

Former Ch'town Violin Craftsman

HAMILTON, Ont., April 13 — As long as Joe Reid can remember, he has been fascinated by violins. Unlike most lovers of music, Joe's interest has been technical as well as aesthetic. The reason? He builds violins painstakingly by hand. This summer a fine example of his craftsmanship will be entered in an international competition at The Hague, the Netherlands.

A native of Orangeville, Ont., and former Maritimer, Joe Reid was for two years a resident of Charlottetown, P. E. I., where he was mechanical supervisor of manufacturing at the American Can Company's plant. He has been associated with the firm's Canadian division office at Hamilton, for the past year.

Just before he left Charlottetown, Joe received the highest compliment of his life from a noted Maritimes' musician, Don Messer. Leader of a small aggregation of CBC artists, known over the airwaves as "Don Messer and his Islanders," Messer purchased one of Reid's handmade instruments for his Canadian network show.

The handsome violin which Joe is sending to The Hague is a copy of a La Messie Stradivarius. It is constructed of Alaska pine and British Columbia maple, and the ex-Maritimer is particularly proud of the finely grained back plate. Including the varnishing it took him about 115 hours to construct it.

The competition in the Netherlands, officially known as an International Competition and Congress for Stringed Instruments will be divided into two classes, professional and amateur violin makers. The contest will be judged on workmanship and tone.

Construction of a fiddle, Joe Reid has found, requires extreme patience and exacting care. Top and back of the instrument are carved out of solid planks of wood about five-eighths of an inch in thickness which are tapered at the edges to 3/32 of an inch. Inside and outside surfaces require a mirror finish, achieved by the application of a series of oil varnish coatings. The instrument is then laid away for two months to permit the glue and varnish to set before it is "strung."

In his search for information on violin-making, the Hamilton hobbyist corresponded with professional artisans in Canada, the United States and England. He is especially grateful for the help offered by Rosario Forget, the noted Montreal violin expert, whose technical knowledge of the instrument is said to be unsurpassed in the Dominion.

Having experienced the difficulty of obtaining literature, Joe Reid began work last year on a book. He has completed the text and is planning to publish it with photographs which will enable the amateur craftsman to follow construction procedure step by step. His latest violin was built by following his own text book. He believes it will be the first book of its kind ever written expressly for the amateur violin-maker.

IN THE GARDEN

The winter is going with its cold and storms,
With the joy and the sorrow and pain,
But the weak and the weary revive once more,
For Spring is coming again.

The spring with her beautiful sunshine,
Shall awaken the earth once more,
And the seed, and the bud will answer the call,
And we shall have flowers at our door.

The trees in the orchard shall bloom once more,
And our gardens in sweet array
Shall give of her best and brightest,
To decorate Easter day.

Our Saviour He loved a garden,
And talked with His disciples there;
When He taught them words of wisdom
And His heavenly Father's care.

He prayed all one night in a garden,
When the night was calm and still,
And He took the bitter cup and drank,
Then bowed to His Father's will.

There in a beautiful garden,
Amid flowers, with their sweet perfume,
He knew the road He must travel
Would lead to the Cross, death and tomb.

There in Gethsemane garden,
The night His disciples slept,
When the guards with spears and bayonets came,
And Judas his promise kept.

But He arose from the grave triumphant,
And the stone from the tomb rolled away,
There was joy, and gladness in Heaven,
On that wonderful Easter day.

He died on the Cross of Calvary,
And has shown us the beautiful way;
And left us that glad assurance
That we will always have Easter day.

—Mrs. Edgar Gillespie,
76 Douglas St.

Women's Institute Meetings

MAPLE LEAF W. I.

The April meeting of the Maple Leaf W. I. met at the home of Mrs. D. C. Marchbank with the president, Mrs. Roy Walker in the chair. Meeting opened with the Ode and Creed. Nine members and two visitors answered roll call. The minutes were read and approved.

Plans were made to hold a pantry sale in Summerside before Easter and to have a play come to Traveler's Rest Hall in the near future. On motion \$10.00 was voted to the Red Cross.

Red Cross work was passed in to the Convener, Mrs. John Marchbank.

A letter of thanks was read from a family whom the W. I. had remembered.

The committees gave their reports.

New committees are as follows: School: Mrs. Heffel.

Program: Mrs. Roy Walker and Miss E. S. Marchbank.

Lunch: Mrs. James and Mrs. C. Marchbank.

Mrs. Heffel invited the ladies to her home for the next meeting when roll call will be answered by a fact about Newfoundland.

Program consisted of two contests and a relay race put on by Mrs. H. Moase and Mrs. Jas. Marchbank.

A delicious lunch was served by the committee in charge and the National Anthem closed the meeting.

HAMILTON W. I.

The April meeting of Hamilton W. I. was held in the schoolhouse with only eight members present. The president opened the meeting with the Creed.

It was reported that the three mats are completed but it was decided not to set the price until the next meeting. The overseas box was sent to our adopted Institute.

It was decided not to send one this month. Blinds have been purchased for the school at the cost of \$24.40. Bills for fruit, \$3.00, and the overseas parcel and postage \$5.50, were presented and approved.

The executive and directors were named as a committee to see about improving the hall. The secretary is to write the National Film Board requesting that films be shown on the eleventh of May or as soon after as possible. Fifteen dollars was voted to the Red Cross Campaign. Correspondence was read and discussed.

The following were named as a committee to see what they can do about getting playground equipment for the school: Mrs. Leslie Ramsay, Mrs. Jas. Craig, Mrs. Wm. Ramsay, Mrs. Wendell Crozier. The May meeting will be at Mrs. Jas. A. Ramsay's with the same lunch committee. Collection amounted to \$1.00 and ten cents was received for rental of freezer. Meeting then adjourned.

SPRINGFIELD W. I.

Springfield W. I. held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. R. E. Howard. President opened the meeting with singing the Ode and repeating Creed in unison. Eleven members answered roll call with "a benefit derived from last Institute News."

The different committees then gave their reports and new ones appointed as follows: school — Mrs. John Hickox; program — Mrs. Crawford Sinclair and Miss Craig. May meeting to be held in school, roll call to be answered with an exchange of flower slips.

A letter was received from England thanking us for parcel and Mrs. Hyatt Haslam and Mrs. Reginald Haslam were appointed to pack another.

An address "The School Needs Adequate Finances," prepared by Lieut.-Col. W. J. MacDonald, B.A., was read and a resolution favoring Federal aid to education was prepared. The booklet on Farm Houses was discussed and Mrs. John Hickox was appointed to fill in answers to questionnaires. \$10 was voted for the Red Cross. \$125 Government Grant was received. \$5.50 was realized from sale of two premium blankets, \$7.70 from sale of candy in hall. On motion, bills of \$1.33 were paid. Program consisted of an instructive talk on Newfoundland by Mrs. Reginald Haslam, after which Mrs. John Hickox sang "The Ode to Newfoundland," accompanied by Mrs. George Dunning at the piano. A contest conducted by Mrs. Hyatt Haslam, was won by Mrs. Everett Haslam and Mrs. Reginald Haslam. Lunch was served and meeting closed with the National Anthem.

AIBERTON W. I.

Mrs. Herbert Champion entertained the Women's Institute at her home on Friday evening. Sixteen members and two guests were in attendance. The roll call was answered with a Housecleaning Hint. Minutes were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$75.80 on hand. Several bills were ordered paid. A collection for the local film council amounted to \$1.80. The secretary read a letter from the provincial



DRESS UP FOR SPRING



Spring is here! Let us help you put Spring into your wardrobe. Take the lead this Spring in one of our important-looking new Coats. Choose from our many striking silhouettes . . . softly fitted dressmakers, gently flared, or loose casuals.

Evening Dresses, perfect for sophisticated ladies—smart from any view with drop shoulder, strapless, suavely draped hips, back interest in Skirts.

Handsomely tailored Suits in the styles and fabrics you love so well.

Thoroughbreds all . . . with their new slim skirt, dashingly cut Jackets . . . yours for a smart Spring.

MOORE & McLEOD Limited

The flour that blooms in the oven

BLOSSOM OF CANADA FLOUR

W. I. convener for school welfare and one from the Red Cross in connection with the campaign for funds. A contribution of fifteen dollars will be given by the Institute.

The school committee's report was given by Mrs. Vernon Campbell. She mentioned a few minor repairs which would improve the class rooms. The visiting committee reported visits to homes and hospital and a card sent to a member in hospital in Charlottetown, report was given by Mrs. Michael Ahearn. The hall committee reported that thirteen chairs and two lights had been repaired.

There was some discussion about the best kind of decoration for the stage. The Red Cross convener, Mrs. C. H. Weeks, reported that to date no one has made use of the Red Cross loan cupboard at the hospital. Sewing and knitting are being continued. The committee appointed last month to arrange for sponsoring a play later in the season, was asked to select a one-act play to be presented by the members of the W. I.

It was decided to give the school children a treat in June. The May meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. W. R. Oulton, when the roll call will be answered with the name of a flower, and the guest speaker will be the Rev. G. N. Somers of Summerside. His subject will be "Birds." Mrs. G. B. Cunningham gave brief glimpses of the lives and work of three of the great composers: Tschalkowski, Bach and Handel. Through the medium of records, the mem-

To make sure you're getting

FAST-ACTING ASPIRIN FOR HEADACHE

bers enjoyed selections. Mrs. Cunningham referred to music as one of God's richest gifts, the thing that satisfies our love of beauty, the universal language of the human race. On behalf of the W. I. Mrs. Oulton thanked Mrs. Cunningham for the instructive and most enjoyable address. At the close of the meeting a measuring party was conducted by Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Wilkie, who reported 526 inches "of waist measure" present. The funds were enriched as a result of this fun-making party.

BRITISH CHILDREN BIGGER

GLASGOW, April 15—(Reuters)—Britain is producing bigger and better children than before the war despite food rationing. The Scottish Health Department here published figures which show that the average boy of 13 is just over six and a half pounds heavier

CHRIST'S WOUNDS REPRODUCED

KONNERSREUTH, Germany, April 15—(Reuters)—Over 2,000 Germans and Americans today

flocked to this Bavarian village to see Christ's wounds reproduced on the body of Therese Neumann, 51 year-old peasant woman, for the 24th Good Friday in succession. Several medical experts who have examined her "stigmata" have been unable either to explain or to discredit the phenomena.

Gold was first discovered in Alaska by a Russian settler in 1858.



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