

THOUGHTS BY THE WAY
The Old-Fashioned Camp Meeting

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

The plan for a camp-meeting recently arranged for by the Bay of Quinte Conference and which is now being held at Oak Lake, has come as a surprise to many of our staid Methodists, who are inclined to think that it savors too much of pioneer days. Those who have become almost High Church in their love for formality and ceremonial, are inclined to consider this return to an old-time custom an inclination to the wild and barbarous. But there are others who rejoice in the return of the custom of the good old days and many of the thoughtful younger generation see in the present camp-meeting the fulfillment of a long-felt want and hope the re-awakening of Methodism to a fuller and more powerful spiritual life.

MELVILLE

Again 'tis summer! Above, an arch of blue; Below, a world of grass and grain and flower. Presents to all a most enchanting view And fills with brightness every passing hour.

MELVILLE

Miss Luella Young returned home on Sunday after spending a fortnight with friends at Halston. At the recent Entrance Examination the six candidates from the Melville school were successful: namely, George Young, Albert Morton, Myrtle Weeks, Clifford Carley, Ernest Chase and Harry Chase. George Young obtained first-class honors and the Hillier Township medal; Albert Morton also obtained first-class honors and Myrtle Weeks second-class honors. We extend cordial congratulations to teacher and pupils in the successful result of the year's work.

his prostrate form. Fortunately, no serious injury resulted. Mr. and Mrs. H. Huyck, North Lakeside, with Mr. and Mrs. R. Clark, Warkworth, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. Weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Chase and family attended the funeral of the late Mr. Russell Chase, Wellington, on Tuesday. Mr. Harry Wycott, Salem, with Miss Nora Carrnike, Trenton, and Miss Lorena Maybee, North Lakeside, were guests of Mr. Claude Weeks on Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. Smith, Wellington, with Mr. and Mrs. Beecroft, Ingersoll, are camping at Coneseon Lake and enjoying the fishing.

Mr. Clayton French has launched his motor-boat. Albert Morton is enjoying his new row-boat. Several of our young people enjoyed the strawberry social at Albury Wednesday evening.

TWEED

Masters Finlay and Cecil Roy, of Trenton, are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher. Messrs. Harry Tuttle, of Montreal, and Ross Tuttle, of New York, are visiting their mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Clapp and daughter, Marguerite, of Minot, North Dakota, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Clapp. They made the trip, 1,900 miles, by auto, visiting at a number of cities enroute. Mr. David W. Clapp, of Grand Rapids, Mich., is also visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Clapp. This is the first time in 11 years that Clarence and David have had the pleasure of seeing each other.

PICTON

Mr. George Miller of Hastings, came to Pictou by auto on Sunday and is spending the week with relatives and friends.

Mrs. George McCaw and little daughter, Irene, of Trenton, are visiting at the home of Mr. Chas. McCaw.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Vandervoort, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Maybee and Sonny have gone to Baptiste lake to camp. Mrs. E. C. Tutts and children, together with her sister, Mrs. J. Jackson, Jr., and children, are spending the summer months at Campbell's Point, New York.

Miss Lela Weir spent her holidays with Norwood relatives. Miss Lizette Reid left on Tuesday to take a position in Belleville.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Beel, of Toronto, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hamby, at "Thornhill."

Private Lindley Calnan, of the Canadian Officers' Training Corps, Toronto, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Calnan.

Mr. E. M. Biggs has been appointed to the position of principal of the Cannington High School. Mr. Biggs is during the holidays inspecting munitions at one of Toronto's largest plants.

Miss Brown, of New York, was the much appreciated soloist in St. Gregory's church last Sunday.

Mr. C. B. Beamish gave a small bridge party at his home, East Main street, on Monday afternoon, in honor of Mrs. Jack Christian, of Edmonton and Miss Moodie, of Toronto, who are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Moodie.

Mr. Robert Davison, with Mrs. Davison is spending his holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, at Adolphustown. Mr. and Mrs. Alan Christie and baby, and Miss Ruth Davison, motored to Montreal last week.

A quiet wedding took place on Wednesday afternoon, July 18th, at the home of Mr. Bruce McDonald, East Lake, when Mr. Wm. A. Johnson, of Pictou, was married to Mrs. Hattie Louise, also of Pictou.

Mr. Daniel A. Howe, a prominent yeoman of Ameliasburg Township, passed away Wednesday evening, July 18th. Deceased who was in his 67th year, was born in Ameliasburg, where he resided all his life.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Fox, of the Fraser River District, British Columbia, arrived here on Friday to spend the summer with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mearns, Roslin. Mr. and Mrs. Fox formerly lived at Roslin, being married there about three years ago and leaving there for the West. Mr. Fox says the conditions are very fair out West and they have had much the same kind of spring we have. The crops especially the fruit crop, are good; but he said they are not so good in Southern Alberta.

Mr. and Mrs. Murney-Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McCaw, spent Sunday in Sulphide.

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The garden party given under the auspices of St. James' Church Women's Guild, on Wednesday evening, was a decidedly successful event. Mr. Hammett's lawn proved an ideal spot and was none too large to accommodate the throng that gathered from the district all around.

A horse driven by some Hillier boys became frightened at an automobile, as the boys were returning from an outing at Coneseon Lake. One of the occupants of the buggy, Master F. Rupert, was thrown to the ground and two wheels passed over

SPIRITUAL EXHAUSTION OF GERMAN MASSES

Spiritual exhaustion of the masses is, in my judgement, the gravest problem before the German leaders today. There is no doubt that the majority of the people is woefully fatigued. Their patriotism has lost its fervor, its eagerness. The great body of the wage-earners sees no end of its privations and sufferings. Ruin, decay, want and sadness oppress one on every hand. War has turned one of the happiest, brightest, busiest lands into a misery-drenched night mare. The resulting exhaustion of spirit is a cancer gnawing at the strength of Germany's war machine. It sends its impulses from the ranks of the suffering poor to drag the energies of the whole nation. Its progress can only be stopped by lightening the gruelling pressure that the working people have been called upon to bear.

A. Curtis Roth, American Vice-Consul at Plauen, Saxony, thus sums up that which he holds to be the most important phase of Germany's situation. By reason of his wide acquaintance and long residence among the Germans, he has been a privileged observer since the beginning of the war. Counting his friends among all classes of the people, he has been freely admitted to share their sentiments, their hopes, their opinions.

"UTTERLY WEARY OF WAR." "Germans of all classes are utterly weary of war. The working people are becoming rebellious towards the conditions of their sufferings. Once the present struggle is ended, in my opinion, it will be impossible to move the people who remember the horrors of the past few years, to take up arms again. They will make short work of their war agitators in the future as long as the appalling memories of wholesale death and maiming, of ugly famine, of drudgery of tender women and children, and of the uncanny silences of factories and mines remain with them.

"Germany went to war as though nerves are good; but the continual living in the midst of this barren life of tears, of hunger and decay, almost drove me frantic. "I cannot imagine that life upon the firing line can be as trying as life among the dumb, suffering, waiting, helpless people back home. To relieve the strain I spent a brief vacation in England. There the air I breathed was different. The resolution of the people there was buoyant, hopeful and cheery. The contrast was one of black and white. It was soul healing."

"All this confident, exuberant spirit is gone now. The change came when the wounded and the men on furlough brought back the news of the debacle on the Marne. The change from enthusiasm to depression was accelerated by the unfavorable neutral opinion, by the startling casualty lists and by the shutting down of numerous mills and factories dependent on export trade. The numbing monotony of a growing hunger completed the change.

"Now the spirit of the people in general is of weary resignation. The spirit of the laboring people however who have borne almost to the limits of their endurance, is becoming one of sullen protest. The home atmosphere reacts upon the soldier back on leave. In the beginning, they hurried eagerly from their homes to do their duty in the field. Now they go with dread, with reluctance, with foreboding. The faces in the ranks marching out to entrain today are downcast or expressionless. The wreaths around accoutrements are missing; the songs are missing; the uniforms are frayed and patched. And beside these sombre columns, stream wet eyed, fearful women and children, choking over lost farewells to a husband, father or son. It is not a pretty sight.

"Ruin, misery, privation, stares one out of countenance everywhere in Saxony. Even upon the spectator apart the atmosphere weighs like a leaden thing. What makes this atmosphere? Streets filled with white-faced, hollow-eyed, brooding women in black with piteous, hunger-pinched, sightless, armless, livid, scarred war cripples, mirthless, silence where formerly all was life; deserted stores and roadbeds free of traffic, empty factories, drawn blinds, the dry sobbing of the newly widowed, set faces, fearful faces, vacant faces.

"Even the intensely patriotic well-to-do are filled with dread before an approaching financial chaos. I have listened to many appreciative discussions as to how the staggering war costs are to be borne and the frightful economic wounds healed. Today every semblance of a luxury remains to the nation bears its war tax.

"The tax collector is bringing into the coffers of state every penny that a bloodless land can spare. I believe the government will be forced to take the war tax without interest and that the people will content themselves with the repayment of the principal. War business is not a profitable business, at least, not so far as Saxony is concerned. It has brought about a stagnation of industry, a marked diminishing of the land's income and the piling up of an enormous debt. All building and construction work has been at a complete standstill for more than a year. Even much of the necessary repair work is neglected. War industries boom and throb, but the life giving industries of peace are wasting. The great business in my district today is that of charity, a ceaseless outpouring of pitances in a vain endeavor to staunch an ocean of misery that threatens to overwhelm the land.

"SOLDIER MATERIAL SCARCE. "Soldier material is becoming very scarce. The young men are gone. The married men are gone. The fathers of families are gone. The physically fit men, who at first were passed by the military authorities on account of being needed in their civilian employment, have by now practically all been replaced by wives, daughters, old men and prisoners. Bureaus of city, country and State government were slowly taken over by women and the male clerks, messengers and petty officials thus freed were hurried to the inauspicious battle fronts. The police have been replaced by old men. Boys and young girls clean the streets and collect the dirt. Women drive post wagons and the street cars. Russian prisoners repair the roads and farm the fields. The manhood of Germany has but one task that of fighting and dying.

"I am not imaginative and my nerves are good; but the continual living in the midst of this barren life of tears, of hunger and decay, almost drove me frantic. "I cannot imagine that life upon the firing line can be as trying as life among the dumb, suffering, waiting, helpless people back home. To relieve the strain I spent a brief vacation in England. There the air I breathed was different. The resolution of the people there was buoyant, hopeful and cheery. The contrast was one of black and white. It was soul healing."

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