

From Away Back

The Daily Mail is publishing this series of articles in story form, giving a picture of rural life in New Brunswick. The articles are from the pen of a very bright woman, who lives on a farm in York County. They contain much that is worth consideration.

(No. 10)

We listened to inspiring talks during education week. One educator lamented the stigma of illiteracy which has been attached to our province. He also stressed the great need for compulsory education—that children attend school until sixteen years of age. I thought of my eighteen year old son, John. "Tall, dark and handsome," describes him very well. Intelligent, average, straightforward by nature, despising sham wherever found. When fourteen years old he announced his intention of leaving the school room. His father decided that the little one room school, presided over by an inexperienced slip of a girl, didn't have one redeeming feature for an active teen age boy, unless definitely inclined toward a professional career. The question was settled as John wished it to be. Four years have passed since then. John has become a good farm hand. No more, no less. Just a plodder, without any ambition to improve himself, or his methods of working, in any way.

We sometimes wonder if illiterates are our greatest problem. Illiteracy would quickly disappear if subjected to compulsory education. If our leading educators would spend at least one week in an isolated country school, they would probably understand why active, adolescent boys and girls leave country schools as soon as they can invent a logical reason for doing so.

We, who live away back, are gravely concerned about the future of these boys of ours who leave school before they have reached Grade VII and who do not bother to read or study for themselves. Are they not likely prey for the false propaganda and false ideas flooding our country districts?

Would our educators be shocked to learn that in a group of seventeen men of average intelligence only two ever read more than the "funnies"? This group is fairly representative of a great many groups of such men who live away back.

—SUSAN.

HYDRO COMMISSION MET

The regular monthly meeting of the New Brunswick Hydro Commission will be held tomorrow at Fredericton. Merely routine business will be considered at the meeting, it was stated by Hon. W. S. Anderson, chairman. Others who will attend the meeting are D. W. Mersereau, Fredericton Junction, Pius Michaud, Edmundston, and S. R. Weston, Saint John, chief engineer of the commission.

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Social Happenings

Governor Entertains

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and Miss MacLaren entertained at dinner at Government House last evening.

* * * * *

Return to Saint John

The Misses MacLaren who have been the guests of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and Miss MacLaren at Government House, have returned to Saint John.

* * * * *

Mrs. Rose Buchanan spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Tracy, Fredericton Junction.

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Entertained Members

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Poirier entertained a few friends last evening at their home. The guests included a few of the members of the legislature.

* * * * *

Hosts to Students

The students of Pond's Secretarial School were hosts last evening to the H. Y. the Normal School and High School basketball teams at Castle Hall. Dancing and cards were indulged in after which delicious refreshments were served. The students about one hundred in number were chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Pond. An orchestra provided the music for dancing.

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Bridge Hostess

Mrs. J. H. Calder entertained at bridge last evening at her home. The prizes were won by Miss Molly Barry Mrs. George Howie and Mrs. F. T. D. Young. The hostess was assisted by some of the guests.

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At the Tea Hour

Mr. W. M. Todd entertained charmingly at the tea-hour yesterday afternoon in honor of Mrs. Paul Doyle of Jacques River who is her guest. About twenty-five guests were present and the floral decorations throughout the rooms were yellow and mauve. Miss Areta Gerow presided over the tea-cups and Mrs. Harold Porter replenished. Assisting were Mrs. Kenneth Staples and Miss Burla Todd. Little Miss Shirley Staples admitted the guests.

* * * * *

Birthday Party

Little Frances Gertrude Burns was hostess to a number of her young friends yesterday in honor of her eighth birthday. Following play a delicious birthday supper was served the children. Frances, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Burns received many lovely gifts. Those present included Shirley Anne Veniot, Agnes Simcock, Shirley Hashey, Flora Jean Sears, Marjory Ryan, Agnes Theresa Burns, Shirley Ryan, Gilberta Dolron, Frances Burns, Mrs. Burns was assisted by her sister Mrs. Lawrence E. Veniot, and Mrs. Jack Barrett.

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Return Home

Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Black and daughter Sally have returned home from a cruise to the West Indies. They travelled on the "Lady Drake," C.N. steamship which docked yesterday at Saint John.

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Cast Entertained

The members of the Knights of Pythias Band entertained the members of the cast of "The Gypsy Rover" last night at the conclusion of the musical comedy which was repeated to a well filled house. The cast and the bandmen sat down to a delightful banquet prepared and served by a local caterer in the banquet room at Castle Hall. J. Walter Whittingham, Bandmaster, congratulated the performers on their successful entertainment and expressed his and the band's appreciation of their efforts. Other speakers were Merville O. Fletcher, band president; F. T. Pridham, Miss Vera Jonah, Clifford Young, Chancellor Commander. K. of P. John Richards and Herbert Webber. The evening closed with a sing-song including some of the songs of the show and Auld Lang Syne. The committee in charge of preparations for the banquet included J. Walter Whittingham, Merville O. Fletcher, Charles Fleet, Charles Quartermain and John Donovan.

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STAGE

(Continued from Page One)
seeing Lucerne, the Alps, Interlaken and Stresa then the party will continue to Italy for visits to Milan, Venice, Florence, Rome and Genoa. Monte Carlo is to be next on the itinerary, with Nice, Avignon, Paris and Cherbourg completing the circuit before sailing day August 12.

Notice of Legislation

Notice is hereby given that application will be made at the next session of the Legislature of New Brunswick for the passing of an Act to amend the several Acts relating to the Victoria Public Hospital in the City of Fredericton for the following purposes:

1. To provide that a member of the Medical Staff appointed to be a member of the Board of Trustees of said Hospital shall not thereby cease to be a member of the Staff.
2. To provide for the alteration of the term of office and the time of election of a member of the said Board of Trustees by the County Council of the Municipality of York.
3. To grant authority to any County Council and to the City Council of the City of Fredericton and to the Town Council of any incorporated Town to give aid toward an addition to extension or improvement of the said Hospital.

Dated the 22nd day of February, A. D., 1938.

PETER J. HUGHES,
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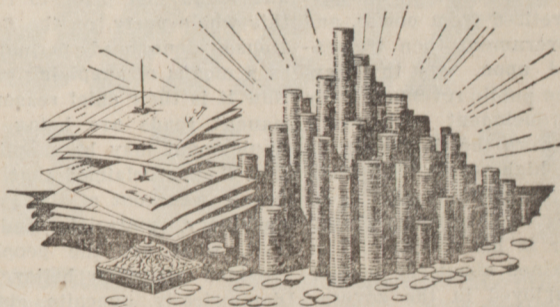
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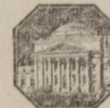
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