

BIRKENHEAD'S TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

The Earl of Birkenhead forsook line types. politics recently, and to the members of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution delivered an inaugural address on Robert Louis Stevenson. His political friends and adversaries recognize his platform gifts, and on this neutral ground of literature all will appreciate Lord Birkenhead's fine tribute to a great novelist.

"Stevenson inherited a frail physique. Never in his life was there a moment in which he supposed he was the master of that kind of robust physical health which entitled him to think that in the matter of health he had something which he could squander and dissipate and play with," said Lord Birkenhead in his address, as reported at the time in the Scotsman.

"And something surely must be conceded to one who, being, as he thought he was, a little indolent by temperament, nevertheless submitted himself to the severest discipline in the world, in order to become a master of the only craft in the world he wished to become a master of. That, indeed, in the measurement of artistry, was an irrelevant circumstance, because, in the end, one asked—what did the man do? It was nevertheless worth considering when one was measuring the composite achievement of a man's life, and the qualities of character he brought to bear in order to perfect the maximum of artistry."

"In the first place, he put very high the certain claim that Stevenson possessed a consummate mastery of style and here an observation fell to be made entirely to his credit. He was the master of style, not because, as Pope claimed, perhaps falsely, that he lisped in numbers, for the numbers came, but because he realized that so great a thing came to man by birth, but by training. It did not come to Shelley, and it did not come to Keats. No Complete Artistry Without Supreme Labor."

"He was sure that no man achieved complete artistry in any branch of human effort without supreme labor. Stevenson labored and labored until he made himself master of style and expression. But if one was going so to elaborate an artificial expression of that which one wished to convey that it was itself elaborate, one had wasted all the effort of one's elaboration."

"Elaboration in literature had no object unless it produced the appearance of spontaneity, and it was the supreme art of Stevenson that, when one read the result of all that elaboration, it had the appearance of pure spontaneity. Neither the style of Thackeray nor the style of Dickens was in any way comparable to that of Stevenson. That of George Eliot was, but to his mind she suggested a little in her style the use of what he believed was known as 'the lipstick in public.'"

"The result was not to be despised, but the degree of the contrivance should be more carefully masked. Stevenson combined incredible mechanism with an equally incredible appearance of spontaneity. His description was always impressive, and very often stately. His heroines talked like charming young Scottish ladies. Could an Englishman say more? His men talked like men of any blood in the world."

Very Spirit of Romance.
"There was in Stevenson the very spirit of Romance. He had a mind as rich as the cave of Aladdin with the jewels of romantic adventure. He was among the greatest of romancers in one sense. He undoubtedly had the exquisite distinction of style, with a masculine power of delineating masculine."

Don't Neglect The Children's Coughs and Colds

Mrs. Wm. W. Card, Bancroft, Ont., writes:—"Last winter my three children had very bad colds, and they would cough all night long, which was very annoying to the rest of the family. I could get nothing to help them until one night, a friend who was staying with me, advised me to give them

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NEW BRUNSWICK EGGS CARRY OFF HIGH HONORS AT DAIRY SHOW IN THE OLD COUNTRY

The New Brunswick Poultry Exchange, St. John, N. B., has just received a handsome Bronze Medal, won recently at the Dairy Show, London, England, for an exhibit of eggs. This Show is open to competition from all parts of the British Empire, and in some of the classes the prizes are very keenly contested.

Great care was taken to make the exhibit as representative of the Province as possible. The best eggs from a number of different Egg Circles shipping to the Exchange were chosen. The exhibit consisted of one dozen cases of brown shelled eggs. Brown shelled eggs were chosen because Barred Plymouth Rocks which lay a light brown egg, are the most common and most popular brood in New Brunswick.

The selection of the eggs was done mainly by Mr. M. Peters, Foreman of the New Brunswick Poultry Exchange. Mr. Peters has been many years in the egg business and has graded eggs in Prince Edward Island, in Montreal and in New York. At the time of the last St. John Exhibition, Mr. Peters graded and selected two cases of eggs, one white and one brown, which both won first prizes for the Exchange.

It is a difficult matter to ship eggs to the Old Country and have them arrive in perfect condition, fit for exhibition purposes. The case

of eggs sent by the New Brunswick Poultry Exchange had many cracked and broken eggs when it arrived. This undoubtedly counted against it in the judging. Another time, at least two cases will be sent over and the cracked eggs removed after arrival, making one good case.

When the sending of an exhibit of eggs to the Dairy Show from New Brunswick was first considered, it was thought that the expenses would be too great to warrant it. Happily however, two friends of the Exchange volunteered to assume the greater part of the expense and so the eggs were sent. When judged they took second prize, a Bronze Medal awarded to them and the high quality of New Brunswick eggs was established.

Completes Successful Year.
The New Brunswick Poultry Exchange has just completed its first year's operations. The business has proved successful and has justified the foresight and initiative of the organizers.

While the volume of egg handled was not as large as at first expected, the quality was better than anticipated, and more poultry was handled.

The following table gives the quantity and quality of eggs handled by Counties (corrected to Dec. 1st, last) also the amount of poultry shipped through the Exchange.

1925 EGGS.					
County	No. Circles	No. Members	Total Quantity Dozen	Percent Extras	Poultry Pounds
1. Carleton	3	29	3786-8	64.5	553.
2. York	3	32	3150-11	63.9	2054.
3. Albert	1	14	1132-2	63.5	415.
4. Kings	2	26	9563-4	61.8	450.
5. Kent	11	195	28639-	60.38	12359.
6. Sunbury	1	9	963-6	55.8	90.
7. Westmorland	5	156	14454-7	55.7	36978.
8. Victoria	3	27	2787-2	55.4	
9. Gloucester	5	124	9117-8	48.4	4198.
10. Charlotte	1	9	1270-10	46.1	
					9012 live
	35	621	74815.9	55.6	66109 lbs.

Kent County Leads.

Kent County has the largest number of Egg Circles and shipped the most eggs, with Westmorland second on eggs and first on poultry. Carleton County is first in quality of eggs, with York and Albert very close. The quality of eggs from Gloucester and Charlotte (Deer Island) did not show as good, owing partly, to the difficulty of shipping.

In all, thirty-five Egg Circles were organized, or became affiliated with the Exchange during the year. More than 600 members joined and became shareholders. It being a co-operative company, whatever profits there may be on the year's business are divided amongst the members on a patronage basis. Last year the expenses were high as the business was only newly started, but a small rebate is being returned to the members after the Annual Meeting takes place.

The New Brunswick Poultry Exchange was organized last January at the Farmers and Dairymen's Convention at Sussex. The First Annual Meeting of the Exchange is being held this year at the time of the Farmers and Dairymen's Convention at Fredericton on January 21st.

Encouraging Outlook.
The outlook for 1925 is very encouraging. A greater interest is being taken in poultry than ever before. Many new Egg Circles will be organized and it is expected that the quantity and quality of New Brunswick eggs will be increased and improved upon. If this is done, New Brunswick can soon be made self-supporting as regards eggs and poultry, to the profit of the farmer and the greater satisfaction of the consumer.

PLAYERS OF 1925.

The photo play critic of the New York Herald-Tribune says:

I offer the following as the photo-plays that at the moment seem to me the ten most satisfactory of the year:

The Last Laugh.
The Merry Widow.
Kiss Me Again.
The Tower of Lies.
The Big Parade.
The Gold Rush.
The Unholy Three.
Siege.
Siegfried.
Grass.
Close behind these—so close that almost any one might be substituted for one of the last four on my list of ten are—"A Kiss for Cinderella," "The King on Main Street,"

"Lady Windermere's Fan," "A Woman of the World," "Lost: A Wife," "Are Parents People?" "Paths to Paradise," "Marry Me" and "Ben-Hur."

Following the sigh of relief that comes with the completion of such a task, I present, even more timidly if possible, the ten screen performances that cling most tenaciously to mind:

Emil Jannings in "The Last Laugh."
Charlie Chaplin in "The Gold Rush."
Betty Bronson in "A Kiss for Cinderella."
Louise Dresser in "The Goose Woman."
Lon Chaney in "The Tower of Lies."
Renee Adoree in "The Big Parade."
Roy D'Arcy in "The Merry Widow."

Lois Moran in "Stella Dallas."
Lastly comes a list of the ten players whose work—judged by their advance in ability, in popular esteem and in general meritorious work—seems the most commendable:

Betty Bronson.
Greta Nissen.
Constance Bennett.
Florence Vidor.
Marie Prevost.
Norma Shearer.
Lois Moran.
Louise Dresser.
Roy d'Arcy.
Raymond Griffith.

So endeth the annual New Year's sermon without the presentation of a single resolution for the coming year.

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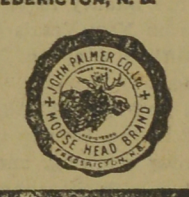
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