

## Dipping into the past...

### 150 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 6, 1864

From The Sun, Orangeville, compliments of Dufferin County Museum and Archives:

The village council held one or two meetings during the past week, at which the Bylaw for raising the necessary funds to meet the expenditures of the Corporation was finally passed, and Mr. Haley's tender for construction of a six-foot-wide sidewalk along north Broadway from First to Second Street for \$260 was accepted. A committee was also appointed to effect the necessary repairs on Broadway at Third Street and at Hurontario Street. The next meeting of the Council will be held at Mr. John Van Wyck's hotel on Monday evening.

Gen. Fremont has written to his friends withdrawing his candidature from the United States Presidential contest in November next. It has been stated repeatedly during the past year and never contradicted, that Mr. Lincoln, by arrangement with the Treasury Department, has been in the habit of drawing his constitutional salary of \$25,000 a year in gold certificates of the treasury, worth, actually, from \$45,000 to \$70,000 - thus "whipping the devil round a stump," and complying with the letter of the Constitution while grossly violating its spirit.

A dispatch from General Grant dated Sept. 30, at City Point, states that Warrou attacked and carried the enemy's line on their extreme right, capturing a number of prisoners. He immediately prepared to follow up his success. A later dispatch, dated this evening, at 5 o'clock, and just received, states that Gen. Butler at 3 p.m. reported that the enemy had just made an assault in three columns on his line near Chaps farm, and had been repulsed.

### 125 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 10, 1889

The directors of the Melancthon Agricultural Society are entitled to special credit this year for the efforts they have made to place the Dufferin Central among the leading agricultural exhibitions in the province. They secured the splendid grounds of the Shelburne Turf Association and this fall erected thereon a large building admirably adapted for the suitable display of the various exhibits. The spirits of the officials and friends of the fair, which fell with the thermometer down in the direction of zero during the snowstorm and cold snap of Saturday, Sunday and Monday, rose greatly and today congratulations on the wonderful success of the fair are heard. The aerial railway, carrying passengers the round trip for five cents, had many patrons. The great step in advance made by the change of grounds and erection of the new building was generally commented on. The wisdom of such a move has now been made apparent.

On Monday last, Constable Finbow, who was armed with a warrant, proceeded to Lot 2, Con. 7, Amaranth, and arrested a young man named Robert Logan on a charge of attempting to shoot his father, Joseph Logan. It seems that the father and son have not lived together in peace for some time, and a few days ago the young man threatened to riddle his father with bullets, and is said to have subsequently proceeded to carry his threat into execution by shooting at him three times with a revolver. He was detained at Laurel until Tuesday at 10 o'clock. However, it now seems that the father was seriously at fault and it is possible that he did the shooting after taking the revolver from his son. The Magistrates at Laurel fined the son \$20 and costs for carrying a revolver, and the father will be prevented from interfering with his son, as he has done in past by stopping his wages, etc.

Last Saturday, Robert Gillespie, of Shelburne, pleaded guilty to selling liquor during prohibited hours and, this being his second offence, was fined \$40 and costs. John Witter, of the Mansion House, Shelburne, pleaded guilty to a similar charge but was only fined \$20 and costs. D. Hyndman, of Grand Valley, is also charged with selling liquor on Sunday, but his case was adjourned until today.

### 100 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 8, 1914

Hon. W. H. Hearst, Member of the Legislature for Sault Ste. Marie, has succeeded the late Sir James P. Whitney as Premier of Ontario. In addition to being premier he will be Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines.

One of the most interesting reports presented at the Methodist General Conference at Ottawa last week was that of the Hymn and Tune Book Committee formed four years ago for the purpose of preparing a new Methodist hymn book. A handsome new hymnal has been prepared. More than 7,000 hymns were examined and a list of 575 hymns and 499 tunes is the result. The new book contains one-third fewer hymns and one-third more tunes than the old book and it was prepared in collaboration with a special

committee of the Presbyterian Church, so several hymns used by the Presbyterians are included in the new book. The book for the first time includes a ritual consisting of the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles Creed, the Ten Commandments, questions and answers for a reception service, a General Confession and the service of the Lord's Supper.

The War Situation: The Canadian contingent is by this time nearing England, if, indeed, it is not already landed or landing. All the transports left from below Quebec City together, escorted by a fleet of warships, some time the early part of last week. As the exact date of sailing is not known, it is of course impossible to figure when they should reach land. A second contingent of 20,000 men will be formed at once. The Dufferin members of the first contingent are in the 4th Battalion, 1st Brigade, and sailed on the Tyrolia. A meeting of the ratepayers of Dundalk was recently held to consider a proposition by the Pine River Light and Power Co. to supply electric energy to the village. Mr. J. M. Kilbourn, of Owen Sound, a member of the company, was present and outlined the scheme. The company proposes to deliver 200 horsepower to the village at \$40 per horsepower, the village being required to spend about \$3800 to transmit the light and power to consumers. The proposal will be considered by the village council and maybe submitted to a vote of ratepayers.

The clock in the tower of Shelburne's new post office has been installed and is now running. The bell used for striking the hours is as large as the town bell and is placed several feet away on the roof, separate from the clock tower, under a covering of its own. When the clock strikes it can be heard for quite a distance. At night the interior of the clock is lit by electricity.

## 75 YEARS AGO

Thursday, October 12, 1939

Two members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, stationed at Camp Borden, and two other passengers in their car, were injured last Saturday when the vehicle went out of control after the driver attempted to give a wide berth to children playing on an Orangeville street. Gordon Slaght, 19, of Scotland, Ont., and Bernard Kemp, both of the Air Force, were most seriously injured, Mr. Kemp not recovering consciousness for several hours after the accident. Roy Kelso, 24, of Brantford, and Melville Slaght, 24, Gordon's brother, were also injured. All were taken to Lord Dufferin Hospital.

Miss Lizzie Baker, of Elba, appears to be the innocent victim of some cruel, baseless neighbourhood gossip, representing her as a German spy. The story started when a neighbour found in his mail box a letter addressed to a man named Kuntz in New York. Miss Baker was accused of writing the letter, which may have been an entirely innocent epistle, for anything that the gossip-mongers know. This she denies and declares that she knows nothing about the letter and so far as we can learn there is not a tittle of evidence to the contrary. Miss Baker was born and has spent her life-time at Elba. She is of Irish descent and there is no reason whatever to represent her as a German spy. The stories are an illustration of the manner in which well-meaning people can do an injustice to a neighbour in the excitement of wartime, when there is always much unwarranted surmise and speculation.

## 50 YEARS AGO

Wednesday, October 7, 1964

John Root, MPP, formerly Minister without Portfolio in the cabinet of former premier Leslie Frost, has been named Vice-Chairman of the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip began their visit to Canada Monday when they landed at Summerside, Prince Edward Island. After a visit to the capital, Charlottetown, the royal party will go to Quebec City on the royal yacht Britannia.

## 10 YEARS AGO

Friday, October 8, 2004

A local developer has offered the town of Shelburne and six local service clubs \$900,000 to trade a 115-acre parcel of land for the existing Fiddle Park.

One resident Rick Polsinelli has taken reporters on a tour of the backyard of his Ashwood Drive home where a vegetable garden includes a lot of zucchini. The reporters were shown an 84 inch (210 cm) zucchini and others almost as large.