

DOINGS OF BLUENOSE PEOPLE.

FIVE hundred of the soldier boys of Canada are now on the sea homeward bound from South Africa. It is just one year since they took their departure, a gallant band, full of hope and strength and vigor; and proudly we sent them forth, thinking them worthy to cope with the enemies of Great Britain.

Now they are returning home, having seen service, encountered hardships, suffered from wounds, from disease and from the various accidents of war, leaving more than one hundred of their comrades lying beneath the soil of South Africa. By this time next week our brave lads will be with us, and how eagerly we are counting the hours likely to elapse ere the "Idaho" steams up our beautiful harbor. When our soldier boys come back to us, the people of Halifax will give them the heartiest kind of a welcome. We have been accused of being slow, even phlegmatic, at times. Now we are given the chance to banish this idea forever from our detractors' heads. Our reception promises to be the greatest kind of a success. There will be nothing too good for our young heroes, and every citizen will think it his duty to do them honor. We shall be glad to have them back with us again after having passed through so much hardship and suffering, and many a mother's heart will rejoice when she sees her gallant son returning safe from the dangers of one of the most arduous campaigns in which British troops ever engaged. All honor to the soldier boys of Canada, they have done their duty nobly and their reward should be in keeping.

The five arches erected at different intervals along the route of march are about finished and very imposing they will look. Arrangements are about completed for the reception to be tendered by the citizens. Some two hundred tickets have been printed for the use of the young ladies who are to assist at the luncheon. The question of a suitable dress was a knotty problem and required much consideration. Finally it was decided to have all attired in white, with a sash of red, white and blue ribbon fastened at the shoulder by a rosette. No hats or caps are to be allowed. What a happiness it will be for us to wait on these sturdy heroes. I for one am awaiting anxiously the arrival of the troopship and am anticipating with much pleasure the hours to be spent in attending to the wants of the inner man.

The glorious weather vouchsafed by a kindly probs. for the Thanksgiving holi-

day was immensely appreciated by everyone who enjoys football. It is so much nicer to be warm and watch the game with some degree of pleasure than to be shivering with the cold and wishing every moment that the game was over, and you were home seated before a cosy fire with a lovely cup of hot tea. With the coming of Autumn the usual symptoms of feminine admiration for the football boy break out. To many it seems an odd thing that our girls are contented—yes, even anxious—to see every game no matter how cold or disagreeable the weather may be. To the modern girl each one of those players is a hero upon whom she lavishes just as much enthusiasm as that evinced for the matinee actor. The latter admiration is of the spirit and is sentimental and sympathetic. It is wrongly described as mawkish or silly. It is always the hero of the sentiment or deed that is worshipped—not the player. But there is something wild and terrible in the fine and exultant frenzy of enthusiasm which the ordinary sedate young woman will display over a football game. The modern girl has learned to look unmoved upon the spectacle of a man falling unconscious on the field, for she has been told time and time again by her brother or somebody else's brother: "He'll be all right in a minute. He's had the breath knocked out of him, that's all." She has grown to accept these happenings as inevitable, and the wildness of her cheers would seem to indicate some innate savagery or Indian instinct lurking beneath her Autumn coat.

The beautiful weather of the past week has been taken advantage of by the golf enthusiasts. Every day Collins' field was dotted with bright costumes of our girls. Last week a match between the Golf Club and officers of the Royal Navy resulted in a win for the Navy by 15 up.

Speaking of golf reminds me of something I saw in a Toronto paper concerning a young lady who was in Halifax last month with the St. John team. As this lady's play was admired here, it may be of interest to some of our readers: "Miss Mabel Thompson, who won the driving competition on Wednesday morning at the Ferndale links, came all the way from St. John, accompanied by Miss Blair, daughter of the Hon. Mr. Blair, to play for Quebec—a sporty affair indeed."

The Valentine Stock Company was the recipient of a very pleasant surprise last

Friday evening after the regular performance in the shape of a serenading party tendered by the members of the Orchestra to evince their gratitude to the Company for the many kindnesses received, and the esteem in which they hold it. A pleasant time was spent by all present. The Company has been playing in some of our larger towns, and it is a small token to its popularity to say that we have missed it in Halifax, and the individual members who have already made many friends in this city will be cordially welcome on their return.

The announcement of the appointment of Mr. J. R. Jago, of Dartmouth, to be a lieutenant in the permanent forces, will be heard with much pleasure. Mr. Jago is a graduate of Kingston, who enlisted as a private in the 2nd Canadian Contingent.

Sir M. B. Daly, Lady Daly and Miss Daly sailed from Boston last week, for Liverpool, on the new Dominion Liner S. S. Commonwealth.

Mr. Ashley Oliver, youngest son of Surgeon-General Oliver, who has been a clerk in Molson's Bank, Toronto, for several years, has accepted a commission in the Royal Canadians.

Mrs. St. Clair Jones, Weymouth Point, is visiting friends in the city.

The many friends of Mr. Ernest Palmer Clarkson will be interested to learn that his engagement to Miss M. E. Burrows, of Richmond, Va., is announced.

Major Roberts, R. E., has obtained a month's leave of absence, and is enjoying a well earned vacation.

Miss Holmstrom, well known in physical culture circles here, has now large classes in Montreal, and is residing at 20 St. Luke Street.

Yarmouth meets with a serious loss in the departure of Mr. Charles T. Grantham and family to take up their residence in Hamilton, Ontario. Mr. Grantham lived in Yarmouth since his boyhood and was one of its most prominent and enterprising citizens. He took a deep interest in yachting, being the owner of the "Viking," which was built by Mr. Wm. Butler. He also erected at a heavy outlay the beautiful Royal Opera House.

The many friends of Herr Bruno Siebeltz will regret to learn of his death in Germany the early part of this month. Mr. Siebeltz was loved by all who knew him on account of his many amiable qualities and thorough musician's spirit. Deep sympathy is felt for the widow in her sad bereavement.

CATRIONA.