

# SHOULD SCOUT OFFICERS USE TOBACCO?

### C. J. Atkinson Thinks a Master Would Have Greater Influence if He Did Not Use the Weed — First Convention Such a Success That Others Will Be Held.

The first convention of the Ontario Scout Officers' Association was concluded by the Saturday afternoon session, at which papers were read on different points of interest to the movement, and a general discussion took place. The convention was voted a great success and it was decided to hold one annually in the future.

"Camp Sanitation" was the subject of a paper read by A. E. Mercer at the Ontario Scout Officers' conference. The speaker laid stress upon the necessity of taking every precaution to preserve the health of the boys while at camp. At the conclusion it was decided to have the paper printed.

"Principles of Troop Work" was the topic discussed by F. Tod, who gave some excellent suggestions regarding methods of securing discipline in the troops and arousing interest in the movement.

G. W. Tebbes, commissioner for the County of Waterloo, told of the experiences of the Waterloo troop on a 100-mile trek to Toronto to visit the exhibition. He told of the equipment, which consisted of food and the necessary clothing. It was a unique trip in every respect and the speaker was heartily applauded at the conclusion of his paper.

A. Thanks Badge. On behalf of the council W. K. George presented Scout Gordon Rossor with a silver thanks badge, in recognition of his work in assisting the provincial secretary with preparations for the conference.

J. Gardfield Gibson, commissioner for Ingersoll, read a paper on "Duties of a District Commissioner." The speaker thought that little could be accomplished unless there was absolute harmony among the officers. He believed that military discipline and system was desirable in order to improve the organization of the troops.

A. Clark of Wyllie College brought up the question as to whether a scout master should smoke. He was of the opinion that they should not. C. J. Atkinson endorsed this opinion. He thought that a scout master would have a greater influence if he would not use tobacco. The paper on the question was discussed and opinion was pretty well divided.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Hon. President, J. G. Gibson; president, W. K. George; first vice-president, Lt.-Col. A. E. Gooderham; second vice-president, J. H. Colvin; secretary, Capt. R. S. Wilson; secretary-treasurer, commissioner for Ontario, H. G. Hammond, assistant commissioner and provincial secretary, Executive, Charles W. Housling; Hamilton, Lynus Woolverton, Grimsby, Lt.-Col. D. M. Robertson, Noel Marshall, Sir Henry Pallat, Sir Edmund Walker, General Cotton, J. C. Eaton and James Scott, Toronto.

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Vancouver Would Borrow \$5,000,000. VANCOUVER, Feb. 24.—At a gross price of 98, which will yield between 95 and 96, the city council to-day decided to sell up to \$5,000,000 worth of Vancouver inscribed stock on the London market. The gross price obtained for \$2,800,000 worth of this debenture stock a year ago was \$1.01, which yielded a little more than 98 net.

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## Across Country With Christie MacDonald and The Spring Maid Company

BY MARGARET BELL

The curtain had hung down on the final act of the petite "Spring Maid" who was struggling with the grease paint. She is very petite and dainty, not more than 4 ft. tall and smiling, Miss MacDonald hurried into her street clothes, for it was late, and her train left for Toronto the next morning at 10. Such a hustle and tear these thespian folk have anyway.

Outside the theatre, another scene was being enacted. The property men, stage hands and carpenters were loading the scenery on huge trucks, to take to the depot. All night long they worked, for the scenes in "The Spring Maid" are elaborately set, and require huge baggage cars for transportation. And while the newscasters and street hawkers of Cleveland stood on the corners of the downtown streets and called their wares, all thru the murky night, the band of scene shifters in Christie MacDonald's company trudged back and forth from theatre to depot, loading and unloading, and singing as they worked.

The above paragraphs were written in the Hollenden Hotel, as I awaited my breakfast. Some unkind species of humanity down at the office rang me up about 6 o'clock. Whoever heard of such an absurdity? Six o'clock on Sunday morning! We are now on board, a whole big family of us, rocking and swaying over the Nickel Plate railroad. Chorus, principals and all are banded together, some sleeping, some working bits of embroidery, many reading the Sunday papers. Marjorie, Miss MacDonald's French maid, sits opposite me, talking to a member of the company, and smiling always her good-natured smile. Tom Macdonald, the funny man, looks very English in his Norfolk suit, and decided British cap. He is a good subject of John Bull, and says he will be glad to hear the national anthem when he reaches the Princess tomorrow night. I noticed the funny bump on his nose, at the theatre last night, and did not like to mention it for fear it was a permanent adjunct, acquired since I last saw him with Alice Lloyd. But it is absent to-day and he appears very normal.

Miss MacDonald has gone to her stateroom to rest. She had a busy week, having played a special matinee on Thursday, Washington's Birthday. On Friday, a number of her relatives came to visit her and her time was spent in entertaining them. All this, with a regular matinee Saturday, would be very trying to anyone, but to Miss MacDonald, small, petite and frail, it was doubly so. She has the sweetest smile in the world, and does not talk much. This is one of her most charming assets, as she has a peculiar winsomeness in her face when in repose, and to be able to listen intently to one of the greatest of charms. She looked so cunning when she boarded the train this morning, wearing a blue serge dress with a beautiful light lace collar, a seal coat and the cunningest little hat which reached down to her ears, leaving little strands of golden hair peeping out into her eyes.

The day coach up ahead is as interesting as the street fair scene in "The Bohemian Girl." It is the temporary abode of the chorus. They are sitting there, looking in their street clothes! Some wear shirt waists and abbreviated blouses, some have one-piece dresses of black silk so comfortable when travelling. In the corners of their eyes lurk tiny remnants of make-up, the result of an early scramble for the train. Almost all have succeeded in obliterating the rouge from their cheeks and lips, however, and the different tints of hair are dressed quite simply. One or two wear lace caps, with exquisite bows and rosettes nodding at each side. As fate men of the chorus are there, too, bless you, yes. Pompous cuts seem quite the correct thing among them, and conversations seasoned with plenty of slang. Everyone is a good fellow, everyone a pal with everyone else. Gum-chewing is a favorite pastime, and poker playing gives a chance to recuperate after the swiftness of the train. There is much precious substance lying in riotous disarray on the tables, and seven members of the chorus smilingly add bits of their little pile to the pyramid of dimes on the suitcase. Here and there, a more energetic girl or two works at a bit of embroidery, and a little dark member of the chorus sits at a table sketching the manager. The head comedy woman is the centre of an interested group, and plays the comedienne of stage just as well as on. "It is, however, about a hundred years ago that I was in Toronto," she says, "but for me there is no town but New York. That's where my husband is, and thank me fate he is not a professional."

Well, I don't blame her for her opinion. Away in one corner of the dining car is an interested-looking couple. They seem the most uninteresting and do not notice the other diners all around them. A little girl who sits opposite me whispers that they are engaged. I was not necessary for her to tell me. The bliss of an anticipated matrimonial mart is plainly writ over their faces. The little girl who gave me the information is a darling young thing, affectionately termed "the baby of the cast." She has a bewitching dimpled chin and softest brown eyes imaginable. She is still in her teens, and when she graduates from the chorus has ambitions to play a Mabel Taliaferro role.

The leading tenor is an English importation, having been in this country only two weeks. He has some very decided opinions about Americans in general, and hopes fondly that he will find Torontonians different. "I never saw such an unmanly class of people," said a man opens a door

# SOCIETY

The annual Paardeberg dinner will be given by Sir R. H. the Governor-General, next Friday evening. The Torontonians giving down, for the event include Gen. Cotton, Major Wynne, Major Claude Caldwell, Col. Victor Williams, Major Bennett and Col. Hill.

The members of the Women's Dramatic Club of University College are hard at work rehearsing for their performance of "Much Ado About Nothing." The play will be given in Convocation Hall on March 5.

Lady Shaughnessy and the Misses Laughnessy, Comins, C. O. Roper and Miss J. Nanton (Winnipeg) sail to-day from Halifax by the Empress of Ireland, for England.

Mrs. E. Y. Eaton and the Misses Eaton sail on Saturday from New York for the Mediterranean.

Mr. and Mrs. W. K. George are leaving shortly for Bermuda and are taking their daughter Grace, who has been ill.

C. I. Hill of Niagara Falls spent a day in town last week and attended the auto show.

Miss Halide Crawford is in Hamilton for the week-end.

Col. and Mrs. Hamilton Merritt entertained at dinner at the King Edward on Saturday night, the large table to accommodate 35 guests, being set in the banquet hall. The decorations were of pale pink carnations, a tall silver epergne of the flowers centered the table, surrounded with baskets of the same fragrant flowers, and mignonette, with lux. asparagus fern with tiny electric globes being arranged in a design on the table cloth, and the table was lighted with clever candlesticks, shaded with crimson and silver. The orchestra played during dinner in the gallery.

The band of the 48th Highlanders guests in the drawing rooms, the guests of the royal suite, when Mrs. Merritt looked exceedingly well in an imported gown of blue silk, trimmed with ermine, and returned to the drawing room, the guests were given an unexpected pleasure, the Hamilton trio rendering some very delightful selections.

Miss Marie Ayre leaves early in the week for Winnipeg.

Mr. Ernest Watt, Bincarth-road, left last night for Winnipeg.

Mrs. Caldwell, Lanark, and Miss Celia Caldwell are the guests of Major Caldwell, Beverley-street, while Mrs. Caldwell is in Europe.

Mrs. Geoffrey Boyd gives a small luncheon to-day.

Mrs. J. Herbert Mason, Elmleigh, and Miss Amy Mason, have gone to Bermuda.

Miss Gordon Mackenzie and Miss Alexandra Mackenzie have gone to Atlantic City for a short visit.

Rev. J. P. D. Ljwy, Trinity College, is the guest of Rev. J. F. German in Ottawa.

The Wee Three Club had a most successful dance on Tuesday evening. The entertainers were Mrs. G. H. Gausby, Mrs. J. Cameron (Winnipeg), Mrs. Turner Thompson (Vancouver), Mrs. E. Armstrong, Mrs. Orman Hayes, Mrs. W. Huntley.

Receptions To-Day. Mrs. Gooch and Miss Nan Gooch, Crescent-street, are the guests of Mrs. Arthur W. Abbott, Sherbourne-street, and not again. Mrs. W. H. Millar, 200 St. George-street, and Miss Gladys Abbott, 273 Indian-road, High Park.

Mrs. J. M. Stewart, 14 Madison-avenue, Friday, Mrs. Fred Barnett (see Athol) and time since her marriage, to-morrow at her house, 50 Barrett-avenue, also the first Tuesday in March and not again. Mrs. Herbert L. Galt, 219 Sherbourne-street, not to-day, but first Monday in March for the last time. Mrs. Charles Secher, not to-day, but on the following Monday for the last time. Mrs. Arthur Milligan, 30 Chestnut Park-road on Tuesday for the last time this season.

## A SUCCESSFUL ST. GEORGE-STREET DANCE.

Why the Champagne Cup Was Praised. One of the smartest and most successful dances given by a St. George-street host, the champagne cup served was voted unusually delicious and several popular here, were present to have since both the host of the occasion for the receipt he used. The chief reason why this cup was a success, then, was that it was used instead of soda, and second, the Radnor was added to the cup immediately before serving. The difficulty with the champagne cup is that indifferent soda waters are used in its preparation. There is a crispness and snap about Radnor which makes it par excellence the best water to use in all cups.

## ROUND TRIP

\$10.00 New York City. From Suspension Bridge via Lehigh Valley R. R. Thursday, March 7. Tickets good days returning. Particulars 3 King Street East, Toronto.

The Most Popular and Up-to-Date Train Service to Montreal is Via Grand Trunk.

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Secure tickets, berth reservations and full information at city ticket office, northwest corner King and Yonge-streets. Phone Main 3205.

## Don't Roast the Cook—

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## HICKS FLAITS BOY SCOUTS

Too Much Militarism in Organization, He Tells Berlin Audience.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—(Special).—Mr. Hicks Flait, of Bradford, who has made frequent visits to Berlin of late in the interests of the socialist movement, held a meeting in the Star Theatre this afternoon, and taking as his subject the boy scout movement, endeavored to ridicule the organizer and those behind the scenes. It was amusing the young mind with a militant spirit, he declared, and he enlarged on the evils and horrors of war.

The speaker failed to rouse the enthusiasm of his hearers in this, his latest outburst to gain publicity, and the majority were apparently satisfied that the scout movement is deserving of support.

With the exception of antelope and musk-ox, British Columbia has every species of big game that exists on the continent, and the range of them being found in fair quantities. In addition, there are wild fowl and game birds of various species, some native and others introduced. The fur trade is still while the waters afford the finest trout and salmon fishing in the world. In fact, the sporting possibilities are so many that it would be impossible to exhaust them in an ordinary lifetime. The Grand Trunk Pacific is opening up virgin territory where the very best hunting will be found.

Some 70 miles up the river from Port George the "Grand Canon" is reached, and from there a magnificent moose country extends as far as the Little Smoky River. From reliable reports received, it is probable that there are more moose in the square mile than in any other part of the continent, and every year their numbers seem to increase. So far, the country has never been hunted except by a few prospectors. Whether the horns attain the large size of the Casseer moose has yet to be determined, but some very fine caribou have been seen. In this district, and in places both grizzly and black bear are numerous.

## IMPRESSIONS OF PARIS

Paris, the eye of the modern world, quick-witted, the slave of the content paradox, straining after new conditions of life, after new statesmen and new governments, unshaken in her suspicion, her unbelief and her credulity, Paris, the modern Athens, was the subject of Principal Hutton's lecture on Saturday afternoon in opening the Trinity University lecture course. By request of Provost Macklin, Bishop Reeve introduced the speaker.

The battle of the religious instinct and freedom of thought was brightly and shrewdly pointed from many various angles, and the brilliant comments and illuminating quotations of the lecturer, The Frenchman is too clever by half. No imagination is too wild to commend itself to him. The narrow logic of the cleric, the politician, the journalist is responsible for the extremist doctrines generally held. But what could be expected from people who spend their youth in digging up the political potato to see how it is coming along, and recommending the planting of another kind of tuber.

What other nation is capable of so much intellectual idealism? asked Principal Hutton after witty and incisive sketches of the universities, the forty immortal lectures course, by assembly. Yet their moral stature seems less active than the intellectual in France. The French fight for ideas and not for emotions, especially the simple and natural emotions.

La Guerre Sociale he regarded as the keynote of modern French conditions. It lacked all the self-sacrificing and war packed with class consciousness and hatred of one's neighbor. The Frenchman has no idea of following Tennyson and losing the picturesqueness of life by letting the ape and the tiger die.

He regretted that Paris was less the Paris of other days, less French, and less a touch of the American and the strange.

Next Saturday J. Humphrey Ameer, Mus. Dip., will speak on "Gounod."

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## Power Plants to Enlarge.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., Feb. 25.—(Special).—Not only will the Electrical Development Company spend three millions in increasing the plant, but the Canadian Niagara-Ontario Power Co. will expend millions more in enlarging their plants, practically doubling the capacity. Contracts have been awarded for the greater part of the work.

## How to Regain Strength

Wilson's Invalids' Port  
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has been strongly recommended by the leading physicians in cases of Nervous Breakdown, Mental Exhaustion, Depression of spirits, general weakness, waste of vitality, etc.

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## Prof. J. Balcom Shaw

Chicago Has No Fear of Criticism—Graphic Society Sermon

What is the answer of age to the question "What Christ?" asked Rev. Balcom D. of Chicago, in the sermon yesterday morning, when he preached the text, "I remember putting down the members of the faculty platform."

"It is the supreme question which we live," he said. "When I asked him what he meant, he said, 'I remember putting down the members of the faculty platform.'"

"I think of Him as the tabernacle and sat there and more extreme to put down the members of the faculty platform."

"When preaching in the motley crowd, including Jesus, I remember the church of them began to his. Late