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Re Florenceville Consolidated School Building

Letter From the
Rev. D. Fiske

Florenceville and East Florenceville Friends:—Don't look at the dark side of the destructive fire. That fine School Building, an honour to the District may have cost a good deal. There may have been instalments still to pay upon it. It may have cost much for Van service, as also for equipment of many kinds. It may have cost largely to maintain an efficient and adequate staff, and now fire has done what makes necessary rearrangement and reconstruction of School outfit—with new demands for money in a time of multiplied calls; but look on the sunny side. What a bright array of facts its history present. It was a fine plant. Rich in equipment. Besides its wealth of scholastic culture, its Manuel Training and Domestic Science Departments have done so much to give its pupils practical equipment for industrial and home enriching life. Through the bringing to its centre of light and learning the boys and girls of Florenceville, East Florenceville and Connell, they have had not only the advantages of a better school equipment, but they have had the more powerful stimulus of larger numbers, more multiplied impulses to a wholesome emulation, a more comprehensive social fellowship. The Assembly Room gatherings have been powerfully inspirational, occasions mem-

an enlightened imagination to picture. And the personal associations between the pupils still in the list or who have gone forth into the world, or gone across the mystic borne of this earthly life, with the so varied personalities of the procession of teachers who in succession have shared the responsibilities within that historic Area—these the most to be reckoned of all. Whatever the future hold in store the past is not in vain, material things are insecure. The Cathedral of Rheims the Library of Louvain, beautiful landscapes 2 square miles of ancient Halifax with their homes, churches, factories and wealth of material values besides the innumerable dead gone wholesome influences. The Library of Louvain, beautiful landscapes over vast European areas. Cities that used to be teeming with life, even thrones long famous in history, 2 sq. miles of ancient Halifax with factories, public buildings, churches, happy homes, suddenly laid desolate, handsome manhood and beautiful womanhood, promising boys and lovely girls countless hosts of these who lived in 1914—gone—but wholesome education influences the things that go to produce happy and inspiring remembrances all focus to produce enduring character; character that lives on to attempt and achieve, character that having gone out quickly or tragically, but heroically and having gone, has left behind it memories eloquently vocal in and these are things of value.

Forty Per Cent. of
Houses Demolished

Estimate of 1,000 Persons
Dead in Guatemala City.

New York, Dec. 31—An estimate of 1,000 persons dead in the earthquake ruins at Guatemala city is contained in a telegram received here from the General and South American Telegraph Company's manager at San Jose, Guatemala, who returned to San Jose from Guatemala city yesterday. The message reads:

"The legation and American consulates are badly wrecked. Forty per cent of the houses in the city are demolished; most of the houses have collapsed and are uninhabitable. The penitentiary, asylum and industrial buildings are all wrecked. The post office and large churches are demolished.

The afflicted city, in 1905, had a population of about 97,000.

"Martial law has been declared and several looters have been shot. The President has ordered the inhabitants of the city to leave. Terrific earthquake shocks continue at intervals of about five minutes. The death toll is estimated at one thousand. All telegraph wires in the interior are again silent."

The Doomed Doughnut

[Indianapolis News.]

The doughnut is doomed. Recent intimations of disapproval by the food administration of this national confederation might have been regarded as a span to conversation and a threat that would not be carried out unless as a last resort. Bakers are prohibited in making bread or rolls from adding sugar or fat to the dough during the baking or afterward. Some difference of opinion as to what are rolls has given the doughnut respite, but it is to be short lived, according to the state food administrator, who brings this significant news from Washington: This ruling gives sweet doughs good a temporary "ease of life" only. Mr. Hoover has a special grudge against doughnuts. They soak up fat which we do not need, and our Allies are suffering for. So doughnuts and frying pan foods will shortly be taboo and we must not eat or make them until the war is over. Thus is the fate of the doughnut sealed.

CANADA'S WHITE ESKIMOS

Strange, Fierce Habits of Humorous Northern Dwellers Described

After passing three years in the Arctic regions, George H. Wilkins, an Australian who was a member of the Stefansson Expedition, arrived in England with a choice selection of stories about the so-called "Blonde Eskimos" with whom he lived a considerable time. "The Blonde Eskimos," he said, "are quite untouched by Western civilization, and their habits and customs are essentially primitive. They are not a long-lived race, and fifty years is perhaps the normal span. Human life is very little valued amongst them, and what civilized people class as murder is regarded as more or less harmless eccentricity."

Visiting a camp where he had made friends with an Eskimo a few months before and not finding him, Mr. Wilkins inquired after his health. He was told that the man was dead, and the manner of his death was this. One day the Eskimo came across a member of the tribe fashioning a knife out of the native copper which is found in this region. He chafed him, it appears, on his want of skill. "You don't know the first thing about making a knife," he said, in effect. The artificer said nothing until he had finished his work, when, remarking "I think it is a pretty good knife," he plunged it into the breast of the critic. The Eskimos have a keen sense of humor, and this incident was much appreciated.

There is a ceremony of marriage among these Eskimos, but apparently the number of a man's wives is limited only by his capacity to support them. The regular price for a wife is a ride for 12 months' hard labor in the service of the prospective bride's family. It is only rarely that a rifle can be obtained from the Indians to the south, and the price paid for it, in skins, practically represents a year's activity in hunting. Some of the more opulent Eskimos possess three wives. One is chosen for her personal attractions, another for her prowess as a hunter and fisher, while the third does the housework.

SOME STRAY PIECES
OF INFORMATION

Injections of rattlesnake venom are used to cure epilepsy.

The atmospheric changes during a thunder storm accelerate the discharge of all gases and it is now asserted that it is these, and not the electrical discharges which sour milk.

It is asserted that the germs of paralysis find their way to the brain through the nose.

The house fly is the principal source of infantile paralysis infection.

Hunger makes the brain heavier.

A scientist says that the bassoon player is always cranky and the drummer generally lacks humor.

Where do the birds die is a question which has not been satisfactorily answered, although considerable attention has been given to the matter.

A statement has been made that life would be prolonged if persons would acquire the habit of stooping by the hips instead of bending the backbone.

In Prussia a whole new kind of joint has been successfully grafted.

Every once in a while lumps of butter are dug up in the Irish bogs which are said to have been placed there many years ago for flavoring or preservation.

On the last day of each year the Joreen throws out of his house a raw image of a man, which is said to carry sins and bad luck with it.

Chemicals are more effective in lighting mine fires than water.

Barely one-seventh of the population of the British Empire is composed of whites.

Great Britain carries on more trade with Germany than any other country with France and the United States ranking second and third.

ALBERTA RURAL SCHOOLS

One of the healthiest signs of progress in Alberta is the continual formation of new school districts and building of new schools. All over the Province are these sign posts of civilization to be seen. But neat buildings furnished with an up-to-date equipment are wasted money without the real spirit of education. For many years memory was the only faculty cultivated in a child. Prizes were always awarded for learning by heart long lists of names and facts. The names of the kings of Israel and Judah, the height of Mt. Everest, or a Bible chapter repeated backwards were considered signs of great intelligence in the poor little learner. But children have come to their own and a glance at the course of studies for our rural schools will show the strides made in the right direction. Nature study plays an important part, and our children are taught by observation the great lessons of nature—the mighty mother of all real wisdom.—S. J. Wigley.

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able to parents and other relatives and visitors as well as to the teachers and pupils. Able speakers have given impulses to higher and greater things and worthier life. Valedictorians and Class Prophets have worthily made use of their outstanding opportunities. The Institution has done much to evolve and maintain an esprit de corps that will enrich down through the years the reminiscences of those who studied with its walls. The several communities involved have been bound in indissoluble bonds. Powerful impulses to wholesome public spirit that means so much to a prospering and progressive community radiated from that Consolidated Centre. The important gatherings addressed by leading men and women in the interests of progressive Agriculture and more enlightened Domestic Economy were there given their opportunity, and were not in vain. Who will venture to say that all the cost has not been far more than justified? Who can assure to sum up number of dollars in the condensed and comprehensive scholastic economic social, inspirational value of the F. C. S. that has at length met with such a blow. Too intangible are the greater of these values for even