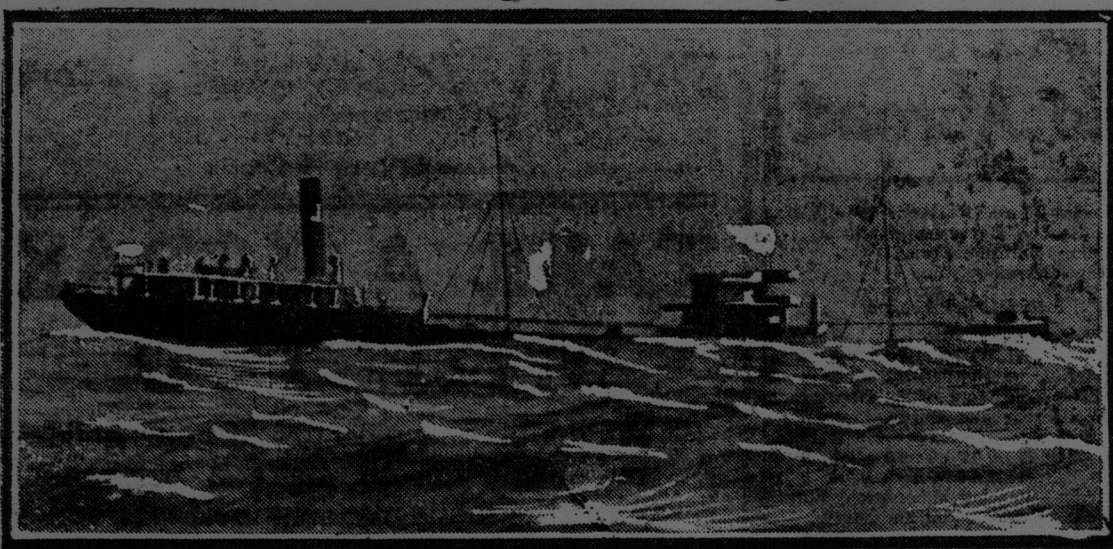


The Sinking of The Gulfight



The American vessel down by the head off Scilly Islands, May 1, after having been torpedoed by a German submarine. This incident was prominently mentioned by President Wilson's recent note to the German government, demanding a cessation of the submarine warfare on vessels of commerce.

HON. H. A. MCKEOWN IN ADDRESS TO CREDIT MEN'S ASSOCIATION

How modern commerce depends for its firm credit system on old English statutes going back to the times of Charles II. and Queen Elizabeth and to the decisions of judges rather than direct legislation, was shown by His Honor Judge McKeown in an address before the Maritime Division of the Canadian Creditmen's Association last night.

He took the stand that all trade and business today was based on credit and showed how the Babylonian clay tablets in the British Museum proved that the whole system of legal forms for trade existed then in a highly developed state. In the legislative records were many articles of beauty to the trained eye that exactly carried out to perfection the objects for which they were created. There was the Statute of Frauds which had grown up in the time of Charles II. at the instance of the judges who were aware of the corruption that existed before them. The principles of that enactment had been carried out in the most modern laws wherever the English language was spoken. It formed the basis of dominion and provincial commercial law as well as the laws of the United States.

"This is the blossom and the flower of the intellect of man in commercial law," declared the judge. Then there was the Statute of Elizabeth's time, so well known that it had no other name. Those two statutes lay like the silks of a house unseen but built on and forming the very foundation of the superstructure of business law. Judge McKeown then went on to show how all the great volume of what was known as common law was unwritten but was the sum of all the good sense of business in the past. No one could define common law; they could only say what it was not. He instanced the law of the stoppage of goods in transit in the case of a debtor being unsatisfactory. There was no written law on the matter but it was one of the fundamentals of Canadian law today. It had grown out of the ruling of judges in accordance with good sense and public opinion. Another point was that of the right of a workman to hold goods upon which he had worked until paid for them. That could not be found on the statutes of any land yet was well known and acted upon.

His honor's idea, he said, in the address was to show that while legislatures could make the laws the conditions of trade could not be made and it was the conditions of trade, credit especially, that made modern commerce so different from primitive barter.

"It is to the wise legislation and the stern sense of the judiciary of days gone by that we owe today the conditions under which commerce can flourish."

A vote of thanks to Judge McKeown was moved by George A. Horton, seconded by J. Hargreaves, and carried.

J. G. Harrison, president, was in the chair at the meeting, which then proceeded to transact the ordinary work of the annual gathering of the branch.

Most of the matters were of specialized interest but the chairman mentioned that two of the aims of the body were the securing of a bulk sales act for the province and the registration of book debt assignments.

The following were elected on the board of governors: For two years: J. G. Harrison, W. E. Foster, F. W. Ronch, E. J. Murphy, J. F. Edgett and G. E. Barbour; for one year, F. C. Smith, F. A. Campbell, E. J. Fleetwood, Harold Hising, T. S. Patullo and A. P. Patterson.

CHURCH ENTERTAINMENTS

An unusually pretty entertainment by children was that of the pupils of Witanstede school at Trinity school rooms last evening when a patriotic review of the whole empire was given in pleasing fashion. There was a large attendance and the arrangements were splendidly made. The representation was entitled Britain's Myriad Voices, in which the chief characters were represented by twenty-three pupils and there was an effective ensemble at the close. The characters in the order of their appearance were as follows: Queen Elizabeth Mary White Britannia Ellen Melrose 1st Page Joyce Hallahan 2nd Page Alice Tilley England Elizabeth Foster Scotland Leonora Helva Ireland Doreen McAvity India Carolyn Page Newfoundland Katharine Skilton Canada Dorothy Tennant Egypt Angela Magee Union of S. Africa Marjorie McKim Australia Lesley Grant New Zealand Mildred Parker Gibraltar Sarah Miles Representative of the Allies Marjorie MacIntyre Canada's Attendant Joan Foster Representative of the Women of the Empire Katharine Skilton France Dorothy Lowe Russia Annie Armstrong Japan Barbara Jack Belgium Len Robinson Great Britain Doreen Gilhara Brussels Street Baptist.

An entertainment that was much enjoyed was that given by Miss VanBuren of Stenham (Mass.) at the Brussels street Baptist school room last evening. The lecture was an accomplished oratorical and gave many first class selections. The pastor, Rev. D. J. McPherson, presided.

Mr. Harbour's Lecture. J. L. Harbour, of Boston, repeated his interesting lecture, Blessed Be Humor, at the Leinster street Baptist church school room last evening before a large attendance. The lecture was under the auspices of the Baraca Brotherhood of the church and the pastor, Rev. Wellington Camp, presided. A pianoforte solo was given by Vernon Curtis and Miss Amdur gave two vocal solos.

An enjoyable concert was held at the Douglas Avenue Christian church last evening when there was a large attendance and several of the singers were recalled. Those who took part included the Misses Erminie Climo, Blenda

ART CLUB CLOSING MEETING OF SEASON

Beautiful water-colors by the talented English artist, Miss Edith Kirke, were the feature of the Art Exhibit in the St. John Art Club's studio in Peel street, last evening, on the occasion of the last meeting of the club for the season of 1914-15. The work of Miss Kirke was greatly admired by the large gathering of members and general comment was to the effect that Miss Kirke's studies are the best water-colors ever shown in the city.

Miss Kirke, who has travelled extensively in Canada, and who has done many western scenes, will make her home in St. John for a year during which she will do studies of New Brunswick scenery.

The conversation with which the art club closed the 1914-15 period, was presided over by T. H. Estabrooks, in the absence of President W. S. Fisher, and the entertainment was one of the most successful in the history of the club. At the first meeting of the club, next October, the members will assemble in the new studio, Germain street.

The chairman announced that the art club would hold an exhibition next Thursday, when tea would be served from 4 o'clock until 9 for patriotic purposes.

A feature of this exhibition will be the showing of work of art pupils. Miss E. Woodburn and Miss Kate Powell will act as judges and the studies will be on sale. T. H. Estabrooks has given \$10 to be used as a prize fund for the pupils' exhibit.

The Story of the Flag, a patriotic address by Colonel Sturdee on the Union Jack, was a noteworthy incident of the annual closing which was marked by the carrying out of a programme of unusual interest.

A recital, Aux Illusions, by Miss Emma Heffer of the West End, with violin accompaniment by Mr. Thorne, proved a rare and timely treat.

The audience was insistent in an encore to Rule Britannia given by a quartette composed of Messrs. C. A. Munro and F. J. Hardiman, tenors, and E. S. Peacock and G. Currie, basses. The quartette responded with a splendid rendition of In This Softened Hour of Splendor, winning merited applause.

THE SINKING OF THE GULFIGHT

In a strikingly concise and clever history of The Flag, Colonel Sturdee brought before his hearers the formation, meaning and glory of the emblem of the British empire. He told of the Union Jack as representative of England, Ireland and Scotland in the union of the crosses of St. George, St. Patrick and St. Andrew and pointed out that the bunting is now the emblem of justice and fair play on every sea and in every land. Colonel Sturdee explained the uses of the British Ensign and made clear the meaning and the different positions in which the flag is set.

In the art club, as well as in other organizations and associations throughout the city, a vacant chair is noticed at meetings; in this instance, reference was made to Secretary E. C. Weyman, now a member of the 56th battalion.

The committee in charge of the conversation consisted of Mrs. Sturdee, Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Robert Murray and Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor. Miss Peacock acted as pianist.

N. H. S. JUNIORS' OUTING

The field meetings of the Junior members of the Natural History Society which furnish such an abundance of knowledge on nature subjects, and at the same time provide healthful exercise, have begun for the season. Several smaller outings have been held and the first large one starts this week. About thirty girls in charge of William McIntosh, curator of the museum, and Mrs. McIntosh, will go up the Nerepis this evening and will camp there for three days, returning on Monday night or Tuesday morning.

The junior outings scheduled for the season are as follows:

Friday, May 21—Three days camp at Nerepis. Members attending will provide themselves with blankets and camp at the closing session today of the first

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dishes, and send their names to the curator on or before May 15. Saturday, May 29—Toryburn; I. C. R. train leaves depot 1.15 p.m. Tea and return by train. Saturday, June 5—Dark Lake; tramp. Saturday, June 12—Randolph; tramp. Saturday, June 19—Sandy Point; tramp.

Saturday, September 11—Fairville; I. C. R. train leaves depot 1.15 p.m. Tea, and return by train.

Saturday, September 18—Coldbrook, by street railway. Tea in woods.

Saturday, September 26—Red Head, by street railway. Tea in woods.

The junior association camp will be held on the Washademoak from July 27 to August 11. It is open to all junior associates.

PRESBYTERIAN W. M. S. COUNCIL OFFICERS

Montreal, May 20—Mrs. J. J. Steele, Toronto, was re-elected president of the General Council of the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church at the closing session today of the first

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