

## Paragraphs About People.

**W**E HAVE HAD a fair sample during the week of the old-fashioned winter. Some of us can more or less vividly remember the early snowstorms and intense cold of the "good old days," while the rest of us previously knew these things only from stories we heard in the light of cheerfully blazing fires when a "Green Christmas" was our lot. "Great winters!" we called them as seen through the mist, haze distance lends, or as known through the art of the storyteller. But now in the face of the ear-biting, thumb-stinging, breath-freezing reality it is not surprising if the envious ring drops from our voices when we speak of our fathers' days, and if we feel more appreciation for the orthodox winter which comes with due warning and on recent schedule time. The sleighing was, of course, responsible for a number of social drives of a somewhat informal nature. One party of considerable size reached Bedford, dined and made merry in true mid-winter fashion, returning to the city in the "wee sma' hours." A few drives which were planned failed to materialize owing to the intense cold which prevailed for a few days.

This is distinctly the time of the fancy sale, and Hadronians have had a liberal share of these thoroughly helpful and suggestive institutions. Christmas shopping seems so much simpler when one is standing before a display of goods intended for Christmas alone. A thoroughly up-to-date art and novelty sale now in progress is Miss Edith Smith's, in two commodious rooms in the St. Paul building. Miss Smith is an artist, and more; she understands the potency of business intuition in her work. Consequently one can attend her sale not only to admire, but to purchase. Her prices are an exception to the figures which frequently prevail at private sales of hand-made work. It is Miss Smith's intention to conduct this work right up to Christmas, but judging from the rushing, sometimes crushing business of the opening day, one is authorized in doubting whether she will have sufficient goods to keep her supplied that length of time. Most of the novelties shown are the hand work of Miss Smith. A very handsome chamolus music portfolio with tinting and cover design in burnt work, and wooden nut bowls with burnt etching decoration, were among the most noticeable features on opening day. Gibson girl photo frames, dainty calendars, handsome boxes for multitudinous purposes, and other unique items so plen-

tiful as to baffle enumeration, have been finding ready sale all week and are still in demand. Mr. Rosenberg, of the Victoria Art School, exhibits a number of fine water color paintings also for Christmas sale.

The Junior Guild of St. Luke's held a bazaar in St. Luke's Hall Wednesday afternoon and evening. The Guild and church members contributed fancy work, sweets and tea. Misses Maggie Mackenzie, Jennie Fenn, Elsie Wier and Clare Strickland presided at various tables, and were assisted by a charming corps of even younger girls. The affair was very successful.

Miss Nora O'Brien's departure from this city will probably have more significance to society than the departure of any actress for a great many years. This talented lady is of excellent family. This recommendation, together with a charming manner and superior ability, proved an "open sesame" to the homes and hospitality of Halifax society. On her benefit night Miss O'Brien was greeted with a good house, and was the recipient of a huge bouquet of chrysanthemums and several curtain calls, acknowledging with the irresistible grace that has won her so many admirers wherever she has appeared.

It is not only Miss O'Brien's departure that is noted with regret. The entire company has become more or less popular with a comparatively large circle of friends. Everett King is a man of interesting personality off the stage, and many who have met him will regret his departure.

The "coming guest" will no doubt receive a warm welcome, in a theatrical or professional sense at least. The D. W. Truss Company has good stage recommendations from St. John, so if our sister is a good criterion in these matters, we can look for two good performances on Christmas day.

Mr. G. DeBlois Smith has gone to Toronto, where he will make a four or five weeks' sojourn.

The array of local talent on the programme at Orpheus Hall Thursday evening was sufficient guarantee of a good entertainment. Miss Frazee is fast winning the approval of the general public, while it is some time since the Misses White made their triumphal entry, one might say, into the popular favor. With Mr. DuDomaine as the principal performer, the programme was a very strong one. That the attendance was not better was no doubt due to counter attractions, and perhaps to the fact that we have had an unusual number of musical entertainments in quick succession of late, with some concerts booked for the near future. The audience, however, was thoroughly appreciative. It was composed of true music lovers, and the sympathy so essential between audience and performers at a small concert was a strong favorable element on this occasion. Mr. DuDomaine has appeared at a number of entertainments in this city, but it is safe to say he never played with truer technique and more inspiration than characterized his selections Thursday evening. The success of the remainder of the programme was decided, the trio work being especially meritorious. Mr. DuDomaine leaves shortly for England

A friend writes me quite a budget of society news from Windsor. The first sale, of which we have had such numbers here, is also popular there. Miss Prat and Miss Kinnear joined forces and made a splendid exhibit at the residence of Mrs. Geo. Wilcox, Miss Prat's sister, Ferry Hill. There was a splendid and varied assortment of Xmas novelties, including pictures, framed and unframed, and a quantity of lovely photograph frames and calendars. There was also a tempting display of hand-painted china. Miss Muriel Kinnear and Miss Madeline Black assisted during the sale.

A card party given by Mrs. Willets was one of the most thoroughly enjoyable evenings recently spent by the young people. Among those present were the Misses Kinnear, Miss Ethel Moody, Miss Woodworth, Miss Prat, Miss Hind, the Misses Black, Miss Lizzie Smith, Miss Dorothy Smith, Miss Ethel Christie, Miss D. Sutherland, Miss Kennedy, and the first and second year students of King's College.

Miss Madge O'Brien is visiting in Windsor, the guest of Mrs. R. Pauline, who is well known in Halifax.

The season's sleighing parties opened early on the banks of the Avon, two having been given already, one by Miss Alice Lawson and the other by Miss Isa Sutherland.

An institution which is greatly appreciated is the German evening which Professor Bober, of the University, has lately started for the benefit of advanced students in College and in town.

One of the passengers on the Tunisian is Miss Maggie Harding, who for several years resided in Halifax, and is well known to a large circle of people. During her stay in the city she visited Mrs. John Duffus, Kent Street.

The pupils of the Well School of Music will give a recital in Saint Luke's Hall this evening.

Mrs. King and Miss Sadie King will leave Halifax next week for Ottawa, where they expect to spend the winter months. Mrs. King has a married daughter, Mrs. Sinclair, in Ottawa, whom they will visit. Indeed, we are to lose quite a number of popular residents this winter. Mrs. Sawyer and Miss Ethel Dimock are to be added to the list of names already given in these columns. They intend spending the winter in Italy, and will sail from New York direct to Naples some time next month.

A small card party was given Thursday evening by Mrs. Hesslein. The affair was thoroughly enjoyed, which always goes without saying when Mrs. Hesslein is hostess.

Miss Hanford, of Amherst, spent a few days of the week with Mrs. John A. MacKinnon, at Studley, previous to sailing for England, where she will spend the winter with friends.