

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MAR 22, 1918.

Editorial Brevities.

Four thousand two hundred men are employed by Canadian municipalities in waiting for fires to occur and then attempting to extinguish them. The cost of this service exceeds \$4,000,000 a year says the Municipal World. Most of this energy would be better employed if devoted to removing fire-breeding conditions and then forcing proper regulation to prevent the occurrence of fires.

The parliamentary session opening at Ottawa this week should be one of the most important in the history of the Dominion. Fresh from the electorate with a mandate that cannot be challenged, the Union government is free to develop its war-to-victory plans along the lines that wisdom dictates without fear of party entanglements. Great promises face the country and their solution will not be easy, but the government is one of the strongest ever gotten together in Canada, and it has a backing never accorded any previous government.

Lieut. Archibald's Lecture.

On Tuesday evening Lieut. Leon Archibald, R. E., of the world famous "Black Watch," gave an address in College Hall under the auspices of the "Daughters of the Empire." Mrs. C. K. H. Starr, regent, and Mrs. Cowie, vice-regent, represented the local chapter on the platform, and Principal H. T. DeWolfe introduced the speaker.

The Scouts band, under the leadership of its capable and efficient director, Mr. McAvoy, entertained the audience splendidly as it gathered in the hall. Miss Evelyn Nelly, of Aylesford, sang twice during the evening in her own inimitable and charming manner.

The voluntary collection, a liberal one, which is to be devoted to the Field Comforts work of the I. O. D. E., was taken up by the "Give Service Girls," who also ushered, garbed in the full regalia of the Red Cross nurse, out of compliment to the patriotic entertainment and the gallant soldier speaker. It was a novel feature here and most appropriate while adding to the interest of the gathering as well as the becomingness of the wearer.

Lieut. Archibald, who served first as a private with the noble band of Canada's "contemptibles," and surely we as well as England can lay claim to that title for our men who went first to the aid of the Empire and stood in the breach during those first awful months of the war, and who was gallantly promoted for services at Ypres by being promoted as an officer to the Royal Engineers attached to the "Black Watch," gave a most instructive and interesting sketch of those first engagements, the information for which he had at first hand from participants. For over an hour he held the undivided attention of the audience, the personnel of which felt nothing to be desired. He intimated from the start that his intention was to show why we should be grateful to those never-to-be-forgotten heroes, who threw themselves into the gap and turned forever in our favor the issue of the present war; and he told tales of daring and heroism, not yet in print, of our own Canadians in conjunction with those old contemptibles of Britain. He touched the imagination as well as the hearts in his description of a certain group of our boys under the title of the Kindergarten. In trench life they were boys of 16 and 19 discussing baseball and sports, but on the firing line proved themselves, so of the stuff that heroes are made and Canadian heroes at that.

Lieut. Archibald takes the optimistic view that if we at the beginning against such odds were able to stem the tide how much able today we are to win out.

At the close of the lecture the Rev. Mr. Dixon moved an eloquent and appreciative vote of thanks, which Rev. Dr. DeWolfe gratefully tendered the speaker.

Many personal expressions of appreciation were heard among the audience as they dispersed, showing their deep interest and estimation of the speaker and his subject.

Read all the advs. this week.

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A Promising New Wheat.

By bringing out Marquis wheat the Dominion Department of Agriculture did a service to Canada and to the Empire that it would be difficult to over-estimate. On account of its vigorous habits of growth, excellent yield and superb milling qualities this variety which year after year as an exhibit from Western Canada has carried off premier honors at the International "Soil Products Exhibition in the United States, has largely supplanted the old standard Red Fife that also gained for Canadian wheat an enviable reputation in the flour markets of the world.

A service rendered by the introduction of Prelude a few years later was also of great importance, in as much as it extended the wheat-growing area of this country by millions of acres. To these two very valuable accessions to the hard wheats of Canada is to be added a new sort that comes midway between Marquis and Prelude in the matter of yield and milling. This new sort has been produced at the Central-Experimental Farm, Ottawa, by Dr. Chas. H. Saunders, the Dominion Cerealist, who gives the following account of the new wheat in the March number of The Agricultural Gazette, the official organ of the Federal Department of Agriculture:

"The new wheat, which has been named Ruby, Ottawa 625, possesses characteristics in ripening and other qualities midway between Marquis and Prelude. It is hard, possesses a hard, red kernel, gives a fair yield, and makes flour of the highest quality in regard to colour and strength. Bread made from it ranks in the first class. This wheat, is the result of a cross between Downy Riggs and Red Fife. Downy Riggs was produced from two early sorts, Ochu, an Indian variety, and Onga from Northern Russia. Ruby is recommended for trial where Marquis does not ripen satisfactorily. A very limited distribution of five-pound samples is being made to farmers requiring an early sort. A sufficient crop will be grown this year on the Experimental Farms to provide for a generous distribution next Spring."

The Operetta 'Red Riding Hood.'

In the opinion of the writer it does not lessen, but rather increases, the efficiency and sound optimistic spirit of our people to have proper recreation even in war time, and such music, stage effects and setting as the combined talent of Wolfville and Kentville gave to a delighted audience in the above Operetta, at the Pastime Hall, would be difficult to equal even in the large centres, and was an excellent tonic for both old and young.

It was ably directed by Mrs. Richmond, who has probably done more for the development of high class vocal music in this valley than any one else in its history. The Title Role was most pleasingly taken by Mrs. Helen Knowles to whose industry, musical and teaching ability the presentation of such a charming affair was principally due. The principal characters were all excellent in acting and singing; the stage settings were appropriate, the choruses well sung, the children simply delightful, and beyond criticism, and the little Blue Bells of all inimitable. Of the excellent between acts features, in the writer's opinion, the gems were Miss Marie Wilson's contralto solo in which the rare qualities of her voice with its depth, volume, and carrying quality, combined with its purely feminine mezzo soprano like notes, were demonstrated to the delight of the audience, the duet 'Joan of Arc' beautifully rendered by Mr. Mason and Mr. Pick, and Miss Ruth Young's Highland Flieg which in its dainty gracefulness of action and precision and correctness of step, would rival most professionals, and the writer knows because he used to dance it fairly well himself.

The orchestra led by Mr. Burgess Bishop, in its quality of shading, harmony, and tone, would bear favorable comparison with many more pretentious organizations and contributed materially to the pleasure of the evening. The highest compliment that the writer can pay the performers is that he went to the hall when very tired to keep a number of promises, stayed the whole evening in a crowded house and was less tired at the end than at the beginning.

Our Will Against Theirs.

It is the business of every man of us to put every ounce of power, conviction and patience of which we are capable into this struggle, said Rev. Dr. J. D. Adams, of Hantsport, in an address on the war to the Canadian Club at Montreal.

"Everything else that we can count dear must be valuable unless the victory is won," he said. "The morale of those of us who are not fighting is the same as the moral of those who are fighting; and they get and race upon each other. It is our visualization of success against the German visualization of success. It is our moral will to win the war against the German will to win, and it is for us to realize that we must unify and solidify this spiritual visualization of triumph, for after all, the headquarters of reality are in the spirits of men."

Dr. Adams urged a discovery of spiritual values, which he said must spring from the spirit of man and had a far-reaching economic significance.

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The Feed Problem.

Those who are crying to the Government to provide feed for hogs and bitterly criticizing officials for failure to supply sufficient bran and shorths should take a look at the facts. Canada does not produce sufficient bran and shorths to feed hogs in normal times and recourse to other hogs has always been necessary. In the first place, however, to aid farmers an export embargo was placed on mill offals and the price of bran and shorths rose in direct proportion to the price of wheat and several dollars a ton lower than in the United States. This, of course, was satisfactory as far as it went but the trouble was that it could not, possibly go far enough. Not enough bran and shorths are produced in Canada to go around. Canadian mills from September 1st, 1915, to February 28th, 1918, produced at the rate of 15,000,000 bushels of wheat a month, which was a very high proportion as compared to normal. From this amount of wheat, however, under the new standard four regulations, about two per cent. more of the wheat by weight is retained in the flour. Only 120,000,000 bushels of feed can be produced in a month, or 2,000,000 pounds a day. There are 17,323,000 odd horses, mules, cows, cattle, sheep and pigs in Canada, not counting poultry and consideration of all these bran and shorths produced in Canada would thus give each animal one meal in two or three weeks. A cow would consume five pounds a day; a hog, according to its age, from one-half pound to three pounds—though little shorths, of course, is fed to the more mature hogs. There were, approximately, 2,169,382 hogs in Canada last year so that out of every five or six hogs, only one would be able to get a full three-quarter ration of shorths per day; or, if the shorths was divided equally among all the hogs, less than two-thirds of a pound would be the maximum allowance.

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Retailers to be Licensed

The Canada Food Board has issued regulations governing retail butchers, retail bakers, retail produce merchants, retail E. S. and lead merchants, retail fruit and vegetable dealers. On and after May 15th it will be illegal for any person, firm or corporation to engage in any one or more of these trades without a license from the Food Board.

The regulations make it illegal to deal in food for the purpose of unreasonably increasing the price, restricting supply or monopolizing or attempting to monopolize any food products.

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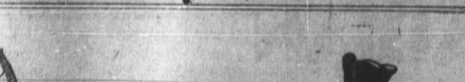
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