education of the people? It is the primary responsibility of the Government of every country.

"The matter of traffic lights was considered in the summer of 1947 and the Northern Electric and General Electric were written to.

"The two major objectives of any intersection control are (1) safety to vehicles and pedestrians, and (2) the expediting of traffic movement without confusion and unnecessary delay.

"There are two types of traffic lights, actuated and fixed time.

"A survey of our City, as to the vehicular traffic movement through the various intersections, showed only one intersection having enough traffic passing through it to warrant the installation of traffic lights.

"The price for complete installation of actuated lights at the corner of Queen and Grafton streets is \$4,910.

"The price for complete installation of fixed time is \$2,050.

"These are the figures from the Northern Electric Co. Ltd. The Canadian General Electric tendered on equipment only.

"Gentlemen, I am a grocer, and at different times we have oranges for sale—good ones and cheap ones. If Charlottetown wants traffic lights, then the best ones are what we want. The best are the cheapest in the long run.

"The price for traffic lights for the City, quoted by Northern Electric in January of 1948 was—Actuated \$26,880; Fixed time \$11,810.

"The price again submitted in February 1950 was Actuated \$28,880; Fixed time \$11,810.

"Do the citizens of Charlottetown feel the expenditure is warranted?

Traffic Expert Quoted

"May I here quote Assistant Director T. O. Leggett of Montreal, Mr. Leggett, who by the way is police head of all Montreal traffic is regarded by competent authorities as an outstanding expert on all traffic conditions and problems, and spent two weeks in this City as a consultant on traffic affairs and is familiar with our local conditions.

"In the course of an interview with him, he checked over the City map, and made many valuable suggestions. He was most definite in stating, however, that the traffic in Charlottetown does not justify Stop lights. There should be, at least, a continuous auto passage of twenty-five cars a minute, anything less would slow traffic rather than speed it up.

"His suggestion was that all busy street intersections should be properly painted early in the Spring, showing proper pedestrian lanes, centre lines for cars, etc. During the rush-hours, trained officers should be on duty at busy intersections.

"He emphasized the fact that all required painting be done as early as possible, and that car owners be compelled to strictly adhere to regulations at all times. In short, our present system is adequate, providing the above regulations are noted with properly qualified officers to enforce them.

Parking Meters

"The traffic expert from the City of Montreal, who addressed the Federation of Mayors and Municipalities on traffic problems in Quebec at the recent conference, in speaking of parking meters stated: 'Parking meters do not solve the parking problem. They are fine in parking lots'.

"I agree with the expert. He also stated that the solution to traffic problems is to speed up traffic. You know as well as I do that, when you drive behind someone who is poking along at 10, 12, or 15 miles per hour, he does more to hinder traffic than those who drive at our speed limit of 20 miles. Having a speed of 22 miles would perhaps be better. However, our blocks are short and this is deserving of thought. I believe pokey drivers are violating the traffic law as much as those who exceed the speed limit.

"If parking meters are to be installed, they will not be installed without charge. The price of these meters varies, however.

50 meters cost	\$ 3,200
50 meters cost	4,500
50 meters cost	3,475
150 meters cost	11,175
Installation \$5 per meter	750
	11,925

"Don't misunderstand me. These parking meters cost money. \$12,000 in round figures, and the farmers and the citizens are going to pay for them. And to get \$12,000 for the meter companies costs you and I Mr. Citizen \$25,000 because they will be put in on a 50-50 basis. Are they necessary? Are they a convenience to you and me? Or an inconvenience?"

"On a one-street business section such as the Western County Metropolis has, perhaps they are O.K., but in our City, where we have our business houses on the sides of several blocks, and where the available parking distance is not more than the size of a City block away (and that is approximately 382 ft.) are they necessary? Gentlemen, I am hesitant about putting them in, and while some are in favor, many are against, and after all, I believe it should be our aim to do the most good for the most people.

Insufficient Revenue

"I did mention that our revenue at the present is a half million

dollars. This is not sufficient to meet the current demands without increasing our present program.

"We are endeavouring to keep our City as presentable as any other City comparable with it. There are many things which should be done, and we try hard to stretch the 20 or 25 cents at our disposal to do these things.

"We have a program which calls for the abolishment of wooden sidewalks, replacing them with concrete walks. Then there is the development of new areas for homes, which is most essential. This consists of new streets which must be gravelled, etc., street lights installed, sidewalks laid, water mains and sewer mains must be run.

"Our asphalt streets must be kept in a state of good repair, and it is our policy to re-surface certain blocks each year along with patching others. Then too, the ever increasing motor traffic has made it necessary to use certain areas between sidewalks and curb, and these areas, too, must be paved.

"With the pressing demands to give adequate fire protection, thus reducing premiums on your insurance policies, adequate Police protection to all citizens, additional and brighter street lights, well kept parks, bathing beaches and squares, better accommodation in your Library, Market, City Building, Schools, and with the increased costs of material and salaries, ways of getting more revenue have been sought.

"We receive at the present time some \$40,000 from the Provincial Government. The last two years, we have been able to negotiate with the Canadian National Railways and we receive the sum of \$3,467 tax on the railway owned property, on which heretofore we were unable to collect one cent.

Business Tax Survey

"During my last term of office, a survey of all properties was made in the City, with a view to inaugurating a Business Tax, and while we have not decided on the feasibility of putting on such a tax, the ground work has been done, and can, I know, be utilized, and should accelerate the work of adjustment which your Council is about to start. To acquaint you with the lead up, may I say—

"My Council and my two previous Councils are fully aware that there exists a grave inequality in valuations in our City. To this end, and with a view to righting that part of our City's structure, enabling legislation was obtained for the purpose of setting up a Board of Valuers. Many suitable individuals were approached to act on this Board, but their answers were all the same, and I quote their answers: 'Do you want me to lose all the friends I have?'

To act on such a Board would be suicide for all my friendships. I believe this is the wrong attitude for them to take. I think we all feel that those who act on such a Board would be doing a Civic duty, which would be approved by all fair minded citizens. However, we are still trying, and through the Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, we are in hopes of obtaining an expert, either to work along with our present Assessor, or to act in an advisory capacity to a Board which we still hope to be able to set up.

Reduction Possible

"We feel, too, with the valuations more equitable, there might be a reduction in our tax rate. It cost your City a considerable sum for the external audit of 1939 but I am sure that the present set-up is very satisfactory in this end of Civic administration.

"I would like to say, we receive some criticism. None however, is constructive, but to the contrary, most criticism we receive is for selfish reasons rather than for the good of our City. In democratic cities (even if you have a dictator for Mayor) it is necessary that the elected not only try to please the majority, but it is imperative that this is done. Knowing that the minority will be displeased for a time, and in order to keep our country as it is, we must not antagonize the minority—therefore through the years if a Council is tolerated that long, all will be satisfied.

"Now gentlemen, it is a privilege to have been asked to be your speaker at today's luncheon. I welcome any constructive criticism you can give in the running of our City. Only by the co-operation of the elected and electors, can we hope to make our City the way we want it to be."

KINGSTON Y. P. U.

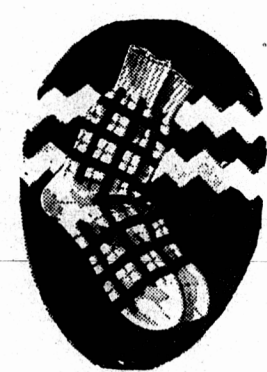
The regular meeting of the Kingston Y. P. U. met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Smith on Tuesday evening March 14. The devotional period led by Aletha MacGregor opened the meeting by singing "What A Friend" Scripture lesson taken from Romans, Chap. 4, verses 7-14. Readings were given by Aletha MacGregor. This was followed by the Lord's Prayer. Mildred Paul then gave a Meditation. The devotional closed by singing "Sun Of My Soul". The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Roll call was answered by 17 members. Collection amounted to \$1.06. Next meeting to be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Colwill. Next roll call to be answered with singing. The following committee were appointed for next meeting.

Prayers—Olive Barrett. Study—Edna Colwill and Erma G. Recreation—Aletha MacGregor and Mildred Paul. Lunch—Norma Smith and Olive Barrett. The study period was led by Shirley Newson and Roy Younker. The recreation period led by Nelda Richards and Erroll Green consisted of contests and games. We also had an auction sale with Errol Green as acting auctioneer in



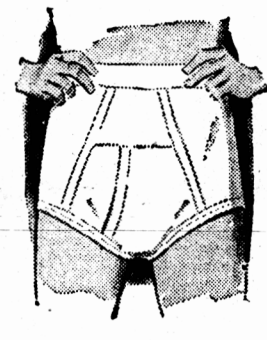
Yes, we have heaps of shirts—woven and print stripes, broadcloths, a wide variety of collar styles, gleaming white, solid toned or patterned. Some with French cuffs. Choose from Arrow, Van Heusen, B. V. D., Forsyth and Tooke.

\$3.00 to \$5.00



Here's a note in Men's Hose.—You will find a wonderful assortment of men's hose in the latest spring colours and patterns—Ankle or half-length by Penman's—Mercury and Holeproof.

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Shirts and Shorts—knitted Jockey or Broadcloth Boxer shorts—smartly styled and patterned, with an easy flare for comfort.

Jockey Shorts \$1.00 and 1.50
Broadcloth Shorts \$1.50
Shirts \$1.00 to 1.50



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\$1.00 to \$2.00



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Others from—\$4.75 to \$7.00

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which the sum of \$4.25 was realized. A dainty lunch was served by hostess and committee in charge. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Smith for the use of their home and kind hospitality. The meeting was then adjourned.

SOUTH WINSLOE Y. P. U.

South Winsloe Y. P. U. held their regular meeting at the Manse on Friday evening, March 10th. The devotional period opened with hymn, "Take Time To Be Holy", followed by scripture passage read by Florence Gillespie and prayer by Rev. Mr. Skinner. An interesting meditation followed entitled "The Sailor Poet", read by Helen Rodd. A duet was most effectively rendered by Janet Skinner and Eleanor Rodd. Hymn, "Son Of My Soul" closed this part of the meeting. A most instructive study period followed, led by Rev. Mr. Skinner, on the life of Paul. The business period opened with the president, Helen Rodd, presiding. It was moved and seconded that Doris Hughes be paid all bills

in connection with Valentine party. Three very successful crokinole parties were reported held, and Florence Gillespie kindly offered her home for another which was held on St. Patrick's Day. Helen Rodd invited the members to meet at her home for next meeting on March 24th. Kathleen Turner, citizenship convener, will be in charge of next meeting and Melvin Hambly as recreational leader. Lunch committee Florence Gillespie and Doris Hughes.

The members were pleased to welcome Mrs. Alex Skinner as pianist for the evening. Refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Skinner for the use of their home, followed by singing "Auld Lang Syne."

SOUTH FREETOWN P. T. A.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Freetown P. T. A. was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Smith on Tuesday evening March 14th, 1950 with 18 members present.

Secretary's report was given, then the school committee gave their report. The teacher gave a report that there was nothing needed in the school for the next month. Miss Graham then read a speech of Mr. Large regarding school improvement and help given to teachers for teacher training. It was decided to leave the next meeting until the 3rd Tuesday in April to await teacher's report from teachers convention. The corresponding secretary to write for a play. The next meeting to be held at Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gauthier's. Programs committee, Mrs. Elmer Reeves; Lunch Committee, Mrs. Fred Stetson, Mrs. Fred Drummond and Mrs. Elmer Smith. The meeting then adjourned for playing of games for which Mrs. Fred Stetson was in charge. A delightful lunch was served by hostess assisted by committee in charge and enjoyed by all.

CRAPAUD W. M. S.

March meeting of the Crapaud Auxiliary of the W. M. S. was held at the home of Mrs. John Simmons, with Mrs. J. D. MacFarlane as hostess. Meeting opened with the worship program, led by the president, Mrs. Frank MacDonald.

The worship theme was "What can I Give to My Church." Scripture readings were given by Mrs. Robert Dawson, Mrs. Ralph Myers, Mrs. Wm. Waddell and Mrs. John Nicholson. The hymns "Hark The Voice of Jesus Crying" and "Take My Life" were sung with Mrs. Bacon as pianist.

Prayer was offered by Mrs. MacFarlane. Roll call was answered by ten members and four visitors. Collection amounted to \$2.10. A letter from the presbytery president was read concerning summer rallies, and a decision made

not to ask for one this year. Fourteen sick calls and four cards were reported to the community Friendship secretary, Mrs. John Leard.

Mrs. Wilmet Macdonald invited the members for the April meeting.

In place of the usual study period, a most instructive address, on China was given by Mrs. Bacon, who with her husband Rev. R. L. Bacon returned a short time ago, after spending several years on a mission field there. Mrs. Bacon's address was made doubly interesting by a display of Chinese souvenirs, linens, tapestries, ornaments, etc. which were passed around and viewed with much admiration.

The thanks of the meeting were conveyed to Mrs. Bacon by the president, after which a delicious lunch was served by Mrs. MacFarlane.

Nostrils Choke Up Due to CATARRH

"I discovered the easiest way to help end a cold is to take deep breaths of Catarrh-o-zone."

1. It is harmless.
2. It attacks a cold instantly.
3. It helps to destroy the germs that cause the cold.
4. It opens the breathing organs to the free passage of fresh air.
5. The irritated membranes are soothed and healed.
6. Inflammation in the upper nostrils, throat and bronchial tubes is rapidly reduced.

"To help drive out a cold in one night, I strongly recommend Catarrh-o-zone." Follow the advice given by the writer of this letter, a Montreal business man. All druggists sell Catarrh-o-zone in 35c and 75c sizes.

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