

Dipping into the past...

150 YEARS AGO

Thursday, February 25, 1864

From The Sun, Orangeville:

VILLAGE COUNCIL ? The Village council met at Mr. Van Wyck's hotel on Monday evening last. The minutes of the former meeting were read and approved, after which Mr. Jas. May's resignation as Tavern Inspector was accepted. The committee appointed at the last meeting to report on the By-Law respecting Tavern and Shop Licences and defining the duties of License Inspector, submitted their report to the Council, recommending several amendments and alterations which were adopted seriatim in committee of the whole. The By-law as amended was then read a third time and passed. On motion of Mr. May, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the By-Law respecting Tavern and Shop Licences &c was ordered to be printed, after which the Council adjourned to meet at Witter's hotel on Monday evening next.

MILITARY INSPECTION ? The Orangeville Volunteer Infantry Company as inspected by Colonel Mountain of the Royal Artillery on Wednesday last. The inspection had first been announced to take place on the 26th inst. but finding that it would interfere with his other appointments, Col. Mountain changed it to the 24th. Notwithstanding this, and that only a few hours notice of it was given, about forty members of the Company were present. They were put through the manual exercises and executed some platoon movements with considerable precision. They did not however appear to perform the different evolutions with the same ease and freedom as we have on other occasions seen them do in the drill room; but this was doubtless due to the natural timidity consequent on passing a first inspection. Under the circumstances, they acquitted themselves in a creditable manner, drew forth the praises of the inspecting officers, who, at the close of the inspection, complimented them on their proficiency and soldier-like appearance.

WAR IN EUROPE - Again the tocsin of war resounds in Europe. The apprehended contest between Denmark and her dependencies in the minor German States, arising out of the Constitution submitted by King Christian of Denmark to his subjects in November, and declined by the small Duchies, has at length commenced and for a time the bloody sword will be unsheathed in Northern Europe. The Austrians and Prussians whose interference in the quarrel it was at first expected would result in an amicable adjustment of the difficulty, appear to have been the assailants. The Danes, though overpowered by numbers and compelled to retire before a superior force, appear to have fought gallantly in the defense of their rights.

AN EXEMPLARY ACT ? The Township- Councils of Pilkington and Nichol, at their last sittings, voted \$200 - \$100 each ? towards the erection of a Grammar School in the village of Elora. Their liberality in the interest of education will, we have no doubt, meet the approbation of their constituents, and none the less so, because the site of the proposed school for whose erection the grant was made, lies in another municipality. Now Garafraxa, Mono and Caledon are as closely allied to Orangeville as Pilkington and Nichol are to Elora; and as we imagine their Councils are not less liberal, patriotic, nor zealous in the cause of education, may we not reasonably expect from them similar encouragement towards building a Grammar School in Orangeville? Were the matter properly submitted to them, we have no doubt they would follow the example so nobly set them by the Councils of Pilkington and Nichol, and that by so doing they would earn the respect and gratitude of the friends of education in their townships. Our Village Council would vote a large sum for so laudable a purpose and if some more was wanting, it would be readily raised by subscription from private individuals. Let some move be made in the matter, and the erection of a Grammar School in Orangeville is certain.

Gen. Hood, the prominent Confederate General who was severely wounded at Chickamauga, and for several days mourned by the rebel Press as dead, turns up in Richmond with a wooden leg.

Colt's armoury at Hartford, recently burned down, is to be reconstructed without delay. There were six miles of heating pipes in the burnt building.

FARM FOR SALE ? The subscriber offers for sale that choice farm situated upon the Toronto Line (largely gravelled) leading from Orangeville to Owen Sound, being the west half of Lot No. 3, 2nd Concession, Township of Melancthon, about 50 acres of which are cleared. On the premises are a good House & Barn besides other buildings suitable for a Farmer. There are two Corners on the Lot which would be worth the price of the Farm to any person desiring a rare opportunity for doing a Mercantile Business. Two never-failing Creeks water the Lot, giving a constant supply to man and beast. For terms &tc, apply to the Subscriber on the premises, or by letter (post paid) to John Cummings, Esq., Lot 3, 2nd Con., Melancthon P.O. ? Feb. 23, 1864.

125 YEARS AGO

Thursday, February 28, 1889

?? smash-up on the Teeswater branch of the CPR occurred at Mount Forest at about 2 a.m. Sunday morning, owing to the heavy snowstorm. A train from Orangeville, consisting of two engines, van and first and second coaches, had orders to meet the plow and two engines there. However, the rails had apparently spread at the switches, allowing the tender to jump the track, the two engines breaking loose. The baggage car struck the tank, damaging it, and the coaches following left the rails and scattered all over the place. The two engines which broke loose kept on and ran for a mile and a quarter at great speed, finally getting stuck in a snow drift. The plow from Teeswater, with two engines, ran into them, completely wrecking all four engines and knocking the plow into kindling wood. Fortunately, no lives were lost.

??elancthon Station: The cold weather of last week had a thrilling effect on our inhabitants. The roads are completely blocked up and the travelling public had been compelled to open the fences and pass through the fields.

??n Orangeville Sunday morning, at about 10 o'clock, a fire broke in B. McNichol's grocery store, destroying the whole building and contents. R. Mann's fruit store and telephone office, which were connected, were partially destroyed. McNichol's loss is estimated at \$2500; insured for \$1150 in the Royal Canadian.

??t about 3 a.m. last Friday the Alliston Herald's printing office was burned down, the fire having originated from the explosion of a lamp. Owen McCue's adjoining barbershop was totally destroyed. Both buildings were owned by Mr. George Kearns. Mr. Newton, proprietor of the Herald, has secured new quarters and intends to issue his paper this week, if possible.

??or some time past two large eagles of the American type have been noticed hovering near the farm of Mr. N. Hughson, of East Garafraxa. Traps were set and on Wednesday of last week Mr. Hughson succeeded in capturing one of the birds alive. It measures eight feet from tip to tip and is considered a very fine specimen. Mr. Hughson disposed of his prize to Messrs. Brayley and Bennett and these gentlemen will ship it to Toronto, where they expect to get \$25 for it. When the news got around that an eagle had arrived on the market, two East Broadway hotel keepers ran pell mell to purchase it but found Jim Bennett had got there before them. While they were viewing it the bird growled savagely at them. The rush of citizens to see the bird was so great that an admission fee of five cents was charged.

100 YEARS AGO

Thursday, February 26, 1914

??rangeville and Shelburne hockey teams had a very closely contested game in Shelburne Monday night. At half time the score was 5-2 in favour of Shelburne, but at full time the score was tied 6-6 and it was decided to play an additional ten minutes, at the end of which period, the score was 7-7. An additional five minutes was then decided upon, at the end of which the score stood 8-8, making another five minutes' play necessary. This time only Orangeville succeeded in scoring, leaving the score 9-8.

75 YEARS AGO

Thursday, March 2, 1939

Thursday, March 23, will be the one big day of the year for the Dufferin County Old Boys' Association of Winnipeg, for on that date they will meet in the Marlborough Hotel for their 32nd annual banquet and dance. President Bob Neeley and an able corps of assistants are planning on making this the best in a long line of successful undertakings. Visitors from Orangeville, Shelburne, Grand Valley, Rocktown, etc., who happen to be in Winnipeg on that date, will be heartily welcomed as valued guests.

50 YEARS AGO

Wednesday, February 26, 1964

Shelburne and Honeywood are meeting in the first round of the W.O.A.A. hockey playdowns, Shelburne having finished the regular season in second place and Honeywood in fourth place.

Extra chairs had to be provided last Sunday morning at Trinity United, Shelburne, when the Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Boy Scouts, their leaders and assistant leaders, paraded to the service, preceded by colour parties.

10 YEARS AGO

Friday, February 27, 2004

If Ontario's Environment Minister has her way, 60 per cent of the province's waste will be diverted by 2008. Leona Dombrowsky was at the Hockley Valley Resort last week as keynote speaker at the Association of Municipal Recycling Co-ordinators conference. Outlining plans to achieve the goal, she said, "It is ambitious, but it is one that we must meet to protect human health and the environment."