

Thoughts by the Way

THE BUZZ-SAW

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

Once more in misted April The world is growing green. Along the winding river The plummy willows lean. In every wooded valley The buds are breaking through. As though the heart of all things No languor ever knew.

A beautiful April morning with scarcely a breeze to stir the budding branches of the lilacs—a morning when the sun was shining, the robins were singing, and the lambs skipping—a morning whose very atmosphere seemed to breathe of the promise of the spring.

But, apparently, the men congregating to assist in the wood-sawing, had something to think of besides the beauties of the bright spring morning, for before them, loomed a large wood pile several feet high, the cutting of which had occupied most of the owner's spare time in the past winter. But as the roughly garbed men, in picturesque attitudes, awaited the setting of the saw and steam engine, they seemed to be enjoying the release from the rigors of winter as much as do the birds and other creatures of the lower animal world.

Perhaps there is no better time for the observation of marked characteristics, than when one is entirely off his guard. In the very negligence and carelessness of their movements and position while spending a few moments in waiting might be noticed some marked personal traits. There was the oldest man in the group, growing a little corpulent and moving as if life's work for him were well-nigh over. A large well-knit figure, lounging with hands in pockets, revealed one ready for enjoyment as it comes. Another, springing nimbly from one task to another, displayed the man, alert and ready to seize life's opportunities as they passed. One quick and cat-like in

his movements, displayed a man skillful with his hands, and another, although moving with slow and careful step, gave one the impression of steadfastness and faithfulness to duty.

When setting the engine in position, it was noticed that the limbs of an old apple tree were in the way. Accordingly some of the intervening limbs were sawed off, who nit was discovered that this old tree which had yielded year after year, a golden harvest of tallman sweets, had died through the severity of the past winter. It therefore being useless, the axe was laid at its roots and it fell, after serving well its day and generation.

Finally when the saw and engine were in position, the men took their places, two to manage the saw, one at the engine three to carry the wood to the saw, and one who was kept busy throwing it away. Then the noisy work began and if we ever wondered at the appellation, "buzz-saw," as applied to this particular machine, the wonder was dispelled and fell upon the air. Gradually as work progressed the pile of unsawed wood grew smaller and the pile of sawed sticks larger, until, as the shadows were lengthening in the dying day, the engine gave one long, triumphant whistle, proclaiming the day's work done. And the men, hungry but happy, entered the house to feast upon the good things prepared for them.

And now the pile lies waiting for the axe, for much of the wood must be split. But it may be that this work will be left undone for the fields are almost ready for the sower, and from over the sea comes the persistent call to the Canadian farmer for food. Let us hope for a prosperous sowing and a beautiful harvest.

grafted into the backbone, and while he will have to be on his back for at least two months yet, he is making satisfactory progress. He is in the Toronto General Hospital and Mr. and Mrs. Melkie will stay in Toronto until he is stronger in order to be near him.—Necrolog Register.

McMurray & McDonald, of Cobourg, were fined \$1 and \$5.25 costs in police court for running an automobile without the necessary lights.

Mr. Manley Sherris, the eminent Canadian baritone, has opened a vocal class in Tweed and will visit the village every Thursday.—Tweed Advocate.

Mr. Joshua Stone, of Flinton, paid a visit to High Grove Stock Farm one day last week and purchased one of Mr. Tutts' pure-bred Jersey milk cows. High Grove Stock Farm enjoys a wide reputation for quality of stock and in consequence many sales are made to customers living at some distance.

Drig-Gen. Leo Embury, of Regina, who is home on furlough after seeing service in France since the early stages of the war, was a guest of his cousin, Mr. P. K. Newton, on Saturday and was en route to visit his mother at Moira. While he was in France he received word from his western home town that he had been appointed by the Government to the position of High Court Judge, which news, naturally, would be very pleasing to him.—Tweed Advocate.

Pte. Charles Bristol, of Vancouver, B.C., was killed in action on March 12th, 1918. He had been wounded once before and was then instructor in England with the rank of sergeant. Wishing to return to France to join his brother he returned in rank to that of private. He was a nephew of Mrs. James Caskey and Mr. M. Bristol, of town.—Madoc Review.

The Agricultural representative, Mr. A. D. McIntosh, is informed by the Department of Agriculture, Toronto, that the growing of flax is just as important as the growing of wheat, and that if farmers show any considerable interest in growing this crop, he will secure a flax expert to address a meeting and arrange to secure an ample supply of good seed. The fact that a crop of flax fits the ground for fall wheat ought to be an incentive to many to give it a trial.—Striving Argus.

The first boat of the season to come into Picton was the steamer Paradise. This boat was chartered by Mr. Fred Newman for this trip and arrived in the harbor Wednesday morning and left at three p.m. loaded with groceries for Nanapanee and Deseronto.—Picton Times.

Mr. M. Holman, of the Township of Clarke, while plowing the other day unearthed a German silver coin dated 1826. The coin was a little larger than a half dollar and had retained all its brilliancy. It is worth twenty-four cents in Canadian money, and about forty-eight cents in Germany. It is a mystery how it found its way to Mr. Holman's farm. Mont. says if the Kaiser is anywhere at that section his days are numbered.—Port Hope Guide.

Picton.—Elwood Vandusen, a young man who has been unable to work for two years, is doing his bit by knitting socks for the soldiers. His first pair was completed within a week, and the work was really a credit to him. He cannot go to the front, but he wants to help the boys who can go and is doing it in this way.

Lance Corporal Earl Hickey has taken a position in the shell works of the J. C. Wilcox Company, Belleville.—Picton Times.

The steamers Thousand Islander, America, Aletha, and Varuna which are laid up at the causeway, have not been touched in regard to fitting out, and it is very likely that only the Varuna and Aletha will navigate. The vessels are in the same condition as they were last fall and the Thousand Islander has not been overhauled, which gives rise to the opinion that she will either be sold or not used in any capacity this summer.—Kingston Standard.

Mr. Charles Nixon, Port Hope, has been confined to the hospital for some time from an attack of gangrene. His condition became so serious that it was found necessary this week to amputate the right leg below the ankle and knee. His condition at the present time is quite favorable and his many friends hope he may continue to improve.

Willis Margdret Bean died in Toronto April 18th. It will be remembered that this little child was trapped with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Bean, in the fire that destroyed their home at Concession last August. Dr. Bean lost his life and Mrs. Bean

nineteen years of age. He went overseas in April, 1917. A brother, Robert, was gassed on April 2nd last; Alvin is convalescing in Queen's Military Hospital, Kingston, and Mack, another brother, is at present overseas.—Bancroft Times.

The fine brick residence on Bridge St., east, owned and occupied by Mr. D. L. Kavanagh, was almost totally destroyed by fire on Friday morning last. A defective fuse is said to have been responsible for the blaze.

A few minutes after the alarm was given a large number of citizens were on the scene and they succeeded in saving practically all the contents. At least twenty minutes had elapsed before the firemen succeeded in getting a stream on the blaze, but although it was impossible to save the structure, the engine did excellent service in preventing the fire from spreading.

Mr. Kavanagh estimates his loss at \$3,000, with an insurance of \$1,000. This house was built by Mr. D. Fuller and was considered one of the best residences in town.—Bancroft Times.

In Pembroke last week Police Magistrate Stewart imposed a fine of \$5 each on the parents of two children who were persistently absent from school. He held that the parents were neglecting their responsibilities. In this Magistrate Stewart has set an example that might well be followed in other towns. There is altogether too much truancy and many parents manifest absolute indifference as to where their children are during school hours. When they understand that these children may be placed in an industrial school and the parents made to pay a fine perhaps they will more readily realize their obligations.—Annaprior Chronicle.

A new band has been organized in Bowmanville and the instruments of the 136th Battalion band have been turned over to the new organization by the trustees. We understand that the instruments of the 136th Battalion band are stored away in some attic in Port Hope. Why not turn these over to the local band? Our bandmen are doing everything in their power to provide the town with good music and should be encouraged. They have given their services gratis to every patriotic organization and any plan that can assist the band should be adopted at once.—Port Hope Guide.

The cost of most things that make life worth living these days seems to have a tendency to go skywards. It is therefore welcome news to hear that the present high price of oranges is likely to drop within the next two or three weeks. At the present time navel oranges cost from 75 cents to \$1.25 a dozen, while Valentia run from 60 cents to 90 cents.

A number of Canadian mariners who had signed up for service on the freighter Charles S. Neffs, which is registered at Buffalo, N.Y., were disappointed on Thursday morning when the captain brought twenty-one men from the United States as a crew.

The Canadians had secured their passports and complied with all regulations, but with the great scarcity of skilled mariners they will have no difficulty in securing another berth.

The freighter had been laid up at the G.T.R. wharf all winter, and it is expected she will clear on Friday or Saturday for Buffalo.

The boat was built in 1901 at a cost of \$100,000 and is constructed of steel. As an example of how great has been the increase in value of boats, the freighter was sold this season, after the owners had some seventeen years' service, for nearly a quarter of a million dollars. The boat will be taken to Buffalo for repairs and will then proceed to the Atlantic Ocean to be engaged in carrying trade between the United States and the West Indies.—Kingston Whig.

Mr. and Mrs. James Aylesworth, Tamworth, will be at home to their friends on Saturday, May 4th, from 2:30 to 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon, and from 7:30 to 9:30 in the evening, in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day.—Napanee Beaver.

Rev. Canon Loucks, Kingston:

"Woe unto you that are full, for ye shall hunger."

Luke 6: 25.

Not spiritually (although even the penalty of remorse may follow your neglect of this national warning) but ye shall hunger in the trying physical sense in which hunger now grips the peoples of Europe.

We know "it is difficult to talk to the belly which hath no ears," and it is just as difficult to persuade a person who has a full dinner before him to-day that he may want for food next month.

But you may as well let this fact sink into your mind—the last people that Canada and the United States will allow to suffer for want of food are our fighting men, and if a sufficient exportable surplus of food cannot be raised and saved by voluntary efforts, then very drastic rationing measures will be enforced.

It may astonish you to learn that in 1917 Ontario did not grow enough wheat for its own needs. Consequently every Ontario farmer

whose land is suitable, has been urged to sow 5 acres more spring wheat this year so that Ontario's demand for wheat shall not be met at the expense of that portion of the Western crop that should more rightfully be shipped overseas.

For this same reason every householder who has a garden of a piece of vacant land is being urged to grow vegetables, because the more vegetables that are grown and eaten in Ontario, the less wheat and meat there will be consumed, and that being so, the Ontario wheat crop should then be sufficient to feed our own people, and leave more Western wheat and other foods available for export.

If you have not yet decided to plant a vegetable garden make up your mind to do so now. You will not regret it. There is still lots of time. Potatoes and beans may be planted up to June 1st and these are the best substitutes for wheat and meat.

For good, practical advice upon how to lay out and cultivate a Vegetable Garden, write for a free copy of the booklet entitled: "A Vegetable Garden for Every Home." This has been prepared by the Ontario Department of Agriculture for the guidance of citizens who will respond to this call for increased production.

Mail This Coupon NOW Organization of Resources Committee, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. Dear Sirs: Please send me a copy of your booklet "A Vegetable Garden for Every Home." Name Address

District News Items in Condensed Form

Some of the old Trent Canal bunch who paddled around in the river during the summer of 1913 are keenly interested in the demolition of the old Chinese laundry. The elaborate precautions taken at the time to preserve this historic structure—precautions that would do justice to the Doge's palace—are all for naught.—Campbellford Herald.

An interesting story of the part Queen's University is playing in the war, in the way of giving men, and the honors which have been bestowed upon men from the University for gallant work on the field of battle, was given by Principal Bruce Taylor, in some statistics he presented at Convocation proceedings on Wednesday afternoon.

The total enlistments of Queen's men up till April 24th, of this year, was given as 1,157, made up as follows: Arts—undergraduates 264, graduates 164; science—undergraduates 174, graduates 147; medicine—undergraduates 170, graduates 164; banking courses—74; total, 1,157.

Undergraduates include all those of the 1914-15 and later years. Graduates are those of 1914 and earlier. There are 98 Queen's men killed or died while on active service. Military honors were bestowed as follows: C.M.G. 7; D.S.O. 8; M.C. 45; D.C.M. 7; M.M. 9; D.S.C. 1; total, 72.—Kingston Whig.

Rev. Father McFadden, who has been parish priest at Wooler, has been appointed to the parish of Parry Sound, succeeding Rev. J. P. Kelly, who is awaiting orders to go overseas as chaplain. Father McLinty, curate to Father Kelly, takes charge of the Wooler parish.—Lindsay Post.

It is understood that on the occasion of the visit of the governor-general to Lindsay on May 8th, the Victoria Cross won by the late Pte. Brown, will be presented to his mother, Mrs. McAllister, of Emily. An effort has been made to have the presentation take place in Toronto, but it is believed the ceremony will take place here.—Post.

Yesterday afternoon, a young boy twelve years of age, appeared before P.M. Davidson charged with stealing "Billy" Taylor's self-propelled automobile, and then breaking it.

The charge was dropped and the boy told his next offense would be a term in the industrial school. His father made restitution to the value of the auto. This is about the fourth or fifth time this boy has appeared on similar charges in the police court.—Cobourg Star.

Big prices were realized on Tuesday at the auction sale of stock and implements belonging to Mr. C. I. H. Jordon, of Montegale, who is moving to the West. Eight cows brought \$532; twenty-six sheep netted \$612; and a brood sow and nine young were sold for \$57. Auctioneer Andrew Wilson, of Tweed, wielded the hammer. The proceeds of the sale amounted to approximately \$2,500.—Bancroft Times.

Innumerable are the stories—many of them "chestnuts"—of the ready wit of Mr. Justice Duff. Here is one that is new to us, at all events.

It appears that one day while trying a case he was disturbed by a young man who kept moving about in the rear of the court, hitting chairs and prying under seats.

"Young man," exclaimed the learned judge at last, "you are making a good deal of unnecessary noise. What are you doing?" "M'lord," replied the offender, "I have lost my overcoat and am trying to find it."

"Well," came the witty reply, "people often lose whole suits in here without making all that fuss."—Cobourg Star.

A rather exciting runaway occurred on Saturday afternoon at Cobourg when one of a team of horses used by the Military Hospital ran away. The team ran up Division Street, one of them slipping and falling on the crossing at the post office. The horse got up and ran up the sidewalk on the south side of King Street as far as the Standard Bank, then crossed over and continued up the sidewalk on the north side as far as the British Hotel, where it stopped. The street had a number of people on it, but everyone took refuge in a doorway. One man had a narrow escape from getting knocked down.

Napier Melkie has come successfully through a very serious operation for spinal trouble, a four-inch piece of bone from the shin being

Colborne merchants have decided to hold a half-holiday on Thursday afternoon and evening during the months of May, June, July and August.

Mrs. Stewart has received the following message from the director of records, Ottawa, dated April 19th, 1918: "Sincerely regret to inform you 1027456, Pte. Charles Stewart, infantry, officially reported dangerously ill, thirty-six general hospital, Calais, April 16th, 1918. Will send further particulars when received."—Campbellford Herald.

The members of the Junior O.H.A. team were the guests of the hockey club last night at a dinner in the Empress Hotel, when the occasion was taken by the officers to thank the boys for their efforts in the past season. Each player received a group photo of the players and officers.—Peterboro Review.

Lieut. E. L. McConnell, of Springbrook, returned home on leave on Friday last, with his wife, a Scotch lassie, whom he married in Edinburgh. He enlisted with the 59th Battalion and has been overseas for two years and a half. He met Garret Bailey before leaving England, who was there on leave, having been gassed. Lieut. McConnell's father, Mr. Thos. C. McConnell, is still in Scotland, where he has been for some time in connection with a forestry battalion.—Striving Argus.

The cantata, "Christ Triumphant" and miscellaneous program, presented by the Methodist choir on Friday night was quite on a par with the excellent traditions of this musical organization. Every number called forth manifestations of appreciation from the large audience, and all declared it to be a musical treat. Proceeds were nearly \$75.—Campbellford Herald.

Peterboro.—The tag day campaign of the G.W.V.A. was a big success, the total amount collected being \$1,494.77. Of this sum the city contributed \$1,203.24, while Lakefield, Norwood, Keene and Havelock made up the balance. Lakefield showing the way with the sum of \$150.

Mr. and Mrs. John Daly, of Toronto, formerly of this village, have received notice that their son, Pte. Frank Daly, was killed in action on March 30. The deceased was only

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