

Interesting Items

Mr. George Stinson, Brockville is a guest of friends in Athens.

Born, on October 27, to Mr. and Mrs. Watts, Elgin street, a son.

Mr. George Tackaberry is reported to be very ill.

Mrs. Jane Hanna is ill at the home of her niece, Mrs. Brayman.

Mr. R. J. Campo recently made a trip to Smith's Falls.

Mrs. Clayton Wiltse spent a few days with Philipville friends.

Mr. George Howard of Elgin was a visitor in Brockville this week.

Mr. Claude Coon, student at the O.A.C., Guelph, was a guest of his parents here last week.

Miss M. Johnston, Brockville, who has been visiting her brother, Mr. David Johnston for the past week, has returned to her home.

Messrs. Jno. Scott, Lawrence Botsford, and Ernest Chivers are home from the West.

Mr. Everett Latimer who has been on government survey work has returned to his home here.

Mrs. George Ferguson was called to Montreal last week by the death of her mother.

Mr. Claude Moulton and family, Plum Hollow, are taking up residence in Mrs. Sarah Lillie's house on Wellington street.

After making cheese at Sand Bay last season, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Brown have returned to their home on Wiltse street.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Lee and family have moved from their residence at the foot of Mill street, to the house of the late Mrs. Brown, Reid street.

Rev. Wm. Usher preached to the Orange Order at Toledo on Sunday. There was no service in the church here because of the Baptist anniversary.

Mrs. George Brown, of Athens, who was recently bereaved of her husband by death, is taking up residence for the time being in Brockville, with her son, Mr. Harmonious Brown.

Brockville Recorder: Mrs. Susan Patience, Lansdowne, announces the engagement of her daughter, Anna Elizabeth, to Michael John Hogan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hogan, Kingston Mills.

Tools Stolen. A number of motorists who attended the L.O.L. dance at Toledo last week, returned to Athens with the complaint that tools had been stolen from their cars. The total loss of several cars amounted to a considerable sum of money. The fact that some of the lights had been turned out is a slight indication of a joke; but as the tools remain stolen, there appears to be little ground for the supposition. The Athens orchestra supplied music for the dance which was a gratifying success.

Epworth League Rally Service. The annual rally service of the Epworth League was held in the vestry of the Methodist church Monday evening. The topic, "Greater Production," was discussed by the president and the various vice-presidents. Music from the new Canadian Hymnal added brightness to the service.

DEATH OF MRS. MULVAUGH. The death took place on Sunday November 11, of Mrs. Mary Mulvaugh at the advanced age of 94. She had been an invalid for a long time but till the last her brain was wonderfully clear. She was Mary Clayton before her marriage to the late Mr. Wm. Mulvaugh, and was born at Cardinal, the daughter of Mr. William Clayton.

She leaves to mourn her loss two sons and four daughters: Mrs. Yerlston, New York state; Mrs. H. Briginshaw, Toledo; Miss Addie, Athens; Mrs. L. Green, Toronto; Mr. H. C. Mulvaugh, Lansdowne; Mr. Robert Mulvaugh, Caintown.

The funeral took place on Tuesday from the residence to Christ's church, where service was conducted by Rev. Rural Dean Swayne. Interment was made at the Hanton Cemetery, Frankville.

The pall-bearers were: H. H. Arnold, R. J. Seymour, T. Pritchard, Wm. Doolan, Alex. Morrison, Jos. Coad.

Among relatives from a distance were: Mr. Wm. Looby, Mr. Soper, Frankville; Mr. and Mrs. George Briggs, Brockville; Miss Annie Hutcheson.

Greatly Acknowledged. Collections for the British Red Cross are gratefully acknowledged as below by Mr. R. G. Harvey, as district treasurer: School Section No. 1 Washburn's, \$7.00; No. 2 Soper-ton, \$36.50; No. 4, Lyndhurst, \$128.00; No. 5 Long Point, \$11.00; No. 6, Sweets' Corners, \$36.50; and No. 14 Short Point, \$13.00—Total \$374.00.

Keith McLaughlin Carrying On. The Corp. Keith McLaughlin writing from somewhere in France on October 14 to Athens relatives, says: "Everything is going O.K. here, although weather is sometimes unfavorable. Everyone is looking forward to an early finish of the war, so have every hope of being with you at this time next year."

Joins the Flying Corps. Word has been received here that Mr. Kenneth Rappell, formerly of Athens, who has been in the West homesteading and studying law, has entered the Royal Flying Corps.

DANGEROUS EYE STRAIN. It Has Many Symptoms and May Affect the Whole System.

Chief among the symptoms of eye strain are watering of the eye, a gluing together of the eyelids on awakening in the morning, headache, the position and character of which vary with each individual. It may be neuralgic or it may be deeply seated.

The headache is often replaced by an inflammation of the eyelids, especially in young and healthy persons, who also have a little conjunctivitis, with a feeling of tension or fullness in the eyes which may become real pain of a dull aching character, the eyeballs being very tender on pressure.

Sometimes there are vertigo and sickness, with dyspepsia, palpitation and even difficulty in breathing. Sleeplessness is a very frequent symptom, due in part to the excessive flow of blood to the brain and in part to the low tone of the whole nervous system.

The symptoms of eye strain appear sooner in those who lead a confined and sedentary life, who follow occupations which need a constant use of the eyes in bad or unsuitable light and in those who are debilitated from any cause. The symptoms appear later in those of coarser fiber, who pass much of their time in the open air or who follow occupations which do not need a prolonged use of the eyes for close work.—London Lancet.

PARADISE OF ARTISTS. Story of a Curious Incident That Happened in Japan.

William M. Chase, the American artist, used to tell in the course of a lecture on Japan the following story of an incident in which he figured in that oriental paradise of artists:

I was standing on a railway platform in Japan, waiting for a train and willing away my time by watching a particularly beautiful sunset.

Suddenly a freight train pulled in and, stopping in front of me, cut off my view. Being a good American and trained in a very proper respect for "business," I merely turned philosophically away and proceeded to look at something else. In a moment, however, the station master appeared at my side and inquired with the politest of bows if I had been enjoying the sunset.

I admitted that I had and smilingly accepted his apology for the intrusion of the train. Of course I recognized that trains were the first consideration in stations, I said.

Imagine my surprise, then, when the little Japanese shook his head firmly. "But no," he said, bowing even more deeply than before; "the train must not be allowed to obstruct the honorable artistic traveler's honorable aesthetic enjoyment"—or words to that effect. "I will cause it to withdraw."

And he actually did precisely that—Exchange.

Hay In Church. A curious custom has been observed from time immemorial at Old Weston, Huntingdonshire, in England. The church there is dedicated to St. Swithin, and on the Sunday most nearly approaching St. Swithin's day the edifice is strewn with new mown hay.

The tradition is that an old lady bequeathed a field for charitable purposes on condition that the tenant provided the hay to lessen the annoyance caused by the squeaking of the new shoes worn by the villagers on Feast Sunday. There are other explanations—one that it is an offering of the first fruits of the hay harvest, and another that it is a survival of the custom of strewing the church (when the floor was only beaten earth) with rushes.

An Odd Offence. In a midland England town a number of persons were fined for striking matches in the streets on the night of an air raid. The offence may appear to be a trivial one on the face of it, but it is really not so. In a recent series of visibility tests with certain kinds of light it was noted that on a dark night the light of an ordinary match was easily visible at a distance of a mile. Hostile aircraft do not, as a rule, fly at as low an altitude as a mile, and on the basis of the test just noted the striking of a single match would be without import. But according to the evidence of a police superintendent, although the street lamps were all extinguished during the raid, there was almost as much light as though they had been lit, owing to people striking matches to light pipes and cigarettes.

END OF A DYNASTY

The Rise and Fall of the Russian House of Romanoff.

FROM THE LION TO THE LAMB.

A Line of Czars, Mad, Bad, Liberal or Despotic, but All Stropp and Daring, That Died When Nicholas II, Weak and Timid, Was Flung Aside.

When the house of Romanoff fell with the abdication of Nicholas II, the czar of Russia, there came to an end one of the most extraordinary dynasties in the history of the world, a dynasty that took a stretch of tundra and steppe and turned it into an empire flung across two continents and occupying one-sixth of the land space of the world. It was the hereditary line that produced Peter the Great and the remarkable Catherine and many other virile and vigorous characters, cruel, yet efficient; wanton, yet successful.

Probably no dynasty in Europe produced so many strong figures as the house of Romanoff. Yet when it fell it was not due so much to the wrath of downtrodden, betrayed people as to the inherent weakness and shrinking meekness of the czar.

Imagine Peter or Ivan the Terrible or even Alexander of recent memory speaking as Nicholas did when informed that an outbreak had occurred in Petrograd:

"Let it be so. Thank God. I will abdicate if that is what the people want. I will go to Livadia (the imperial estate in Crimea), to my gardens, if the people want. I am so fond of flowers."

While the first Romanoff to rule over Russia was not crowned until 1613, the family had become one of influence in Muscovy in the thirteenth century. At that time Ivan Divinovich held an important post at the court of the grand duke of Moscow. A daughter of Roman, sixth in descent from Ivan, married Ivan the Terrible, whose chief amusement was to watch people dying between courses at his banquets. Roman's successors called themselves Romanoffs.

The old Tartar dynasty in Russia came to an end in 1698. During the next few years half a dozen pretenders ravaged the country. The Swedes cut in on the north and the Poles on the west. Then the common folk and gentry of Russia met in a convention at Moscow and elected Michael Romanoff czar of the Russias. It is a peculiar coincidence that an assembly of the people chose the first of the Romanoffs and deposed the last of them.

There followed a line of mad czars, bad czars, liberal czars, reactionary czars, Peters, Catherines, Elizabeths and Alexanders, all men and women of virility and strength of mind regardless of their other failings. They ruled by force of personal strength.

This is the descent of the recently deposed Czar Nicholas—a lamb foaled in a nest of tigers and lionesses. Count Paul Vassill, who spent twoscore years at the court of Petrograd and who had an intimate view of three czars, in his personal memoirs, composed shortly before his death a few years ago, had this to say of Nicholas:

"Nicholas II. is one of those timid, weak natures which nevertheless like to assert themselves at certain moments in matters utterly without importance, but which to their eyes appear to be vital ones. His mind is as small as his person. He sees the biggest events go by without being touched or being even aware of their great or tragic sides."

"He likes to be feared, but he cannot inspire respect, much less awe. He feels this, and, not knowing how to fight against this lack of consideration of his person, he becomes savage in his wrath and, though in appearance a quiet, inoffensive little man, is capable of the utmost cruelty and hardness."

"When the news was brought to him of the terrible disaster at Tsushima, which cost Russia the greater part of her navy, the czar was playing tennis in the park of Tsarskoe Selo. He read the telegram that sounded the death-knell of so many hopes and then quietly resumed the game."

"When he found himself confronted with the revolution of 1905 it never occurred to him that he might avert it by putting his own person forward. On that dreadful day in January which ended in such bloodshed he never for a moment remembered the proud attitude of his ancestor, that other Nicholas who on an almost similar occasion came out of the palace and confronted the angry crowd, forcing the multitude by his mere presence to fall to their knees and submit."

"The only thought of the czar was to flee from danger and leave to others the task of smothering the revolution in blood."

An incident reported in 1916 gives an insight to the physical courage of the ex-czar, or, rather, the lack of it. The account at the time said:

"The emperor was reviewing the troops of General Brussloff on the Bukovina front when an Austrian flier appeared overhead and dropped bombs some distance from the czar. Nicholas entirely lost his self-possession. In consequence General Brussloff was bitterly reproached and General Ivanoff was put in command over him."

Nicholas II. ascended the Russian throne in 1894 and had therefore been czar of all the Russias for twenty-three years when his reign and the dynasty of the Romanoffs came to their sudden end.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

LEEDS FARMERS PLOW FOR PRIZES

Land Thoroughly Soaked after Rains But Some Good Plowing in Competitions.

The Leeds County Plowing Match was held on the farm of Thomas Howarth just north of the village, on Friday last. For various reasons the attendance was not as large as last year; but the match proved conclusively that plowing is more of a science than the ordinary individual thinks. A demonstration of tractors had been arranged, but failed to materialize. Below is a list of the prize winners:

Class 1.
1st—J. Chant (Best opening)
2nd—R. Cross (Best Finish.)
3rd—W. Sheffield.

Class 2.
1st—Nelson Cross (Best Finish, best opening).
2nd—Wm. Justice.

Class 3.
1st—Chas. Pattemore (best opening).
2nd—Alton Shaw (best finish).

Class 4.
1st—Warren Henderson (best opening, best finish).
Class 5.
1st—Walter Finlon (best opening, best finish).
2nd—C. Crummy.

Specials.
Outfit—1st, W. Henderson, 2nd, N. Cross, 3rd, E. Shaw.
The Judge was Mr. D. D. Gray, Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Rev. C. G. Confort is spending a few days north on a deer-hunting trip.

The many friends of Mrs. L. Munroe will be sorry to learn that she is in ill health.

Word was received by his parents state that Mortie Barber and Bennie Yates are still in English hospitals and progressing slowly toward recovery.

Potatoes are selling in this vicinity for one dollar a bushel.

Lambs are being bought at the sale of 14 1/2 cents a pound and some farmers are making more easy money from their sheep than sows. One farmer sold from ten ewes in wool and lambs over \$300 worth.

Surrogate Court.

Administration of the property of Robert Atcheson, Westport, has been granted to Annie Elizabeth McGuire, of the same place. W. M. Ewart, solicitor.

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FRANK J. CHENEY.
Sworn before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1908.
A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by all Druggists, 75c.
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A large quantity of slabs and fire-wood.

F. Blancher

ATHENS

Auction Sale!

Of Purebred and Grade Holstein Cattle

Having purchased the entire herd from Harvey Kilborn of Plum Hollow, I will sell by public auction at my residence at

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8 purebred cows, 20 grade cows, 4 yearling heifers, 10 two-year-old heifers coming in, 11 calves, 1 purebred yearling bull; also 1 pair matched Percheron colts, 2 work horses and one rubber-tired buggy.

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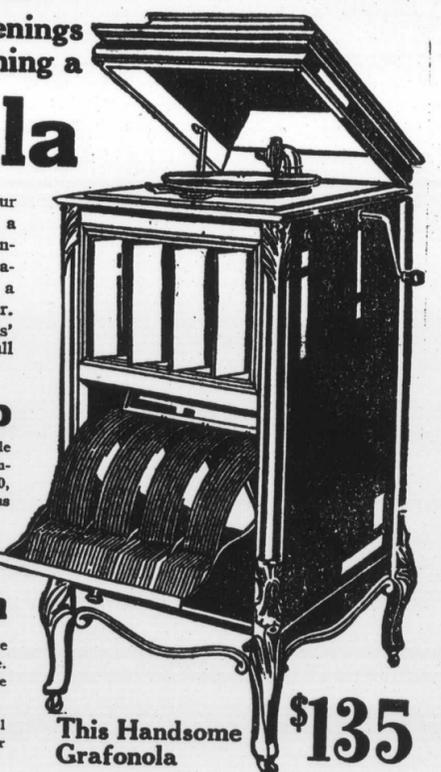
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