

# OBSERVER BELIEVES THAT VALUE OF LATIN TO STUDENT IS MUCH EXAGGERATED

## Men Get Dragged to Social Functions By Their Wives

(Note: The Daily Mail while interested in "Observer's" articles, does not necessarily agree with what that writer publishes. Sometimes the views expressed are entirely at variance with our own opinions)

With the ceremony attendant upon the opening of the legislature out of the way, the members can get down to business. The ceremonial part of the business is interesting to watch, and is backed by tradition, but the general public is, or ought to be, more interested in what comes afterwards.

One should not forget, of course, the state function in the form of a reception, which takes place on the evening of the day the legislature is opened. This function, too, is more or less hallowed by tradition, but that does not make it any easier to bear for the average man. I say the average man, for while there may be some bizarre creatures of the male species who really enjoy such functions, they are in a decided minority. One can visualize the forlorn looking bunch of stags milling about and being milled about Thursday night, and contriving to look as miserable as only evening dress can make most men look. Poor creatures, dragged out by enterprising wives who have been saving up the new evening

gown for so long for just this occasion. The women have a great time criticising each other's gown and retelling the latest scandal, but it is otherwise with the men. Even the satisfaction of a chance to dance is denied them by reason of the crowded condition of the place. An occasional ray of sunshine is vouchsafed a few lucky ones, when Bill or Tom gives them the high sign to just step outside for a minute. Amid much secrecy and glancing over the shoulder a mysterious bottle is produced, and a couple of hurried gulps are taken of the contents. But these are the lucky ones, and they are comparatively few.

However, there is much for the legislature to do, once the social functions are dispensed with. We await with interest the speech from the Throne as some indication of what is to be done. Most of us think we know some things that ought to be done. Perhaps some definite progress in educational reform may now be made, as it is long overdue.

Mention of education leads us to speak of the decision of the University of New Brunswick to require only one year of Latin for the Arts course in future. This step is to be commended, and is in line with the present educational trend. Many universities have dispensed with Latin, altogether as a compulsory subject, and while I think this is to be deplored, yet there is no doubt that one year of compulsory Latin is sufficient for the average Arts student. The practical value of Latin to the student as an aid to him in later life has been grossly exaggerated. The actual part played by the language in the work of the doctor or the lawyer is very slight. Probably the knowledge of a dozen or so words and phrases would be sufficient in those professions.

The fact is that the mission of Latin as an educational factor has been misunderstood. Unless one is going to make a thorough study of the subject beyond what the average university course will provide, one will never master Latin sufficiently well to find the portals of Latin literature unlocked to him so that he may read it with ease in the original. And that is its sole cultural value regarded as a language. Very few attain this proficiency. But the subject could be taken up from the point of view of its influence upon the formation of the English language. If the student were trained to associate every new Latin word in his vocabulary with English words derived from it, then the study of Latin would have some practical use. We often hear it said "The study of Latin is an aid to the study of English." Not unless it is presented to the student in the way mentioned above. And that is not done.

You teachers of Latin: the next time you set a Latin examination, give some questions like this: "Write ten English words derived from the verb 'amare'." If you teach that way you should examine that way or vice versa. (I put the last two words in, to show the kind of Latin words that is about all the original Latin the average person needs to know.)

OBSERVER.

Dr. G. H. Laporte, Mrs. Jeanne Landry, Edmundston, are registered today at the Queen Hotel.

## SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

### Gubernatorial Reception Attended by Several Hundred

With a setting of charm and art the assembly chamber of the Legislative Building of the province of New Brunswick was last evening the scene of one of the most enjoyable gubernatorial functions held in years. The reception given by His Honour Lieutenant Governor Murray MacLaren was attended by several hundred guests including the members of the legislature with their wives and several debutantes.

The throne had been converted into a bower of green palms, ferns with the coronation colors expressed with blue iris and yellow daffodils. The spectacle of the various military uniforms and many beautiful gowns worn by the ladies created a contrast that was most pleasing.

Promptly at nine o'clock His Honour took his place in the receiving line, the guests proceeding from the main entrance single file to the reception platform. His Honour was assisted in receiving by his daughter Miss MacLaren, and Premier and Mrs. A. A. Dyas.

Whilst the guests were being presented an orchestra provided soft music and later dancing was enjoyed. Supper was served in the Corporation room at eleven o'clock under the sponsorship of the Picardy chapter of the I.O.D.E.

The tables were centred with silver baskets of spring flowers, blue and gold candles being in candelabra at each end of the table. Large bows of blue coronation tulle were placed around the floral centre of the tables. Members of the Chapter served.

Miss Margaret MacLaren wore a gown of white crepe with cape of fringe, silver slippers and corsage of orchids.

Mrs. A. A. Dyas, wife of Hon. A. A. Dyas, premier of New Brunswick wore a gown of white chiffon velvet with pearls and corsage of pink roses. Mrs. Landry of Edmundston wore a gown of blue coronation velvet, gold slippers and she carried blue irises.

Mrs. A. P. Paterson was in a gown of flowered satin with silver slippers. Her ornaments were diamonds.

Miss Mary Barker, debutante daughter of Major and Mrs. T. C. Barker, was in a parchment color cream satin gown made on simple lines with full skirt and silver trimming and carrying a nosegay of coronation colors and ostrich feathers. Miss Barker was presented by her mother.

Mrs. C. H. Blakeny of Moncton wore a champagne color crepe romaine with brown slippers. Miss Mary Neville, debutante daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Neville wore a gown of robin blue crepe with taffeta silk made on simple lines, blue slippers with nosegay of coronation blue iris. Miss Neville was presented by her mother.

Miss Mary Dyas was in a period model of blue taffeta with cape. Mrs. Boucher, wife of Deputy Speaker J. G. Boucher wore a black lace gown with peplum, silver slippers and a corsage of pink roses.

Rt. Hon. the Countess of Ashburnham, wore a French model of black silk net, embroidered in silver and silver slippers. Her ornaments were diamonds.

Mrs. W. S. Anderson, wife of Hon. W. S. Anderson, wore a metallic gown of black and silver.

Mrs. F. W. Pirie, wife of Hon. F. W. Pirie, was attired in black net with silver embroidery in green and red and wore a corsage of orchids.

Mrs. G. W. Kitchen, wife of His Worship Mayor Kitchen, wore a gown of black satin with a corsage of spring flowers in coronation colors.

Mrs. C. C. Jones, wife of the president of the University of New Brunswick, was gowned in blackberry net and wore amethyst ornaments.

Miss Catherine Conlon, debutante presented by her mother Mrs. J. H. Conlon wore a gown of white crepe over silk made in simple classic lines. Her nosegay was coronation blue.

Miss Mary Jackson, debutante, presented by her mother Mrs. M. D.

Jackson, was in a tight fitting princess gown of pale silk moire with pink slippers.

Mrs. A. D. Dyas of St. Stephen was in a gown of black chiffon with black slippers.

Mrs. Jas. Inches of St. Stephen wore a gown of blue lace, silver slippers with a corsage of red roses.

Mrs. Dysart Entertained Yesterday Following the opening of the Legislature yesterday afternoon Mrs. Dysart, wife of Premier A. A. Dyas, entertained the wives of the Legislature Members and a few others at the tea which was held by group three of the St. Andrew's Guild of the Presbyterian Church at Dunrobin.

Tea Sponsored by Group Three Group three of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Guild sponsored a most enjoyable and well patronized tea, which was held yesterday afternoon at Dunrobin, the home of Mrs. A. P. Crockett which she graciously threw open for the occasion. The tea-table had a floral centre of daffodils and iris and was presided over for the first hour by Mrs. J. S. McCarter, Mrs. C. A. Mcvey, and by the Rt. Hon. Countess of Ashburnham and Mrs. George E. Ross for the second hour. Replenishing were Mrs. J. D. MacKay and Miss Jean Hodge. Assisting were Mrs. K. R. McAdam, Mrs. Miller McLeod, Mrs. Bonnell, Mrs. Wallace Crockett, Miss Marnie Crockett, Miss Katherine Davidson, Mrs. William Macredie, Mrs. Biggs and others.

Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Tweedsmuir will honor the Speaker of the Senate and Mrs. Foster with their presence at dinner in the Speaker's chambers in Ottawa this evening.

Mr. Justice L. P. D. Tilley of Saint John was among the guests at the Governor's reception last evening.

Coronation Tea and Musicales Today The home of Mrs. W. A. Vanwart will this afternoon be the scene of an enjoyable function when the members of the Hospital Aid will sponsor a musicale and tea. The guests will be received by Mrs. D. J. Shea, president of the Hospital Aid and Mrs. Vanwart. The tea and coffee cups will be presided over at the first hour by Mrs. A. F. Vanwart and Mrs. William Kessen and for the second hour by Mrs. J. H. Malcom and Mrs. C. D. Richards. Ushering will be Mrs. E. O. Turner and Mrs. A. L. Gerow. Replenishing will be Mrs. C. P. Holden, Mrs. Stewart Neill, Mrs. H. R. Babbitt, Mrs. A. J. Thompson, Mrs. J. D. Palmer and members of the Aid will serve. Miss Arita Gerow will take the contributions. The house is bright with a profusion of spring flowers, stressing the coronation colors. On the dining room table a large silver basket of yellow and blue flowers forms an attractive centre with bows of blue coronation tulle and blue and gold candles in silver holders at each end of the table. A large gold crown is on the piano and throughout the drawing room and other rooms are yellow and blue cut flowers. The musicale will begin shortly after four o'clock.

The Alumnae Association of the Victoria Public Hospital held their annual dinner last evening at Pythian Hall. Covers were laid for fifty and special guests were Mrs. Woodcock and the graduating class of the Victoria Public Hospital. Miss Edith Brown president of the Alumnae was toast mistress and several toasts were proposed and responded to by those present.

Mrs. Jas. Inches of St. Stephen is the guest of Major and Mrs. T. C. Barker.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Blakeny, Moncton, are visitors to town today.

J. F. Russell, Montreal, is staying at the Queen Hotel today.

## The Time of Penance

We now are in the time of Lent Throughout this Christian Nation, Which is the season that is meant To help in our Salvation And at the table we believe We must not be a feaster If we are hoping to receive Our just reward at Easter.

We must be thinking of our souls And what's to come Hereafter And not of food or flowing bowls Or dancing or of laughter For all this world is full of sin And all its Christian tenants Throughout this season must begin To give themselves to Penance.

I know that this is true because Of all my early teaching And still I hear the Lenten Lauds That every one is preaching And every one it seems to me Is quite sincere about it— And yet so far as I can see They only TALK about it! —Little Polly.

## LENT

These forty days His pilgrimage I tell upon time's rosary; Betrayed . . . the Garden . . . and the Cross . . . The crown of thorns . . . and Calvary "Father Forgive" . . . earth's darkest hour . . . They triumphed but through calumny Came Easter Morn, then His great Love Won us eternal victory. —Amy L. Ratz.

## Psychology: Applied

A sea of feminine faces And chiffon bosoms waved; The speaker of the afternoon From heights of rhetoric wavered. Her lecture on "The Inner Poise," That held the spellbound house, Was lost in shrill and female noise— Beside her stood a mouse! —Virginia Brasier.



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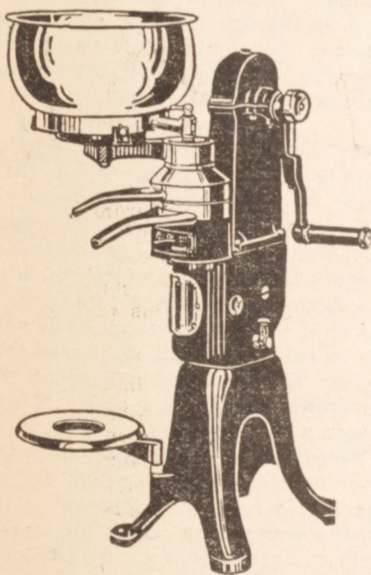
## REVIVAL SERVICES

Rev. Mabel R. Manning of No-haut, Mass, will be the speaker at Revival Services to be held in the

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"They're getting too far away from democracy over there," said he, shaking his head. "I tell you us folks in Canada ought to be glad we're here."

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