

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., SEPT. 7, 1917.

Editorial Brevities.

Bangor women have undertaken to supply their soldier boys with five hundred sweaters and five hundred pairs of wristlets in two weeks. The yarn is given out at the Red Cross Depot and every Bangor woman and girl is knitting. It is a tremendous undertaking, but remembering the manner in which Red Cross appeals have been responded to in other places there is no doubt that Bangor women will successfully accomplish what women in other sections of the warring countries have already done. Women are justly proud of the fact that no demand for war purposes that has been made upon them has failed of accomplishment. This is true whether the request came for workers in industrial or agricultural areas, in hospital or other relief work; and women everywhere are still ready to do their bit to the utmost.

Reminiscences.

As age lives largely in remembrance, I feel impelled this morning to write something of my past experience, especially as this is the anniversary of an important day in my life. Sixty-six years ago to day I left my boyhood's home in Sheffield, New Brunswick, for Acadia College. It was not very cheerfully done as it is always trying to youth to leave home the first time. Perhaps it was more so to me as I was the youngest member and had been the pet of a large family. I remained in St. John and the next afternoon took passage in the steamer "Fairy Queen" for Windsor, Nova Scotia. The next morning early we passed Wolfville on the way to the steamer's stopping place. Arrived at Windsor I had to remain till the afternoon when two coaches came from Halifax. They were run in opposition by political parties. When I reached Wolfville Prof. Chipman asked which coach I came in. I told him. He then said, "Why didn't you take the other?" I suppose that he was affiliated with the political party that was running the other coach. But as I was an entire stranger and unacquainted with the excellencies and defects of either party, he made no complaint. I was immediately given a room in the college adjoining the one occupied by Thomas A. Higgins and Anthony Phalen. That evening at table I was waited on by a colored gentleman named Solomon, who complained of the students for sending him for so many cups of tea.

The next afternoon I was called up for examination to see if I was fit to enter college. As a young man who had French there he had, I felt no doubt of my acceptance. Dr. Cramp first asked me what I had read in Latin. I told him I had read six books of Caesar, seven of Virgil, every line of Horace's writings that are extant, all of Sallust and several books of Livy. "What about Greek?" he said. I told him I had read Valpy's Delectus, the Greek Testament as a text book in school, and six books of Homer's Iliad. He then selected a portion of Livy which I read to his complete satisfaction. Then he asked me to read a portion of Homer. He stopped me once. I blundered; but I corrected myself at once.

Prof. Chipman then tried me in mathematics. He also wished to know what I had done. I told him I had gone through Bonycastle's Algebra with Diaphantine Analysis, Euclid's six books of plane Geometry, two books of solid Geometry and had taken a course in Land Surveying and Navigation. He asked one question only. I was then judged fit to enter the highest class in College. Wolfville I found to be a beautiful place with a fine class of residents—Dr. Johnson, Drs. Simon and James R. Fitch, John Chase, the Treasurer of the College, and many others that I could name. Father Theodore Harding was still the pastor of the Baptist church. He had reached the outer boundary of life and was waiting for the call, "Come up higher." Dr. Cramp frequently took the evening service.

The male Academy was then in a flourishing condition. Jarvis W. Hart was Principal and Harry W. Johnston Assistant. The old college building, in whose heifer I spent the day reading (the day of the terrible drowning accident) was in good shape. But it was destroyed by fire Dec. 2nd, 1877. Although so many years have passed since I knew Wolfville, I feel a great interest in it still. My attachment to its college is unfeeling, especially as I had three sons among its students at the same time and my eldest daughter in the Ladies' Seminary. Perhaps I will have something more to write at a later day.

G. E. DAY,
Crystal Lake, Gilmanton, I. W.
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Our Ottawa Letter.

Ottawa, August 31st, 1917.—It is fortunate for this country that the government have machinery at hand by which the obstructive tactics of irresponsible partisans can be defeated, and the work of parliament be completed. The deliberate efforts of reckless politicians means fearful waste of time, and big expense to the country. But, if permitted, they would talk on, utterly heedless of those results.

The proposals of the government in regard to the Canadian Northern Railway have been before the House of Commons since August 1st. They have been discussed from every angle. Messrs. Pugsley, Graham, McDonald, Lemieux and others of the obstructionists have repeated their speeches over and over again and on second reading and in Committee; and still they are not satisfied. They want opportunities and time to say those speeches again a score of times; and thus block public business.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier admits that the government cannot permit the country's credit to be shaken by letting the company go into liquidation. Something, he says, must be done to prevent that. But E. M. McDonald and a few more of the reckless bunch clamour for liquidation. They think that probably that would make greater trouble for the government.

As already explained, it was the Laurier Government that tied the C. P. R. on the back of Canada, and the Borden government have to face the complication and deal with it. They intend to deal with it in the right way. They now hold forty per cent. of the stock and intend to take over the balance, sixty per cent., and thus nationalize the road in the public interests.

The C. P. R. wants the road. And its big men have lined up strong opposition to the government's measure. And the Laurier crowd, excepting a few who refuse to be stampeded are the tools of the C. P. R. in this matter.

It would be an outrage of the public interests to let the C. P. R. gobble up the Canadian Northern and thus become the monopolist and dictator of transcontinental transportation; and in addition hold the western provinces under complete control.

The Borden government is standing between the public interests and the C. P. R., determined to protect the public whereas Laurier's men have been fighting night and day for weeks to put the country completely under the heel of the C. P. R.

Fortunately, as already stated, the government has the power of "closure," and they use that effectively to stop the stream of tiresome and wasteful speechmaking with which the Laurier machine hoped to defeat the government.

At two o'clock they had to vote, and the Bill was carried and the blockers lost four Liberal members, Clark, Turriell, Guthrie and Champagne, who voted with the government for public ownership and against C. P. R. monopoly.

Third reading of the Bill came on Wednesday evening and the obstructionists were ready again to kill more time. Pugsley started in with a long speech and moved to send the Bill back to committee for amendment.

Sir Robert Borden replied to him in a speech that rattled the Pugsley sophistries.

About eleven o'clock E. M. McDonald moved for adjournment of the debate, in ending, of course, to take all of Thursday afternoon with a brain storm, and that other obstructionists would follow him.

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He called his followers together Wednesday morning and told them the whole story; and without reservation, as a true and patriotic statesman of noble qualities, declared that he was ready to hand over the position of Prime Minister to his old and faithful friend, Sir George Foster.

But Sir George Foster would not listen to any such proposal. Nor would Sir Robert Borden's followers entertain it. Never was there a more

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Let every woman who reads this think well over the question and then discuss it with other members of their family and their neighbors.

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(Signed by)

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WOLFVILLE

Mr. W. D. Lightball, of the Mount Reform Club, a life-long Liberal and well-known throughout Canada for his great interest in municipal government matters, has issued a letter in which he said that he had previously voiced the ideas of many prominent members of the Liberal party in favor of a patriotic non-partisan stand on conscription. These ideas did not prevail. Now he is compelled to take

this stand: "I, for one--and I know there are many like me--will have nothing to do with the shame and disgrace of self-conscription, nor of partisan alliance with anti-conscription under whatever auspices please they may be voted, nor in company with demagogues and followers of demagogues, however numerous."

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