

(Chimes in distance strike five. A clock may be made to strike or a xylophone may be used. Children stop dancing and count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.)

FIRST BELL.—Five o'clock. Come Bells! We must be back in our places in the house before the children are awake.

FIRST LITTLE MAN.—Before you go, tell us how to greet the fairy folk at home.

BELLS.—Many Christmas and greetings, and best of good cheer, and all good wishes for a happy New Year.

(They bow to each other and run off.)

*This song will be found in the *Dramatic Reader* edited by Florence Holbrook and published by American Book Co. Any pretty motion song may be substituted.

A SCHOOL EXHIBITION.

The following report of the school fair at Belle Cote, Inverness County, N. S., in the autumn of 1916, was sent us by the Director of Rural Science for Nova Scotia.

On the afternoon of the opening day, August 28th, teachers and pupils of both departments visited the neighboring woods and brooks where they made collections of wild flowers, mosses, ferns, and insects. On returning, these first three collections were pressed, and in the evenings, the pupils remained to mount them, this being the first preparation for the school exhibition. The girls then began sewing at home, working centre-pieces, making fancy aprons, cushions, etc. During the drawing periods, they drew a scene showing a busy little girl in three different occupations, washing, ironing and sweeping; afterwards coloring the sketch with crayons or water-colors. At home, the boys made a pencil-box, and at school drew a scene showing a little boy and girl working in a hay field.

On exhibition morning, the children arrived early with poultry, vegetables, grain, cut flowers, pressed plants, mosses, ferns, insects, sewing, cooking, writing, drawing and toys, the latter furnishing a very attractive corner. All these things were tastefully arranged on convenient stands.

There was a Roll of Honor for our boys who had enlisted, which was accompanied by their photos and pennons of their regiments. Besides these exhibits, there were also souvenirs from the war, such as pieces of English and German shells, ornamental flowers from altars of destroyed churches in Belgium, leaves from soldiers' graves in France, and flags of the Allies; all these being sent by one of our boys on the firing line. The

teacher had also for public use an assortment of stereograph views of the present war.

The school flag was hoisted, and shortly before noon, the school had a visit from Rev. Father McDonald, who expressed himself very much pleased with the fine and large varieties of vegetables as well as the exhibits of school work. He congratulated the teachers and pupils on this excellent showing.

At the hour appointed for opening, words of welcome having been addressed to the parents, the teacher moved the appointment of Mr. A. D. McLellan, J. P., as chairman, who after expressing his pleasure at presiding at the annual school fair, his appreciation of the valuable exhibits and the great work done by the Educational Department in encouraging the pupils in agricultural work, announced the different exercises on the opening programme, which consisted of nature, recitations, patriotic songs and gramophone music.

This part of the exercises over, judges were appointed and the awarding of prizes was carried on. Mr. J. R. Sweeney, Government Creamery Manager at Margaree Forks, judged vegetables, pressed plants and construction work; the names of prize winners were read, after the girls' cooking was sold at auction, the young men showing themselves very generous in this work, and thus a handsome sum of money was the possession of the happy children. Part of this money is to be forwarded to a patriotic fund.

At the close, Mr. Sweeney delivered a most encouraging talk to the pupils, showing his appreciation of the work done at this the third annual school fair and at previous exhibitions, giving plain and sound advice to the school on the carrying on of this important work for the next school fair.

Mr. Constant AuCoin, Municipal Councillor, then followed with encouraging remarks in French.

The interest taken by the children in preparing their exhibits, their joy on exhibition day, as well as the interest of the parents, were very noticeable, and the teachers realize that the present year has thus begun most pleasantly for their pupils, that their profession has become more enjoyable than ever and they attribute this result to Rural Science.

After the tendering of a vote of thanks to Rev. Dr. McDonald, Mr. McLellan, the chairman, Mr. Sweeney, Mr. AuCoin and to all those who had helped to make the exhibition a success, the fair closed with "God Save the King."