

NEWS & VIEWS



1950

YOUR ELECTED OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN

Sid Nagley

RECORDING SECRETARY

Doris Cape

TREASURER

Henry McKee

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Harry Smythe

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

John Evans

MEMBERS

Jack Burridge
John Windebank

BAIE d'URFE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

EDITOR

Mary Coulter
Phone 2978

OUR ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEES

PHONE

CHAIRMEN

Hospitality
Membership
Movie Club
School Affairs
Town Planning
Circulation Manager
"News and Views"

2611
2611
372
2577
2391

Mary Smith
Peter Smith
Reg Vidler
Julie Evans
Paul Dawson

2039

Mrs. F. Ritchie

TIME TO SET OUR SIGHTS

With another year of association activities behind us, this is a time for summing up. It is also a very good time to start our thinking about the new directions for the year ahead, since many of the old goals which bound the citizens together in an association have been won. This year, for example, the development and ultimate approval of the zoning and building by-laws and the formation of a horticultural society have removed from our meeting agendas two subjects of compelling interest. There is a need then for a fresh series of choices, changes, directions which will meet the needs of a maturing community. What the direction will be the membership must decide. This much is certain, that ideas of what we shall do and how we shall do it will produce conflict as they have done in the past. Although the conflict has been painful at times, it has also been a sign of vitality and concern that the democratic processes should be allowed to function and each man be heard, if he wants to, before the final decision by the town council as our elected representatives or the carrying out of plans by an authorized association committee.

W. H. Auden, one of our great contemporaries, has commented that by nature, man seems made to live in communities of a very moderate size. The small community he points out, is better able to meet the basic needs of people "to feel free and to feel responsible, above all not to feel lonely and isolated". Town meetings have an old and still respectable place in the smaller community and can provide the best of bridges into social and cultural as well as civic and educational interests. The Baie d'Urfe Citizens Association is our town meeting, our bridge.

THE RECORD

The regular monthly meeting was held on November 10 with thirty-two members present. Vice-chairman Harry Smythe conducted the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted on duly approved motion. The decision as to the best location of the piano was left to the executive. Mr. Nagley's resignation as chairman, because of ill health, was accepted and his excellent work was acknowledged. New members welcomed at the meeting included Mr. and Mrs. C. Ellis, Mr. Harvey Scott and Mrs. St. Martin. Attendance at the meeting of the Central School Board on November 16 was encouraged. Two shows have been held by the Movie Club with an attendance of 90 children ranging in ages from four to twelve. Forty-four families are paid up members. In order to ascertain whether a canvass on behalf of adult movie shows was favoured, a vote was taken with the result that the movie club was asked to continue with plans for a number of adult shows. It is planned to provide winter recreation in the form of one small skating rink on College Green and a larger one on the lake at the Town Hall. Mr. D. C. Allen has accepted chairmanship of the nominating committee which will prepare a slate of officers for presentation at the annual meeting in January. Action is being taken by the Town Council to provide appropriate signs where these are needed. Baie d'Urfe contributed \$120 to the Canadian Legion through the sale of poppies and a wreath is being placed on the cenotaph in Ste. Annes. Following discussion regarding the desirability of holding a Christmas Party and the form which it should take, it was decided to hold the party, details of arrangement to be left to the discretion of the planning committee.

Doris Cape,
Recording Secretary.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE INTERIM REPORT

Mr. Doug Allen, as chairman of the Nominating Committee, has called together his committee to prepare a slate of officers for the association for the year 1951. The members whose names were agreed upon will be approached shortly to allow their names to stand for election to the executive committee. The slate will be submitted to the general meeting in January though members may propose additional names at that time. The Nominating Committee includes Mrs. Kenneth Brown, Mrs. Allan Greenfield, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Cruikshank, Mr. E. DeWitt, and Mr. Roy Cape.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On November 14, the Children's Christmas Party Committee held a meeting at which time it was decided how this year's event would be run.

Because of the increased number of children over previous years, it was concluded that on December 16, two parties would be held at the Town Hall. One would be for those between the ages of 3 and 8 years, and the other for those 9 years and up, say to 15 or 16. The first part of the day's activities will be run for the younger ones between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m. and the second group will attend the party commencing at 7:30 p.m. carrying on until approximately 9 p.m. In order to alleviate the problem of mothers having to look after their children, transportation and supervision has been arranged.

Don't forget, kids, Santa Claus is making a special trip down from the North Pole to see you, so he will expect you all to be there.

Tom Vauthier,
Bill Parker.

COUNCIL REPORT

November 7, 1950.

Present: Pro Mayor Smith, Councillors Gelinas, Hanson, Laird, Parker and Yates.

Expect report on negotiations with V.L.A. re Lakeview Road at next meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Long awaiting producing of deeds to determine whether or not a public right-of-way exists at foot of Cemetery Road to water. Cost of ditching work \$300. Town carries insurance which will protect it against any claims resulting from accidents on any skating rinks operated by Citizens Association on Town Property. Mr. Parker is investigating matter of name sign for Morgan Rd., fixing up signs on Lakeshore Rd. and new traffic signs. Mr Parker to investigate offer of trees for Lakeview Rd. by V.L.A. and co-ordination of planting with Town Planning. Building Inspector Bryson reported on building of Pilon property at east end of Town and on Morrison (Lakeview Rd.), application for building permit -- latter held over till next meeting. No word yet from Morgans re exchange of lots. Reduction of noise of ventilating fan at Town Hall to be investigated. Roads Committee to arrange for sanding of roads during winter. Beaconsfiled to plough roads this winter. Re Sunny Acres Roads, Mr. Desjardins of Provincial Roads Department presented data on road construction; Roads Committee to study and make recommendation to Council.

H. B. Smythe,
Vice-Chairman,
Citizens Association

ADULT FILMS

In response to requests, a film program has been arranged for Monday, December 4, at 8:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The program -

A Little Fantasy - a short, animated film which brings to life the nineteenth century painting "Isle of the Dead" by Arnold Brechlin. The mood of the original painting is developed in light and movement. National Film Board.

La Poulette Grise - a color film which provides an extremely beautiful background to the music of the French Canadian lullaby. National Film Board.

School for Danger - a feature length, documentary style story of British agents operating in occupied France, beginning with the training school in England, recording their dangerous activities in France and concluding with their dramatic rescue by plane and return to England. The story is gripping and the film holds its interest from beginning to end.

All members of the Citizens Association are invited, providing they have joined the movie club or intend to join. There will be at least four other such programs as this during the season. A three dollar membership covers both children and adult films for the family.

CHILDREN'S MOVIES

There have been four showings to date. Attendance was approximately ninety for the first three and fifty-five for the last, which coincided with the Santa Claus Parade in town.

Forty-six families have joined the club; twenty-three families whose children are attending the movies here have still to pay their three dollar membership. The sixty-nine more dollars we are counting on from this source will just break even the expense of the season's showings for the kids' series. Families on the Lakeshore may pay their fees to Mrs. Glen, families on Lakeview to Mr. Perks, or anyone may pay to John Windebank or even phone to have him come and collect the fee.

Incidentally, any mothers who can attend to help look after the children, help get coats off and on, etc., will be very welcome. The films are all fire-proof and there are at least two adults on hand at every showing. We are grateful to Bill Spriggs Jr. who has operated the projector for all the showings, and to Barbara Nagley who has attended to the ushering.

Listed below are the remaining films of the series up to December 31. Note particularly the special Christmas film on December 30. Demand for this film was so great that we were unable to get it for the week before Christmas.

- Dec. 9 CHILDREN OF THE WILD -- Nature-drama in Rocky Mountain setting
 Dec. 23 THE GLADIATOR -- Joe E. Brown
 Dec. 30 SCROOGE -- Dickens' Christmas Carol produced in England.

John Windebank,
 Chairman, Movie Club.

PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING - December 8th

Some night club characters (puppet size), music, and other entertainment have their place on our agenda for the December meeting. Having had no social event this Fall, it is hoped that this informal evening will give us an opportunity of extending a special welcome to the many people who have moved to Baie d'Urfe since early summer, and of course it is assumed that there will be a large group of old timers on hand to do the welcoming, and to join in the fun. The executive asks that those who are already at home in the town will make a point of calling for or inviting personally anyone you know to be a newcomer. Joyce Hartnell, who is bringing some of her puppets, and Pat Brown of the Recreation Department at Macdonald College have been good enough to consent to help us with the entertainment. There will be a short business meeting and festivities will be concluded with refreshments.

GOOD HOMES WANTED

Spaniel puppies, six pure black and four black and white, are looking for homes in Baie d'Urfe. So well timed for Christmas giving, can you think of a more delightful gift for some small boy or girl, or for that matter, for the adult on your list who has everything else? Telephone Mrs. Vidler, 372, for further details.

SCHOOL AFFAIRS

The following comprehensive report is written especially for newcomers. It will also refresh the memories of older residents and bring everyone up to date on important school affairs.

The progress towards a new school is slowly making headway. The plans as now proposed include 13 new classrooms, 6 special rooms, a combined gymnasium auditorium, dining room, play areas, etc.

In order to borrow money to supplement a government grant it is necessary for the school district to own the land. As a result of long drawn out negotiations with McGill University, an agreement was reached satisfactory to both, which before it is signed is being submitted to the Municipal Commission for their approval or comments. This is necessary in order to ensure that there will be no hitch in connection with the floating of a loan. The proposed agreement includes transfer of land and school building, rights to use land north of the school, sale of a house on Maple Avenue, special grant from McGill, and many other matters.

Difficulties arose in connection with ownership of the school. Under a Central Board set up, only local boards can levy taxes and therefore only local boards can float loans. The school is situated in Baie d'Urfe but Baie d'Urfe alone does not have sufficient property value, so after circulation of petitions, Senneville and Baie d'Urfe (including Ste. Anne de Boute de L'Isle) were combined into one local board area which will own the school. The new local board members are commissioners and because of the excess of Protestants over Catholics will have the right to apply the Protestant tax rate to the incorporated companies.

By the end of the summer much progress had been made by the architects on the working drawings, based on preliminary plans which were approved by Dr. Percival (Director of Protestant Education) in June. A most unfortunate set back then occurred due to a realignment of authority at Quebec, carried out by order-in-council, whereby plans and apportioning of grants were to be approved by the General Superintendent of Education instead of by the Directors of Protestant and Catholic Education. We were notified that new plans to reduce cost must be submitted and that play areas were to be eliminated. New preliminary plans were hastily prepared and submitted. Messrs. Butler, Spriggs, and Secretary Graham of the Central Board visited Quebec and had a long interview with the Superintendent of Education, M. Desaulgnier, Mr. French, a member of the Cabinet, and Dr. Percival.

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A grant was offered which, although substantial, does not appear adequate in view of our special needs and services as a practice school. Further negotiations are in progress and as soon as a definite understanding is reached, a full report of the proposed undertaking will be circulated to the taxpayers.

The increase in school taxes which came as a shock to most of us has raised a good many questions amongst taxpayers. Unfortunately, schools are afflicted with the rising cost of living just as are individuals and more money is needed to provide the same or better service. The rate last year was not increased and the Central Board finished the year with a deficit of about \$4000. In addition to this, estimates for 1950-51 show an unavoidable increase of \$9000 which would make a total deficit of \$13,000 for the coming year, exclusive of last year's deficit. Since 1 mill brings in an income of about \$4,300 a total of 3 mills is required if we are to break even. The rate was therefore raised from 7 mills to 10 mills or \$1 per \$100 of valuation. The \$9000 increase includes approximately \$5000 teachers' salaries (covering increases and one new teacher and a kindergarten assistant), \$1000 transportation, \$1000 rental of church hall for a double sized kindergarten class, \$1000 High School classes at Macdonald College, \$750 bus depreciation, etc. Double classes are now being operated for each of Grades 1 and 2, with two teachers being required for each grade.

Did you know that there were exactly two Baie d'Urfe taxpayers at the last meeting of the Central Board and that this showed an increase of two hundred percent over previous board meetings? We are extremely fortunate to have the services of such able and devoted commissioners and can be assured that no effort is being spared to bring to a successful conclusion the problems which confront them.

Julie Evans,
School Affairs Committee

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The 1951 season's activities will start with a series of ten weekly lectures to be given by Prof. H. R. Murray and D. W. Pettit of Macdonald College. The course is being planned so that it will be helpful both to those faced with the problem of landscaping a new home and others who have established gardens. Each evening there will be short talks on landscaping and on flower and vegetable culture followed by a discussion period at which individual problems can be discussed. Various methods for the preservation of fruits and vegetables will be included in the series.

Lectures will be held in the Town Hall at 8:00 p.m. sharp, beginning Monday, January 15. Attendance is limited to members of the society, which is paying part of the cost. The balance of the cost will be covered by a fee of \$3 for a husband and wife for the ten lectures.

Ewing Tait,
Chairman,
Horticultural Society.

Dr. Swan is in his new home on Morgan Rd.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C. Booker, Lakeview Rd., on the birth of a son.

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