

THE OUTLOOK

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION

P. E. BLACK, Publisher.

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CHRISTMAS is rolling around once more. It will be our fifth in the province by the sea. We have had many ups and many downs — we've been penniless, and we've had dollars, the latter not for long. At any rate, we've always strived to give the best that was in us. At times the odds seemed to be against us, but we have stayed by the old ship, though feeling that the best thing to do was throw up the ghost, and give some other fellow a chance, but after all we all have our gloomy spells. Show us a business today that has not wished for something better to come its way. True the years that have gone have been filled with trials and perplexities. The cup of gladness, poverty, prosperity and great sorrows have all been ours; but with all it only goes to show that He that does all things, moves in a mysterious way. Yet we must all keep faith. And it is with this faith and hope of the future that we extend to you all our sincere wish for every gladness at this Christmas time.

They say a man without an enemy is no good. Perhaps that's why we are somewhat of that sort. Four years and six weeks on the job, trying to get a paper out that would please the greater portion of the population is a difficult task; but at the same time we feel that we have been blest with friends on every side. We know our paper is not perfect, and never will be as long as we are at the helm, but we feel justified in saying we have always strived to turn out a paper a credit to the town and equal to the patronage it has received. No doubt we have failed, in fact we know we have judging from the caustic remarks that come floating back like boomerangs, and are really refreshing to hear; more especially when they have been the misdeeds of those who are noted for being able to run every body else's business better than their own. These we have overlooked. But kindly criticisms, we have always tried to weigh well, and at times we believe we have honestly benefited. We have kind of left the path of the subject. We appreciate our numerous friends — we know they are real, they are genuine friendships that we feel awfully proud to have. We treasure these friendships.

OUR SERIAL story commences in this issue. We want you read this installment, and we are certain you will want to read the best of it, so if you are not already a subscriber — subscribe at once. The price is only one dollar and fifty cents for a whole year. The next installment will appear in our regular issue next week, and will continue each week until completed. "Seventeen" is a very interesting and fascinating story written by that novelist, Booth Tarkington, who is renowned as one of the best fiction writers of the day. Read this story. Tell your neighbors about it.

ONE OF THE most important industries that has sprung up in the Valley this year is the new Evaporator at Kingston. It was during the month of June that the question of an evaporator was first mooted. The fruit companies at the instigation of Mr. E. O. Wood held a meeting and the question thoroughly gone into. They fully realized that it was something that was needed, and they set about to get things moving. Mr. Wood drew up the plans, submitted them for approval and they were passed just as drawn. Mr. Wood has been in the evaporator business for a number of years, he has studied the scientific points, and has improved on the old methods to a very marked degree. A site was procured which most suitable to the best interests of an evaporator. Here work was commenced, and in short order one of the finest evaporating plants in Nova Scotia, if not the Dominion. Early in the fall it was ready for business. Mr. Wood has full charge of the plant, and under his able supervision the finest evaporated apples are produced. About fifty hands are employed and enjoy working under the most favorable conditions possible. The very latest machinery is installed, and along with the peculiarly essential venting system, it is no wonder that the product produced is of the best and ready markets are available for all the goods that can be made. The market is a good one, it is stable and satisfactory prices always procurable because evaporated fruits are healthy and are in use all over the world in large quantities. A similar plant would certainly be a benefit to Middleton, and would not in any way hinder the progress of the Kingston Evaporator, because there are plenty of apples in each place to keep the

OUR GREETING AND WISH

AS THE three wise men rode on the first Christmas to find the manger-crads Babe of Bethlehem, they bore gifts on their saddle bows; gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And so the spirit of Christmas giving crept into the world's heart.

The injunction was to go into the highways and byways and seek out the poor and distressed, the humble and the afflicted, the ragged children and the outcasts and the aged, and in the name of Him who was born on Christmas day, carry some sunshine into their lives. Give unto the poor and afflicted and your hearts shall glow with that peace which passeth understanding.

The two dominant characteristics of the Christmas season are kindness, expressed by good will toward men, and the inward joy wrought by kind acts, and suggested by peace on earth. "The earth has grown old with its burden of care, but at this time, it always is young," and with each recurring Yuletide we like to think of the spiritual blessings brought to the children of men on that first Christmas.

Our greeting to you is one of kindness in return for the good will you have displayed toward us. Our wish is that you may be filled with the fresh, clean joys of the season and receive a liberal endowment of that spirit which at this time rises like a mighty flood over the world.

P. E. BLACK, Publisher.
H. E. CARTER, Foreman.
L. P. CROUSE, Book-keeper.
G. GALLAGHER, Apprentice.
L. WHITMAN, Assistant.

both running at high speed. The apples are growing more plentiful each year as more new orchards are coming into bearing. The employment question too is worthy of consideration to town and district. It would mean more work and more

work means more money, and more money means better times. Why not consider the feasibility. We are sure Mr. Wood could give all the desired information necessary and be only too glad to do so.

IT IS with considerable pride, we ask our readers of this issue to read the contributions from Macdonald School, which appear on other pages. We are justly proud of the work done by the pupils, because it shows that our children are wide awake and alive to the progress made by Middleton, and that they are keenly interested. When children take note of town advancements it surely is proof positive that the town is really progressing. The Christmas essays too are worthy contributions and we want all our readers to peruse these articles carefully. To the youthful contributors we extend our heartfelt thanks — and to the teachers we also desire to express our appreciations of their kindly interest in "The Old Home Town Paper." We feel that with able and willing assistants such as the Macdonald School teachers and pupils have been, greater things are in store, as time goes on, for readers of The Outlook, and our future is assured. Well done girls and boys!

CORRESPONDENTS are one of a country weekly's greatest assets. In this respect we are sure our readers will agree that The Outlook has a great asset in its correspondents. We don't believe that there is another town in the Maritimes the size of Middleton, that can point with such pride to as large a number of correspondents who each week furnish the local paper with the news of the surrounding communities. It is true that some districts have been practically unmentioned throughout the year just closing, but we hope to have them lined up for 1925. We have always felt proud of our district correspondence each week — and at this time it is only right and proper that we should mention the fact. We thank you every one — and we trust you will continue your labors. We only wish that our position was better so that we could give you more than mere words for your untiring services during the past. May you all be spared to enjoy a real, true, happy Christmas. Again, we thank you kindly.

I SHALL try to correct errors when shown to be errors, and I shall adopt new ideas so fast as they shall appear to be true view. — Abraham Lincoln.

THE CHRISTMAS messages from the clergy that appear elsewhere in these pages convey thoughts that are well worth storing up. The meaning and why of Christmas is brought out clearly and we are sure you will treasure these thoughts and remember the true spirit of Christmas. We thank these gentlemen for their kindly interest in our paper, and trust they will use our columns more freely in the days to come. Thank you.

"SOME COMMUNITIES thrive and grow because of their natural advantages. Others are made only through the dogged energy and perseverance of their citizenship. Ours will be what we make it, and we should make it all that we can."

WE COMMENT to your kind consideration the advertisements in this issue. You will find them worthy of your time to read. Every one has a message for you, telling of their Christmas wares and what they are doing. If you will read them carefully, and then spend your money with them; we are sure you will feel better than if you sent your money to the mail order houses. Your Christmas will present a different phase. You will have nothing to regret, and you will rejoice in the fact that your dollars are helping local improvements instead of going abroad to build and help those that never did you or your community one cent's worth of service. Yes, buy at home this Christmas. It's to your advantage. Try it and see if we are not right.

Slander is a blighting stroke — the base, foul, cloven footed slander — like the loathsome worm leaves a path covered with slime. How truth fit it has been said: "Living, he is a travelling pest and worse, dying impotent, his soul too deeply stained for Hell." How often do we hear the Slanderer's tongue warbling his song of disgrace on the streets?

The truly virtuous do not easily credit evil that is told them of their neighbors, for if others may do amiss then may these also speak amiss.

Send your news items in every week. This is your paper.

REVIEW of PAST YEAR and MESSAGE by HIS WORSHIP, MAYOR SPONAGLE

Dear Mr. Editor:—

At your request I will endeavor to furnish a few lines for your Christmas Number, dealing with the events of the year 1924 in so far as it effects the Town of Middleton.

It is my melancholy duty to mention a few of our citizens who during the year have joined the "great majority." Of these Ex Mayor Aubrey E. Durling should be mentioned first. Dr. Durling for two terms served as Councillor, and then as Mayor of this town. Though not in the best of health, he did not spare himself, but devoted himself laboriously and conscientiously to Civic duties, and only those who were in close touch with him know how much this town is indebted to him in this respect.

Another prominent town official, whom we shall greatly miss, is our late Stipendiary Magistrate, Samuel Legg, Esq.

Others whom we should mention, are Mrs. Jones, wife of late Ex-mayor T. R. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph North,

Peter Marshall and George Cox, all old and very much respected citizens.

Building Operations—Although not up to 1923, still we have made a very creditable showing the following private residences have been erected, one each for Messrs Peter Martin, Frank Legg, Chas. E. Phinney and Edward H. Marshall. The United Church have thoroughly remodeled their Church, which is now one of the most convenient and up to date places of worship in the Valley, a credit both to the Town and the congregation. Mr. F. B. Armour has transformed the Presbyterian Church into two very comfortable and modern tenements.

During the year Mr. Wm. Crawford has opened up a brush factory. The Crawford Brushes are now in the market and meeting a very ready sale.

Our other industries A. W. Allen and Son, Woodworkers Middleton Cement Prod. Co. The Valley Milling Co., E. L.

Balcom and Sons, Machinists, and S. L. Gates and Sons, Cooperage, have all been kept quite busy, and report a good years business.

The Middleton Creamery under the skillful management of Mr. J. D. McKenzie has been making a splendid reputation capturing some of the most coveted prizes in that particular industry.

We regret that the Cooperage of Canada is temporarily closed but trust that it will soon be in a position to resume operations.

In spite of its much smaller crop this year our fruit warehouses, G. N. Reagh and Sons and the Middleton Fruit Co. Ltd. report a good years business.

The outstanding features in this year's history of our Town has been the carrying out of an important electrical development, and the installation of a new unit of 400 H. P. capacity at Nictaux Falls, together with the construction of a splendid cement dam about half a mile up the Nictaux River

from the power house. This easily places Middleton in the fore front in this respect, as barring some of the larger plants, our two units with a combined capacity of about 600 H. P. is one of the most up to date and ambitious electrical installations in the Province. This will provide our Town with enough electrical energy for its presents needs, and a good margin to spare for future development. Indeed I feel I am justified in stating without much fear of contradiction, that as a Town we are most favorably situated. We have a splendid water supply within easy reach of the Town we have an up to date electrical plant, a good sewerage system, and a very superior school The Armadale Theatre is one of the best in the Valley, and our three churches with their very efficient Sunday Schools are all doing splendid work for the moral and spiritual welfare of the Town and vicinity.

A word should be said about the Memorial Hospital

situated in the Town. This was started by the War Veteran's Association some three years ago and while not strictly a Town institution, it receives very hearty support from the citizens of Middleton. It is being supported and is now serving practically the whole of the Country, especially from Bridgetown East.

Since July 1924 when it was taken over by the Commission there have been admitted up to Dec. 1st, one hundred and thirty four patients, eighty six major operations have been performed, and a number of minor ones. There have been twelve maternity cases. At first these local hospitals were the subject of much adverse criticism a good deal of it unwarranted but the public are now beginning to realize their value, and whereas a number of years ago there were but few of these institutions outside of Halifax, now scarcely a County in Nova Scotia but has one or more. It can now

be pretty safely stated that the Soldier's Memorial Hospital, Middleton, has made for itself a very warm place in the hearts of the people of the County.

In conclusion, allow me to suggest that a town or community is largely what its individual members make it. It only needs a number of alert, energetic, fair dealing and popular business men to give a Town a reputation for these same qualities, and to make it a very desirable place to live in. We have in our midst many citizens who possess all the qualities enumerated above and for that reason under Divine Providence I venture to predict a bright future for Middleton.

Wishing the citizens of Middleton, young and old, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year, I remain
Mr. Editor,

Very truly yours,
J. A. SPONAGLE,
Mayor.