

Rudyard Kipling, Empire's Bard Writes Noble Inscription For Sault Ste. Marie War Memorial

Requested by the Editor of the Sault Ste. Marie Star to Grant an Unusual Request For The Appreciation of "Fathers And Mothers of Our Absent Boys" Kipling Replies Promptly With Beautiful Lines.

A letter addressed to Rudyard Kipling from James W. Curran, editor of the Sault Ste. Marie Star was promptly followed by a response to that letter signed by Rudyard Kipling. The letter written by James W. Curran ought to be studied as a masterpiece in its varied appeals to the motives that might inspire Rudyard Kipling to grant an almost unheard-of request.

The Sault Daily Star.
James W. Curran, Editor:
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., April 3, 1924.—Mr. Rudyard Kipling, C. of the London Times, London, England:—
Dear Sir:—

The citizens of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, are erecting a monument to the 350 townsmen who fell in the Great War—the best boys we had. We would deeply appreciate it if you would write for us a verse of thought to go on the face of the monument, or indicate something which you would think suitable.

You will be interested in knowing that in the first four months of the war, 1,500 of our boys offered for enlistment—nearly one-tenth of our population then. We sent 120 men off within two weeks of the outbreak of war, and followed this up by three other drafts. Then our own 199th and 227th battalions followed in due course. Many Algonia men also served with other comps.

As you know, we are on the St. Mary's River, between Lakes Huron and Superior—a border town of 20,000. Algonia is a very sparsely settled district in "New Ontario," yet in the pioneer stage.

If you feel you could comply with our request it would, I am sure, be greatly appreciated by the fathers and mothers of our absent boys.

Sincerely yours,
James W. Curran.

Sault Ste. Marie is the one town in the British Empire served by an editor whose daring thought asked Rudyard Kipling to bestow a treasure of his genius upon the Britons of a Canadian city and whose unshaken courage believed that Sault Ste. Marie could ask and receive.

An inscription and epitaph by Rudyard Kipling must be the biggest part of any monument that human genius can plan or human gratitude can build in remembrance of the

patriot dead.

A gravestone lettered with an authentic inscription and epitaph from the pen and heart of William Shakespeare would have attended an immortality exceeding the immortality of any triumph of sculptures wrought by the Elizabethans. The Monument called the SAULT STE. MARIE SYMBOL OF REMEMBRANCE must forever wear a glory that money cannot buy. The brief writings of Rudyard Kipling have clothed the memorial of Sault Ste. Marie with an eloquence that will defy forgetfulness and conquer time.

The writer of the J. W. Curran letter studied a way from his own British heart to the father's heart of Rudyard Kipling: "THE FATHERS AND MOTHERS OF OUR ABSENT BOYS! These words spoke to the heart of genius, the patriot and the father, whose only son fought his passage through to a place among all 'ABSENT BOYS' who died for liberty.

The action of Rudyard Kipling represents the highest title that could be conferred upon Sault Ste. Marie by a King of literature. The action further represents an imperial recognition of the truth that Britons in far-off lands are "no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens" with Rudyard Kipling and one with him in love and loyalty to the British Empire and the British Flag. The words of Rudyard Kipling are located in their tribute to the valiant dead of Sault Ste. Marie and district. These words are wide as the bounds of the British Empire in their noble meaning of honor and gratitude to those who served and suffered, and of comfort to those who mourn.

"To the glory of God; the honour of armies of the Dominion, and proud memory of our dead who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918, and whose names are here recorded, this monument was erected by the people of Sault Ste. Marie."

"From little towns, in a fair land, we came,
To save our honour and a world a flame;
By little towns, in a far land, we sleep,
And trust those things we won to you to keep."

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NEW SETTLERS ARRIVE

Fourteen new settlers from the Hebrides, fine, strapping men, arrived in Petrolia on Monday night and Tuesday morning. These men are from Stromnoway and are the first from that country to arrive in Petrolia. Mr. Macdonald, local agricultural representative, made them feel at home and placed them as follows: Donald Finlayson with Morley Lawrence, Mandamain; Angus Macdonald with Edwin Shaw, Bridgen; W. C. Smith with R. S. Strangway, Petrolia; Alex McLeod with Walter Fisher, Petrolia; Malcolm McLeod with A. E. Trowbridge, Petrolia; Alex. Nicholson with C. H. Pigott, Bridgen; Allan J. McLeod with J. H. Pigott, Bridgen; M. Kennedy, with Harry McBasin, Bridgen; Angus McDonald, with Oscar Saunders, Petrolia; Kenneth Morrison, with D. Lucas, Watford; Colin McKay, with Clarence Coke, Alvinston; Angus Murray with J. S. Elliott, Inwood; Mirdo McPhail with Ben Milkken, Courtwright, and Jno. McAuley, with Alf. Hillier, Sarnia.

PETROLIA

Petrolia races on June 25 will attract a large crowd. There will be three events all of them hummers. An incipient blaze was discovered about midnight Friday, by E. D. Fletcher, in Jackson's pool room. An alarm was sounded but before the department arrived the fire had been extinguished. The loss was small.

The canning factory is gradually being whipped into shape to take care of the spring pack of peas. Manager Smith has about ten hands at work unloading cans and shipping out goods. Everything will be in readiness in time.

Mr. G. W. Currie has been engaged by the Hydro Commission to manage the local system at a salary of \$200 a month. Mr. Currie succeeds Mr. H. H. Fair, and was manager of the Petrolia system from its inception until about ten months ago when he resigned to go to Peru.

Inspector McCallum was in town this week making arrangements to pave the roadway on the flats between the two bridges. The work will also be extended east as far as the funds for the purpose will permit. This work is being done under the County Good Roads system to which the Town contributes.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Winter and family leave on Tuesday for Montreal where they will sail for England on a three month's holiday. It is Mr. Winter's second trip home since he came to Canada twenty years ago, the last having been made in 1909. Since coming to Petrolia he has been a member of Christ church choir for fourteen years, caretaker of the Bank of Toronto for thirteen years, Secretary of Washington Lodge for eight years and secretary-treasurer of the Sons of England Benefit Society for eleven years. Besides spending his well-earned holiday with his relatives he plans to visit the big British Empire Exhibition at Wembley.

With the large crowd of visitors from Detroit for the holiday the unwelcome and loathsome disease of small pox also put in its appearance when one case was reported to the health officer, Dr. Chas. Dunfield, this morning. Mrs. P. Kelly was stricken while on a visit to her mother, Mrs. B. Tracey. The case is causing no little excitement. Many are applying for vaccination, and every precaution is being taken to keep the disease from spreading.

The Oil for the Farmer. A bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil in the farm house will save many a journey for the doctor. It is not only good for the children when taken with colds and croup, and for the mature who suffer from pains and aches, but there are directions for its use on sick cattle. There should always be a bottle of it in the house.

LAMBTON SUMMER SCHOOL TO BE HELD AT BRIGDEN

Euphemia Religious Education Council met in the Shetland Church Wednesday, May 28. Very helpful and instructive addresses were given by C. E. Flewman, secretary of the Ontario boys' work board; Rev. Mr. Patton, Florence; Rev. P. H. Street-er, Florence, and C. E. Atkin. Inwood.

The officers appointed for next two years were as follows: President, Lorne Elliott, Inwood; vice-president, Joe Cross, Cairo; superintendents children's division, Mrs. B. Fansher, Florence; young people's (girls), (Mrs. Robert Handa; young people's (boys), Rev. P. H. Streetor, Florence; adult division, J. H. Powell, Inwood; home department, Frank Johnston, Florence; missionary department, Mrs. C. Stevens, Inwood; temperance, Mrs. Josiah Cox, Aberfeldy.

The Lambton summer school will be held in Brigden June 30 to July 7. Rev. C. W. DeMille, general superintendent of the O. R. E. C., will be dean of the school. Rev. E. B. Ferris, secretary of the students' Christian movement of the Toronto University, a girl's worker and Mrs. J. J. Eaton will be teachers in the school.

Boy's camp will be held at Blaine's Grove from July 7 to 14.

BOSANQUET COUNCIL

Council met on Monday May 28th. All members present. The reeve was appointed to interview Fred Clark, and if possible, to find out how much he wants for the gravel pit to be expropriated to the township. The following orders were given:—Chas. Sheppard, \$40, for bridges, and \$57 for damages; Henry Fawcett, \$20.00 for a bridge, and \$7 damages; and W. W. Anderson, \$20 for bridge, and \$30 damages, as allowed by the engineer re Wadsworth drain; Geo. Turner, \$20 for bridge, over Shawana drain; Wm. Bryant, \$6.50 printing Elliott-McBryan drain, debentures; \$5.50 printing Coultis drain debentures; \$5.50 printing Broad drain debentures; \$2.75 notices for Sanders for Gray drain extension, and \$2.75 for road notices; W. C. Tudor, \$50 being one half costs of Frank Romphf's funeral expenses; W. H. Trick, \$14.82, for posts for fence, con. 6 and John G. Elliott, \$85 for land taken for repair of Nesbit drain.

Council adjourned to meet on Monday, June 16th at 9 a. m. as a court of Revision on the assessment roll and at 10 a. m. for general business.

Geo. Sutherland, Clerk.

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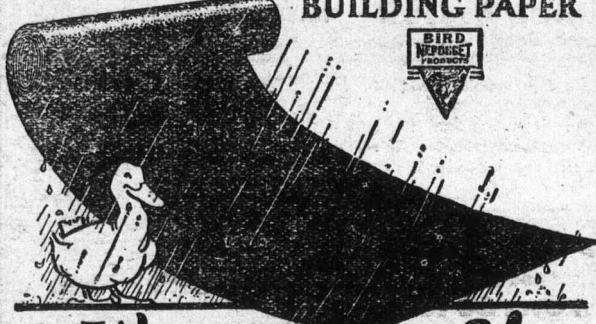
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11