

### Prize Day at Mercy Convent Schools

The closing exercises of the Convent of Mercy Schools, Military Road, took place yesterday afternoon in the Archbishop's Library. Present were His Grace the Archbishop, Rt. Rev. Mgr. MacDermott, V. G., Rev. Drs. Kitchen, Greene and Carter, Rev. Frs. Pippy, Conway, Gough and Sheehan, the parents of the pupils and many other prominent citizens. Before the distribution of prizes an excellent programme was given by the pupils which was most creditable to them and their teachers and was greatly enjoyed by all. The different drills were well executed and the solos and choruses were very pleasingly rendered. The following is the programme:—

Chorus—"The Dance from Faust."  
Address to His Grace—Miss Kitty Harris.  
Japanese Reception.  
Recitation—"Home for the Holidays"—Miss B. O'N. Primm.  
Vocal Solo—"The Old Green Isle"—Miss M. Ryan.  
Flag Drill.  
Recitation—"Morio"—Miss M. McGrath.  
Vocal Solo—"When the heart was Young"—Miss Mary Harris.  
Ribbon Drill.  
Chorus—"Tally Ho."



The address to His Grace was couched in beautiful language and was artistically printed, the work having been done at the Convent. In a brief reply His Grace thanked the children for the kind expressions contained in the address and congratulated them and their devoted Sisters on the success achieved by the schools during the year. He expressed the hope that there would be an annual prize day in the future and that the classes would be as well represented in the prize lists as in the present year.

His Grace then distributed the prizes to the successful winners, giving each of them a word of encouragement as they came forward to receive their awards. A feature of the day's programme was the presentation of two medals for education donated by Rt. Rev. Mgr. St. John, P. P., Torbay, and a medal for efficiency presented by Rev. Fr. Conway. They were awarded as follows:—

For Education—Senior Class, Miss Mabel McGrath; Junior Class, Miss Bessie O'Neil Primm.  
For Efficiency—Miss Betty McGrath.

**NOTE OF THANKS.**—Mrs. A. Lindstrom and family wish to thank Mrs. and Mr. J. A. Lundstrom, Mr. and Mrs. J. Roberts, Mr. Ford Winsor, Mrs. William Campbell and family, Mrs. Galway and family, Mr. William Royle, Mr. George Langmead, Mr. Herbert Russell, Miss Jean Mott, George Street Mission Circle, Master Joseph Butler, Sergt. Neary, Misses Helen and Grace Smith, Mr. John Grace, Mr. and Miss Northfield, Mr. Beckstrom, Mrs. Leary, Mrs. Cockerham and all other kind friends who sympathized and helped them in their recent bereavement.—adv.

Since the Tissues receive their tone from the nerve centres, lustrous eyes, a clear complexion and symmetrical figure can only be preserved by maintaining full nerve vigor. When the mirror warns take Asaya-Neural, the new remedy for Nervous Exhaustion.

### Why the Allies Have Decided to Hold Salonika Base.

Evacuation Would be Morally, Strategically and Politically Disastrous—Would Exhilarate Huns.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The Chronicle gives prominence to an article "from a correspondent" discussing the question "Why the Allies will not abandon Salonika?"

It says: "To realize why the Allies have decided to hold Salonika it is only necessary to think out the consequences of evacuation. Those consequences would be disastrous—morally, strategically and politically. In the first place, it would admit openly a serious check. The result would be exhilaration in Germany and corresponding depression of feeling in the Allied countries. Secondly, the complete abandonment of the Balkans, for that is what it would mean, might decide Roumania against us. The throwing of a State, that really at heart is friendly toward us, into the ranks of our enemies, would be the most considerable disaster that could befall us.

"Thirdly, it would mean the abandonment of Serbia to her fate. Apart from the dishonor of such a course, it would have the very real drawback of leaving her in possession of the enemy as a game or hostage, of which important political use might be made hereafter. Fourthly, our withdrawal from the Balkan theatre would be, in fact, a guarantee of safety of a vital portion of the Greek flank. The enemy's communications now stretch in a long line from the Danube to the Persian Gulf. Roughly parallel to that line of communication, and at a relatively short distance from it, the whole way along, runs the sea which constitutes the Allies' chief communication. But it is in our power to deliver a lightning stroke at the long enemy flank at any point which we choose in the Balkans or elsewhere. Finally, to leave Salonika would certainly mean handing it over to the enemy for a submarine base. It would not be gross exaggeration to say that the Germans at Salonika might threaten the whole of our sea communications east of Malta."

### Plot Against Canada.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 15.—The federal investigation into the alleged German plots involving violation of United States neutrality, which already have resulted in the indictment and arrest of Baron George Wilhelm von Brincken, connected with the German consulate here, C. C. Crowley, a detective employed by Franz Bopp, German consul general, and Mrs. Margaret Cornell, received added impetus here to-day from the publication of the affidavit alleged to have been sworn to August 27 by Johannes Henrikus von Koolbergen, a civil engineer, of Mill Valley, California.

### A Crack at Canada.

Von Koolbergen charged that he was employed by Consul General Bopp and von Brincken with the knowledge and assistance of German vice-consul Eckhard von Schach to dynamite a tunnel or bridge in Canada.

Federal officials here said they regarded von Koolbergen's affidavit, the text of which was published in Providence, R. I., to-day, as of the highest importance, and expected it to be of great assistance to them in the trials of persons indicted.

### Attorney's Denial.

George A. McGowan, attorney for Consul General Franz Bopp and father-in-law of Baron von Brincken, who are charged by von Koolbergen with having paid him money when the latter deceived them into believing he had blown up a tunnel in Canada, issued a statement to-day in which he vigorously denied the truth of von Koolbergen's story.

He termed the indictment of von Brincken as "Nothing short of an outrage upon Lieut. von Brincken. Nothing but a complete and speedy vindication can result from a test of this charge," he said.

McGowan in his statement referred to von Koolbergen as an adventurer and a British spy. Von Brincken, Crowley and Mrs. Cornell are at liberty on \$10,000 bonds each.

### Sports and Pastimes.

The Christmas Number devoted to athletics—"Sports and Pastimes"—will be issued to-morrow. This publication is always looked forward to with great interest by the young men especially. This year there are not many of the "sports" left in St. John's, as the majority are with the colors and they will no doubt appreciate a copy of the number from their friends. There are several well written articles, among them one by Mr. C. E. Huff, on the passing of Dr. Grace, Lt. Edwards, of the 5th Regiment contributes a message from Ayr which should be read by every one in the city. Mr. P. Grace writes the Baseball story this year. The book is profusely illustrated and makes a valuable souvenir.

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