THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MAY 15, 1897.

Editorial Chat.

The Liberals now have a grand opportunity of demonstrating their ability to govern. In the Dominion and Provincial parliaments they have the ruling voice, and a free hand to direct the destinies of the country. For years they have been criticising the work of the party in power; now they have the chance they long have sought to show how much better they can do.

The Montreal *Herald* notes that the police committee of that city has enacted a bicycle law. It is proposed to limit speed to eight miles an hour; to enforce the carrying of bells and lamps; to forbid riding faster than a horse can walk at street intersections, and also forbid riding on the side walks. Bicyclists must "at all times have full control" of their wheels, and they must not race.

The general election in the Province of Quebec on Tuesday resulted in the overthrow of the Flynn government. Only twenty government supporters are returned while the Liberals have fifty-three seats. Hon. Mr Flynn is among the slain. The late government has been a good one, and has brought the finances of the Province from a state of bankruptcy to the present satisfactory condition.

Good roads, facilitating freedom of intercommunication among men, are a potent civilizing agency. They are symbols of the brotherhood of man. What on a large scale the continental railways and international steamship companies do in making humanity contemporaneous, modifying differences between men which lead to trouble and war, the local good road does in unifying neighborhoods.

What is Wolfville going to do to celebrate the Queen's diamond jubille? In other towns throughout the Province we notice that public meetings are being called and arrangements made for a suitable observance of the event. Our town should not be behind in this matter. We should be glad to publish suggestions from our citizens in next issue as to the most suitable manner in which the great event can be marked in the history of our town.

The Princess of Wales will give a dinner to the poor of the slums of London on the occasion of the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Thousands of poor people will receive a good substantial meal on June 22nd to whom it will come as a very rare treat. The people of Australia propose to send 20,000 sheep and 50,000 bullocks to England which will go toward feeding the multitude on that occasion. If the Australians could send up two or three million of their rabbits, it would no doubt prove a highly popular move.

Of much greater importance than the question as to which political party is to rule in our Province or Dominion is the matter of reform in the condition of our highways. This is a subject that has frequently been referred to in these columns and will continue to be until some action is taken. That the present system of road building and maintenance is very much out of date and insufficient is conceded by nearly everybody. Why is it then that our governments do not take some action towards its reform? Our highways in good condition would mean money in the pockets of those that use them. Now that our government at Halifax has the whole Province at its back it should have the courage to face the problem and solve it in a bold and statesman-like manner.

The Summer School of Science.

We have received the calendar of the Summer School of Science for the Atlantic provinces of Canada. The eleventh session of the school is to be held from July 7th to July 22d, at Yarmouth. The school was established for the purpose of affording teachers and others the opportunity of combining the study of some specialty with the rest and recreation of a delightful and inexpensive two weeks outing. So far it has been most successful, and is yearly becoming more popular. The course of study includes: botany, chemistry, civics, expression, English literature, field-work, geology and mineralogy, kindergarten, music, psychology, physics and meteorology, physiology and hygiene, zoology and entomology. The faculty is composed of specialists in all these branches, and the course should be most helpful to all who attend. Prof. A. E. Coldwell, of Acadia, who has been connected with the school since its organization, is still a member of the staff, teaching ecology and mineralogy.

The Graduating Class of Acadia.

In June Acadia College graduates the largest class, but one, in her history, the senior class of this year, numbering a full thirty, of which eight talented young ladies form a part. But not in number, only is the class of '97 unique. Acadia has seldom parted with a class of high scholarship, while on the campus, in the debating club and in social circles its members have been by no means unknown. When the course here is completed four of its members will study law, six will become medicos and the remainder will follow the professions of teaching and divinity, in which callings they will doubtless succeed. During their course the members of the class have made themselves very popular in Wolfville and the townspeople will not soon forget the "rollicking good fellows" of '97.

School Commissioners' Meeting.

The Board of School Commissioners held the regular annual meeting in the court house, Kentville, on Tuesday May 11th, inst., at 10 a. m.

Commissioners Chipman, Strong, Caldwell, Woodworth, Hiltz, Reid and Shaw were present. L. Dev. Chipman, Esq., was elected chairman for the ensuing year. The Inspector of Schools reported 123 schools in operation, and that up to date 133 teachers had been employed in them. The teachers were classified as follows;

	Grade A.	...B.	...C.	...D.	...male,	female,	total.
	5	...30	...63	...35	...26	...107	...133.

Fair View, Black Rock Mt., Mountain Home, Pleasant View, Kellyville, East Pereaux Mt., and Dalhousie Road were reported as having schools. Pine Woods had a school throughout the whole year. A new school, registering 21, had been started at West Brooklyn. Attention was called to North River, where were several children that had never attended school. Diphtheria had disturbed the attendance in a number of sections.

The School Land Fund of Cornwallis was referred to. It comprises $1110, in Deposit Receipt in the bank, and $270.20 in the treasurer's hands, total $1380.20.

The general character of the school work was reported favorably upon, and the following phases were dwelt upon at some length, viz: Drawing, music, timetables, public examinations, school entertainments, decorations of school rooms and equipments.

The Board resolved: That commissioners Strong and Hiltz, and the Inspector be appointed a committee to visit North River, investigate the condition of things there, and if deemed practicable, to provide a school for the year, or for some portion of the year, and that fifty dollars be placed at the disposal of the inspector towards the payment of a teacher, to be selected by him, and providing a school room and necessary appliances.

Touching the lack of inexpensive and small articles for use by pupils in their work, to which reference was made in the report, it was resolved: That in the opinion of this Board it will prove of advantage for the trustees to provide their schools, out of the section's funds, with slate, and lead pencils, pens and holders, copy, drawing and scribbling books and a good supply of stationery for written examinations.

The note in the report on public examinations led to the examination of the law in the case, and to the conclusion in the following resolution which was adopted by the Board: Resolved that in the opinion of this Board, no officials have authority to excuse their teachers from holding, during or at the end of the year, a public examination of their schools in accordance with section 75, (9) School Act, and that teachers who omit this duty and then attest to their returns, in the usual form, may fairly be charged with making a false return and their grants withheld on that account.

The petitions of Harry H. Reid and James Croft, deferred last year that the petitioners might give legal notices to the sections affected, were brought up and the prayer of the petitioners granted, thus setting Reid from Upper Church St. to Steam Mill section, and Croft from Davison St. to Greenfield.

A petition from L. R. Whitman, L. A. Reid and others asking that the two first named be set from Millville to Aylesford section, was presented. No one being present to represent the petitioners and to assure the Board that the law had been complied with in regard to notices, and no information being furnished touching the interests affected by the proposed change, the matter was deferred till the law be complied with.

L. Dev. Chipman, W. E. Roscoe and S. S. Strong were reappointed a committee under Section 9, School Law.

It was voted that the balance of the Cornwallis School Land Fund ($270.20) in the hands of the treasurer, be drawn and deposited in the bank on Deposit Receipt bearing interest.

The Arbitration Treaty.

The United States Senate have done themselves the honor of throwing out the treaty whereby Great Britain and the United States were to settle disputes by arbitration instead of war. There was a gush of enthusiasm when the treaty was negotiated, and the other nations, who were told to look upon this grand object lesson, smiled a cold, calm, sneering smile.

The refusal to accept the treaty and the treaty itself, if accepted, are not of very vast importance. The United States lost about as much, the week their President issued a war-like threat against Great Britain, as would pay the expenses of a good war; and a declaration of war itself would have brought them down to the verge of national bankruptcy. This will have more weight in preventing our Yankee friends getting so close to war talk again than any amount of treaties. Treaties are more respected by many other nations than they are by the United States. Our neighbors are better kept in order by their financial interests than by any sentiment.

The treaty in question would not leave the statesmen of the nation so free to talk in the war-like words, where tying knots in the big lion's tail is a regular part of the political formula, so the treaty was thrown out. If the same thing happened with a similar proposed treaty between Great Britain and any other country it would cause a thrill of anxiety. As no other nation takes the United States seriously, the action of the Senate in throwing out the treaty will not likely vary the price of anything a fraction of a cent.—*Yarmouth Times.*

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Personal Mention.

[Contributions to this department will be gladly received.]

Miss Sadie Mackeen, of Kentville, was the guest of Wolfville friends over Sunday last.

Mrs (Rev.) P. M. Macdonald left yesterday morning to spend a few weeks at her old home in Pictou.

Dr. S. B. Kempton, of Dartmouth, was in town this week. He is enjoying a well-earned vacation.

Mr John Borden, of Windsor, was the guest of his brother, Mr G. W. Borden, of this town, on Sunday last.

Mr Wm. Ryan and Mrs Emma Hurd, of Troy, N. Y., are visiting their niece, Mrs E. E. Faville, of this town.

Miss Grace Patriquin, of this town, who has been attending Dr. Curry's School of Expression, at Boston, Mass., returned home on Wednesday evening last, having completed the first year's course.

Mr W. H. Chase left this week for England, where he will spend a month or two. He is accompanied by Dr Webster, of Kentville. They will probably remain until after the ceremonies connected with the Diamond Jubilee are over.

Mr Maurice Lowe, of London, Eng. whose father is a member of the firm of Nothard & Lowe, was for a few days last week the guest of Mr and Mrs C. R. H. Starr, he having accompanied Mr Richard Starr, on the latter's return trip from England.

Literary Matters.

The manuscript of Anthony Hope's new novel, the sequel to "The Prisoner of Zenda," which is to begin publication in *McClure's Magazine* in September, is now in the hands of Mr C. D. Gibson, who is to make a series of full-page illustrations to be published with the several instalments in *McClure's*. The title of the novel is "A Constable of Zenda." Those who have been permitted to look into it say that, while a sequel to "The Prisoner of Zenda" and introducing the same people who made that so irresistable, it is entirely complete and independent, and will be found by any reader a rare good story in itself. It simply runs over with romantic adventure.

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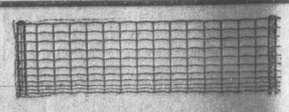

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