

The Athens Reporter

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AVIATOR DID NOT FALL 6,000 FEET

Lieut. H. A. Coon, son of Dr. Coon Brock street, Kingston arrived home last week from New York and was quite surprised to learn of the New York story stating that he had fallen 6,000 feet while unconscious. Lieut. Coon explains that along with him on the boat was an aviator from the Royal Flying Corps, and thinks that the reporters must have confused the names, giving Lieut. Coon credit for the interview which the other man gave. Lieut. Coon has been in the air service for some time and met with a slight accident. His heart was also affected by the high altitude, but aside from that he is feeling tip top and expects to return to England when his two months' leave expires.

Lieut. Coon attended High School in Athens, and the story of his fall from the clouds created much interest among his friends here to whom he is familiarly known as "Gus." The New York story reads thus: "Among the passengers who arrived yesterday on a British passenger steamship was Lieutenant H. A. Coon, of the Royal Naval Flying Corps, who fell 6,000 feet in an airplane over the British lines in France and lived to tell the tale. His home is in Kingston, Ontario, and he is twenty-five years old."

"Lieutenant Coon left Canada a year and a half ago, and for the better part of that time saw seaplane service over the North Sea. Early this year he was sent to France, and on March 15 the big event of his life took place. During a heavy gale, the young officer found himself alone 6,000 feet in mid air. His machine did not carry an observer. He had been up ten hours, he said, and became exhausted. He lost consciousness, and when he came to his senses he found himself in a base hospital with a crushed leg. Surgeons gave him a careful examination, but were unable to find any other injuries.

"The examination of the wrecked airplane gave no clue to the cause of the accident. But the doctors expressed the opinion that Coon's heart gave out, with the result that he lost control of the airplane.

"Observers told the Lieutenant that they had seen his machine suddenly drop out of the storm cloud. The aeroplane landed with a crash, but to the surprise of the rescuers, Coon was found alive beneath the wreckage. He now uses crutches, but intends to return to the front when his leg gets better."

LIEUT. MACKIE, R. A. M. C., WOUNDED AT FRONT

Word has been received that Lieut. W. James Mackie, R. A. M. C. had been wounded on May 8, and is confined to a London hospital.

Lieut. Mackie, who is a native of Athens, was for two years assistant physician at the Eastern Hospital Brockville. During his period of office at that institution he became very popular with officials and employees and deep concern is felt over his misfortune.

Shortly after the outbreak of war he resigned and went to Toronto, where he married Miss Nellie Whelan, formerly head nurse at the Eastern Hospital. Shortly after being married, he went overseas, and Mrs. Mackie returned to Brockville where she is still residing. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mackie, resides here.

AMERICAN YACHTS FOR THE NAVY

Several thousand island yachts and fast motor boats are being shipped to New York, where they will be put into the mosquito fleet service as submarine chasers.

Commodore Greene, owner of a summer home at Watch Island, has offered two boats to the government and the offer has been accepted. One of the boats, a small speed motor boat, the Highball, has already been shipped to New York. The other is a pleasure yacht, the Verdi, which is now being prepared for transportation.

The boat will make the trip under its own power up the St. Lawrence river to Oswego and through the Oswego and Erie canals to the Hudson and down the Hudson to New York. It will be in charge of Capt. Aldridge Kendall.

A number of other summer visitors at the islands have offered their boats to the government and are preparing them for transportation to New York or Boston as desired.

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" was played in the Town Hall Friday night to a fairly large house. The company is American, and Athens was the first of its Canadian "one-night stands." The players did their best to give the audience the worth of their money if noise and pistol play would do it. The dramatization of the novel was, to say the least, very poor.

However, when one considers the chances a company of this kind have of losing money, it is not wise to expect too much from them. They bring a few hours of laughter into our lives and for these we should be thankful.

Comparing "Uncle Tom's Cabin," with several amateur dramas and entertainments, local talent has much to its credit. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" attraction is due mainly to the popularity of the novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe, which is associated with the civil war in the United States.

Year after year, small troupes have been "barnstorming" with a dramatization that practically loses the intent of the original work in a splatter of farcical situations, and offends the ears with Iver Johnston explosions. A production of this play worth seeing would require a large amount of money, and small towns need never expect to see it. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is always sure of a good house in war or peace, to-day and forever, while the world does run. Why? Because of publicity. The novel is one of the best "sellers" and has become an international institution like "Robinson Crusoe," the submarine, the backyard garden, and William Jennings Bryan.

BANK RENOVATED

The interior of the Merchants Bank has been renovated. The walls have been repainted, the wirework regilded, the vault door repainted and decorated and new writing desks installed. The result is a brighter tone to the interior that gives pleasure to the public as well to the staff.

The Bank is getting its share of the business of the district and before the war had purchased a site on Main street to put up a modern building. This work was laid over, however, until a more favorable time.

The present personnel of the staff is: F. A. Robertson (manager), H. Ferrier, K. Grant, and V. Baker.

TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

The final games for the Girls' Tennis championship were played on Wednesday, May 16 by Misses Marion Singleton and Lillian Burchell. The former was successful in each of the two sets and hence has won the medal offered by the lady teachers of the High School Staff.

| | Set I | Set II |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| Marion Singleton | 6 | 6 |
| Lillian Burchell | 4 | 3 |

A. H. S. ON APPROVED LIST

In a communication to the Athens High School Board Inspector J. A. Houston congratulated them on the excellent state of the school itself, the efficiency of the staff and the work being done. He placed the school on the approved list and said that part 1 Upper School work would be taken next term. Principal Burchell who has been untiring in his efforts on behalf of the school, must feel gratified at the result. The Athens High School is one of the best in the province.

BAKERY BOUGHT

Robert Latimer, of Brockville, has completed negotiations for the purchase of the Slack bakeshop and property on the corner of Elgin and Wiltse street. Since the departure of the former occupant, Frank Sterry, Mr. Latimer has had an offer before the owner; but it was only on Saturday that the deal was closed. The property includes a corner lot; store, bakeshop and dwelling combined; as well as a separate dwelling.

Mr. Latimer is a brother of Richard Latimer, of Athens, and is well known here, as he at one time conducted a bakery on Main street. He left Athens for Brockville, where after a few years in business, he was burned out. Since then he has had various interests in Toronto and Grimsby.

A GOOD BET—A Hundred-to-One Shot

DO you know that never in the past hundred years have the opportunities offered wage earners been so entirely in their favor and do you further know that it may be, another hundred years before similar conditions prevail?

A hundred years is a long time to wait, so the wise man or woman will take advantage of the favorable chances within their reach to make the present last. The only way to do this is by putting aside in the Savings Bank a small portion of to-day's good luck. Remember this cannot last for ever.

All good chances are in the present. Those who depend upon future chances are betting against themselves and this is generally a very bad bet.

The Merchants' Bank OF CANADA.

ATHENS BRANCH

F. A. ROBERTSON, Manager

Local Items

A snow-storm visited Kingston Wednesday of last week.

Mr. Geo. E. Holmes is assisting his uncle, Mr. E. Yates, near Frankville, with the seeding operations.

Gananoque will have a list of its men at the front placed on the wall of the Council Chamber.

Mrs. Phil Brown, of Watertown, N. Y., was a guest of her brother, Mr. W. C. Smith.

Two new-coined words in the United States are "flagriculture" and "potatotriolism."

Mr. Roy Robeson, of Hard Island, is very ill with pleurisy here at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson, Elgin street.

Mrs. A. E. Donovan was elected a vice president of the Women's Conservative Club of Toronto, at its annual meeting on Wednesday last.

Mrs. C. Heffernan and children, of Chelsea, are guests of her brother Mr. G. Stevens.

Mrs. J. Jones was called back to Pooles' Resort where her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Poole, jr. is seriously ill.

Mr. Wm. Wright is building cement walks at his residence, Main street East.

Miss Adda Hunt returned last week from New York where she spent the winter as is her custom.

Lieutenant Russel Bishop, who has transferred to the Forestry draft of the 230th Depot, at Brockville, was in Athens on Sunday.

A tablet in memory of Col. Britton will be erected in the club house of the Gananoque Canoe and Motorboat Club, and unveiled this summer.

Dr. C. B. Lillie has rented a plot of the Scott farm, and W. G. Towns has the Redmond property at Wight's Corners in order to solve the problem of the high cost of living.

An important real estate deal was completed in Gananoque when Stuchen Bros. purchased what has been for a number of years known as the Britton Block, owned by Justice B. M. Britton. The price paid was \$9,000.

The price of bread has advanced in Cornwall so that now the ordinary loaves sell at 12 cents, while fancy bread sells at 13 cents or two for 25 cents. This is an increase of 2 and 3 cents respectively on the single loaf.

Athens will not have the Wednesday afternoon closing according to the present prospect. Difficulties arose that were unforeseen, and the idea was regrettably abandoned. In a village of this size, the closing would have to be unanimous; but the character of some of the businesses made this impossible.

The Edison Recital at Frankville Friday evening under the auspices of the Robt. Wright Co., was held in Montgomery's Hall and largely attended. Mayor Wright delivered a patriotic address that was well received, and the performance was greatly appreciated. The concert was repeated in Plum Hollow on Monday evening.

There was not a large market Saturday morning in the County Town due no doubt to the ideal seeding conditions of which the farmers are taking advantage. Butter sold at 43-48 cents a pound; potatoes at \$ 3.00 a bushel; chickens at \$1.00 \$1.25 each; rhubarb and onions at 5 cents a bunch and veal at 12-14 cents a pound.

Thursday being Victoria Day, the Reporter office will be closed.

Mrs. W. B. Connerty is visiting relatives and friends in Montreal.

Mr. S. J. Robeson, Elgin street and Dr. D. G. Peat have erected some wire fencing on their premises.

Brockville is experiencing a mild epidemic of mumps and whooping-cough.

The United States has given a total credit of \$670,000,000 to the Allies.

Rev. Rural Dean Swayne is attending a meeting of the Synod in Kingston this week.

The National Guard, of the United States will be called into federal service in three groups on July 15, July 20 and August 5.

Mr. Abel Kavanaugh and children, Athens, were recent guests of his sister, Mrs. J. E. Acheson, at Fairfield East.

Administration of the estate of Brock Greene, late of Lansdowne, farmer, has been granted to Margaret Jane Greene, of the same place widow, T. R. Beale, Athens solicitor.

The Reporter is in receipt of a field card from George A. McNamara who is serving with the Canadian infantry in France. He is quite well. Corp. McNamara was a member of the Reporter staff at one time and is well known here.

H. A. Stewart, K. C., of Brockville, has been appointed Government counsel in the investigation by R. A. Pringle, K. C., as a Royal Commission into the price of manufacturing news print paper in Canada.

The Toronto Sunday World publishes a photograph of a group of Lindsay ladies who were participating in a patriotic concert, "Dutch Girls", in aid of the 252nd Battalion. Mrs. G. F. Blackwell, formerly Miss Cora Wiltse of Athens is seen at the right of the picture.

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