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Maple City Greets Our Minister of Education

HON. DR. PYNE VISITS SCHOOLS

Various Institutions Greet Minister of Education With Ceremonies

Exquisite Function at "The Pines"—Minister Speaks Briefly at Each School

The visit of Ontario's Minister of Education, Hon. Dr. Pyne, to the Maple City educational institutions yesterday afternoon was a memorable and delightful one. The weather was ideal and the attendance at every school testified to the great interest taken in the event.

The visiting party, who travelled



PHIL H. BOWYER, M. P. P.
Who Presented The Planet Junior Silver Medals

in automobiles, was composed of the Minister, the members of the Public School Board, Chairman J. E. Stephens, of the Separate School Board, Chairman Richards, of the C. C. I. Board, S. Stephenson, Dr. J. L. Bray,

time was spent in the kindergarten room, where under the direction of Miss Lily Green the little folks sang charmingly and went through some of their pretty games. Then the whole school assembled in the hall and sang their morning hymn of greeting, after which the Minister addressed them.

"You have a wonderful school," he declared, "and I congratulate your Principal and the capable young ladies who assist him. I can only say now that I am delighted to be present and thank you most sincerely for your very cordial welcome."

SEPARATE SCHOOL.

From the Central school the party travelled to the Separate school, where the Minister was welcomed by Rev. Father James and Sister M. Gertrude, the lady Principal. Here he visited each room and in every one was greeted by an individual and exceedingly happy greeting by the pupils. Hon. Dr. Pyne, P. H. Bowyer, M. P. P., and H. S. Clements, M. P., were seated with Father James in the centre of a horse-shoe of the pupils, where, after a splendid chorus, Master Joe Downey read the Minister an address of welcome.

In response Hon. Dr. Pyne thanked teachers and scholars for the delightful welcome and said he would treasure very happy recollections of his visit to St. Joseph's school.

AT THE C. C. I.

The Collegiate Institute was the next institution visited. With Principal Twohey and Chairman W. G. Richards Hon. Dr. Pyne visited each room, where he was received by the pupils standing. As in the other schools the Minister was introduced to all the staff and chatted with them most interestedly concerning their work.

McKEOUGH SCHOOL.

At McKeeough school Hon. Dr. Pyne was received by the Principal, Miss Esther Abram, and escorted to the assembly hall, where the pupils were gathered en masse and sang magnificently "Rule Britannia."

Master Jack Edmondson then read an appropriate address of welcome to the Minister, while Miss Gladys Slagg presented him with a charming memento made by the scholars. In reply Hon. Dr. Pyne expressed his great pleasure at visiting the school and greeting such a sea of happy young faces. He urged them to follow the example of their good teachers and have high ideals.

A chorus of boys sang the Holy City in splendid style, Master Stuart McKeeough taking the solo part.

THE GREAT CENTRAL SCHOOL FAIR WAS MOST AUSPICIOUSLY OPENED

Minister of Education Presses Mystic Button and Delivers Magnificent Address—Planet Junior Awards Duly Made—Other School Medalists—Something About the Great Educational Exhibit

The spacious upper hall of the Central School presented an animated appearance on the occasion of the opening of the School Fair by the Hon. Dr. Pyne, Minister of Education of the Province of Ontario. Long before the formal opening of the proceedings, a steady stream of visitors passed to and fro through the various class rooms inspecting the neatly arranged exhibits, illustrative of every department of school work.

Shortly after eight o'clock, Chairman Morley conducted the Minister to the platform and the program began. Among those on the platform during the evening were, Ex-Mayor McKeeough, Inspectors Park and Colles, Dr. J. L. Bray, S. Stephenson, P. H. Bowyer, M. P. P., and A. B. McCoig, M. P. P.

Chairman Morley, on behalf of the Board and the staff, extended a very hearty welcome to the parents and citizens generally. In a short and appropriate address, he spoke of the incentive which such gatherings were to the teachers, and to the pride he felt in Chatham and Chatham's schools. In closing, Mr. Morley introduced to the audience the guest of the evening, the Hon. Dr. Pyne, who in a very happy speech declared the Fair open.

The Minister, in his opening remarks, paid a tribute to the hospitality of Chatham, as shown in the hearty reception accorded him, not only in his official capacity on the present occasion, but also formerly in his private capacity when, as a guest of his friend, Dr. J. L. Bray, he had visited the city. On that occasion, said Dr. Pyne, the worthy doctor had saved his life, by recommending that he should leave lest the effects of extended hospitality should become too marked. The Minister grew reminiscent, too, in speaking of his visit as one of a visiting team in a series of cricket matches arranged by the local club.



HON. ROBERT ALLEN PYNE, M. D., L. L. D., M. P. P.
Minister of Education who Opened the Fair and Presented The Planet Junior Gold Medal

following. As he raced along a field a rabbit jumped in his way. "Get out of my way," said he; "let some one run that can!"

The Minister declared he would now make way for the rest of the speakers of the evening. In closing, Dr. Pyne again thanked the people for their cordial reception, and, touching the imaginary button, declared the Fair open.

At the conclusion of his speech the following address was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Pyne, by Miss Laura Allen and Blake McCoig, while a beautiful bouquet was presented by little Miss Jessie Green, both being suitably acknowledged:—

To Hon. R. A. Pyne, M. D., LL. D., Minister of Education:

Honorable and Dear Sir: The thousand pupils and teachers of the Central School extend, to you and to Mrs. Pyne, a most hearty welcome to their school and its Fair, and wish to express to you their gratitude for your kindness in leaving your many duties to spend an evening for their special pleasure.

From your observations in the different exhibits, we hope you may discern an attempt to accomplish the scope of work prescribed in the new course of study. We also hope that our efforts will meet with some measure of your approval.

The Public School Board have provided for us a comfortable and beautiful school house. Some additions and improvements are now under way which will make it among the largest and finest in our fair Province. We regret that these improvements are not quite completed, so that your presence might mark their opening to the public as was expected.

We trust that this visit will prove pleasant for Mrs. Pyne and yourself, and we assure you that it will be cherished by us as a happy memory. Signed on behalf of the school.

J. W. FLEWES, Principal.
I. M. HILLMAN, Vice-Principal.
LILY GREEN, Kindergarten Director.
E. TACKABERRY, Staff Secretary.

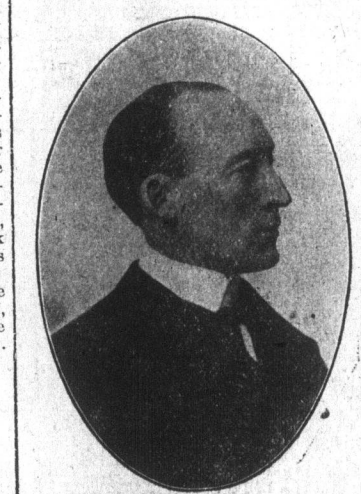
The male quartette, composed of Messrs. Angus, Smith, Smith and Wilson, gave a delightful rendering of Tenyson's "Sweet and Low," which was enthusiastically received. The quartette then favored the audience with a comic selection, "Make a Press Over Me," which was much enjoyed.

BANQUET TO THE MINISTER

Chatham Medical Association Tender Function to Minister

Splendid Toast List and Menu Provided—Some Spirited Addresses Delivered

The banquet tendered by the Chatham Medical Society to Hon. Dr. Pyne at Hotel Santa last evening was a most fitting close to a very busy day for the Hon. Minister of Education. It was a grand climax to the large number of enthusiastic receptions tendered him in the Maple City and will no doubt live in the memory of the honorable gentleman.



ARCH. B. McCOIG, M. P. P.
Who Presented the Central School Medals

as one of the most pleasant incidents of his first official visit to Chatham. There were seated around the festive board the following gentlemen: Hon. R. A. Pyne, M. D., LL. D.; H.

MINISTER'S HOLIDAY

The Minister of Education, Hon. Dr. Pyne, with the kind consent of Chairman Richards, of the C. C. I. Board, Chairman Morley, of the Public School Board, and Chairman Stephens, of the Separate School Board, has declared Friday next a holiday for all city schools, to commemorate his very pleasant visit with them.

Mr. Morley happily suggests that the Minister's holiday be known as "Pyne Day".

The Minister selected Friday by reason of the fact that county pupils who go home for Thanksgiving will be enabled to take the holiday at greater convenience.

Fred. Stone, Dr. Thornton, Principal W. J. Twohey, Matthew Wilson, K. C., Dr. Charteris and others.

CENTRAL SCHOOL.

A start was made after luncheon at two o'clock, the Central school being first visited. Here a short



J. W. FLEWES
The Energetic and Able Principal of the Central School

Stuart is a most promising singer.

AT THE PINES.

At the Ursuline Academy a most elegant and elaborate ovation awaited the Minister and party. After a short reception held in the parlors the guests were escorted to the music room, where the following excellent program was rendered by the pupils of the Academy:

1st piano, Miss G. Carnovsky
2nd piano, Miss E. Hall.
Salutatory..... "Garia"
Miss Edith Peck.
Vocal solo..... "Garia"
Miss Gavin.
Valse de concert..... "Wieniaski"
Miss Anna L. Carson, A. T. C. M.
October Leaves..... "Minims."
Valse..... "Sanela"
Violins, Misses A. Crotty, L. Ma-
ther and E. Watts.
Harp, Miss K. Collins.
Piano, Miss K. Joll.

After the Salutatory, which was gotten up most elaborately and excellently read by Miss Peck, both Hon. Dr. Pyne and Mrs. Pyne were presented with gifts from the pupils. The presentation to the Minister was made by two little girls, Matilda Mulvey, daughter of Thomas Mulvey, K. C., Assistant Provincial Secretary, Toronto, and Miss Norma Hayes, daughter of Fred. B. Hayes, of Toronto. The presentation to

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THE CENTRAL SCHOOL AND ITS THOUSAND

The names of Wells, Bell, Bray, Atkinson and Horstead, occurred to his mind as among those who sent him fielding in the vicinity of the Detroit River.

In talking of his visit to the schools during the day, the Minister referred to his experiences on the Public and High School Boards of the City of Toronto. By comparison, said he, the schools of Chatham suffered none with the schools of that city. He was pleased to note everywhere beautiful buildings and decoration. The same difficulties that the High School Board in Toronto were experiencing, confronted the local Board—lack of sufficient accommodation to meet the requirements of the masses who were clamoring for higher education. He was pleased to note, too, by the reports that the schools of Kent stood in the front rank among the schools of the Province.

In speaking of the policy of the Government, the Minister referred to the legislation of last session in connection with the Provincial University, and promised that the same and even fuller attention would be devoted to the other branches of the service. Soon after my accession to office, said he, I received within two weeks about five thousand letters advising me what should be done to improve the existing system, ample proof that, although our system is a good one there are chances for betterment.

Your schools in Chatham, he said,

are about as perfect as they can be made under present conditions. The future of the schools of the Province depend, not so much on text books as in the vital forces—the forces of mind and heart—exerted by



LAURENCE THORNTON
Gold Medalist of the Central School

the teacher. Any improvement that could be made, looking towards the more perfect freedom of the teacher and the abolition of endless minutiae in regulations would be welcomed by the Province. The Minister was not disposed to be destructive in his criticism, but in his own way touched out will tend to make the wheels in our educational machinery run more smoothly and more effectively.

An important reference was made by Dr. Pyne to the proposal of the department to endow a Chair of Forestry in the University of Toronto, along the lines followed in Germany and other continental countries, with a view to the conservation of our vast forest resources. The Minister spoke of the splendid outlook in New Ontario, of its boundless possibilities—a heritage unequalled on this earth.

Speaking more particularly to the pupils of the schools, the Hon. Doctor very fittingly referred to the centenary of Lord Nelson, and drew from his well-known maxim advice to guide the youth of the present day. Remembering that maxim, said he, you will some day look back, too, upon a bright and glorious past.

The Doctor closed, as he began, in a humorous vein, relating the story of the colored man in the melon patch. Just as the colored man had lifted a particularly choice melon a crack of the gun was heard. The negro fled, with his pursuer closely

PLANET JUNIOR AWARDS

The awards in the THE PLANET'S Junior Essay Competition, which formed so prominent a part of the Minister of Education's visit were duly made last evening by Hon. Dr. Pyne, P. H. Bowyer, M. P. P., and Ex-Mayor W. E. McKeeough, who kindly presided for this function.

A special souvenir illustrated number of THE PLANET JUNIOR is being issued containing the addresses of these gentlemen and the prize essays. A full account of the presentation of THE PLANET'S awards is rendered for this issue.

The presentation of the Central School medals was then made by Messrs. A. B. McCoig, M. P. P., and P. H. Bowyer, M. P. P.

The A. H. VonGuten medal, for highest standing at H. S. Entrance Exam., to Laurence Thornton; the Dr. Cornell medal, for highest standing in Seventh Grade, to Percy Scott, and the Mrs. W. A. Hadley medal, for highest standing in Sixth Grade, to Kate Millward, were presented by A. B. McCoig.

He was more than pleased to have the honor of presenting these medals and thereby taking part in the big Central School Fair. He was very much pleased with the Minister's address. He felt there would be more in it than mere words and that the Public School of Chatham would be much benefited by his legislation. He was sure Hon. Dr. Pyne would keep the schools going forward. He congratulated Mr. Flewes and his able staff of assistants on their excellent fair. He would like to see it made a county affair to allow the pupils from the rural districts to participate in it.

He remembered attending the old Central School under W. H. G. Colles, when such men as Arthur Stringer and Mr. Shadd were in attendance. These men had now made their mark in the world, as have other old pupils. The rural district of Kent has also contributed their great men, among whom is Ed. Oliver, now

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S. Clements, M. P. P., A. B. McCoig, M. P. P., P. H. Bowyer, M. P. P., Public School Inspectors Rev. W. H. G. Colles and Robert Park, W. G. Richards, chairman of the C. C. I. Board; W. N. Morley, chairman of the Public School Board; John Stevens, chairman of the Separate School

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MISS I. M. HILLMAN
The Accomplished and Efficient Vice-Principal of the Central School