

IMPORTANT READING MATTER SELECTED FROM THIS WEEK'S NEWS FOR THE GUARDIAN'S SATURDAY SUBSCRIBERS

FRIDAY
P E ISLANDER'S BALL—The Sixteenth Annual reunion and Ball of the P. E. Island Benevolent Association of Boston will be held Thursday evening February 10th in Convention Hall St. Botolph Street. The Hall in former years has always drawn from a thousand to twelve hundred people and the committee in charge this year expect an even larger gathering as all former residents of the Island residing in greater Boston are cordially invited to attend.

Private Brennan of Charlottetown who returned home last evening from the front, was tendered an enthusiastic reception on the arrival of the S. S. Northumberland. A large crowd of citizens assembled at the wharf and a detachment of the 106th Regiment, accompanied by the 82nd Band, was in attendance. Private Brennan was received with rounds of applause and conveyed to his residence on Queen St. The band playing lively patriotic selections. Mr. Brennan was a member of the Princess Pats., was seen by a "Guardian" reporter last night, but owing to his modesty he preferred to say nothing in regard to his experiences.

The half yearly examination of Bradalbane school, No. 105, was held Dec. 24th, and a number of raptapeyers were present to hear the special program, which was to be given by the pupils, and they acquitted themselves remarkably clever.

The teacher, Miss Mary Roberts had prepared a Christmas tree which was loaded with presents and Santa Claus was present. Mr. Alex. Brown cleverly performed the duty of chairman. The pupils presented their teacher with a beautiful present and the following address:

Dear Teacher:—Permit me on behalf of my fellow students here present to tender to you this small gift in appreciation of your kindness and faithfulness since taking up your position amongst us. We each and all admit that at times we have not fulfilled our duty towards you, yet, fully realizing that any correction you have been obliged to make was for our own self benefit and we now wish to apologize to you for any annoyance which we have been guilty of and trust that we may long be favored with your continued labors which our parents highly appreciate and with every good wish for a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

We are dear teacher,
YOUR OBEДИENT PUPILS
 At the conclusion the raptapeyers expressed their delight at the progress accomplished in such a short time.

VISITORS TO HALIFAX.—Among the visitors to Halifax this week were Messrs. W. Walsh, S. Diamond, H. H. Cameron, Charlottetown and Mr. G. A. Thompson of Montague, all registered at the Queen Hotel.

SERIOUS FIRE.—The residence of Mr and Mrs Joseph Webster, Searlton, was considerably damaged by a fire last week. The fire started up stairs from a defective flue, but was discovered in time to save the house from being totally destroyed.—H.

INTERESTING GIFT.—A unique and very interesting Xmas gift was presented to Grace Methodist Church last week by the young ladies of the congregation, in the shape of an elegant bulletin board which may now be seen outside the Church. The board is 36x22 inches and is interchangeable. The interior can be removed and the letters, which are of two sizes, are of steel in place of ordinary paste board, lithographed in white. The letters are enclosed in a large glass case, the frame being of polished oak. The fittings are of brass and the whole thing is altogether attractive. The board was supplied by H. E. Winters Specialty Company, of Devonport, Iowa.

EXAMINATIONS.—The semi-annual examination of Enmore school was held on Monday afternoon, Dec. 20th. There being present beside fourteen visitors. The largest attendance ever recorded in the history of the school. The school was very artistically decorated for the occasion with flags, spruce, Christmas bells, red leaves and berries. The pupils were examined in the various subjects by the teacher, Miss Elsie Brown, assisted by their former teacher, Miss Blanche Raynor and Mrs. Albert McArthur. The scholars by their prompt and accurate answers showed careful training on the part of the teacher. They followed a program of songs, dialogues and recitations, which was nicely rendered and enjoyed by all present. The pupils were next treated to a liberal supply of confectionery by the teacher, after which she thanked the visitors for their attendance. Mr. Havelock Bryant, trustee, on behalf of the visitors present, then tendered a vote of thanks to the teacher for the capable and efficient manner in which the examination was conducted and for the creditable showing made by the pupils. The pupils kindly remembered the teacher by presenting her with a beautiful pair of fur trimmed gloves. The examination was brought to a close by singing "God Save the King."

ISLANDER HONOURED.—His hosts of friends through the Maritime Provinces and particularly in Prince Edward Island, of which he is an honourable native, will be delighted to learn that Mr. J. K. McInnis, head of The Standard Publishers, Limited of Regina, Sask., has been elected to the Aldermanic board of the Queen City for 1916-17. There is no ward system in Regina, five of the ten aldermen being elected each year and serving two years. His fellow citizens placed Mr. McInnis away up at the head of the poll in a free-for-all field containing thirteen candidates. "Retrenchment and Economy" is the civic motto in the West to-day and no doubt the people of Regina felt that a gentleman of Highland Scottish extraction such as Mr. McInnis typically is, would be just the man for alderman in these times. He has a wide reputation for public life, and we join with others in heartily congratulating him on the honour he has gained.

INSTITUTE.—The Annual meeting of the Egmont Bay Farmer's Institute was held in the Egmont Bay Hall on Dec. 23rd beginning at 2:30 p. m. The President, Mr. J. W. Leard, made allusion to the great benefits of the co-operation, hence the existence of a Farmer's Institute. He strongly reminded co-operation in every phase of farm occupation. A discussion was led on the possibility of an increase in the production of live stock. Mr. J. W. Leard also purchase scales as it would fill a time worn necessity. Co-operative sale of wool, was dwelt upon. It was decided to have if possible in Egmont Bay a short Agricultural course for the benefit of farmers. Rev. S. Baudreault in his remarks insisted on a close unity of the different phases of co-operation. A united body has always power to go ahead. John D. Arsenault spoke on the Agricultural course, perseverance was what should characterize the farmer's efforts. The aim should be that farmers should have say in the price for the sale of the produce of the live stock. Mr. J. W. Leard also spoke on short course. Mr. H. J. Gallant spoke on sale of lambs. Mr. Ellis E. Arsenault said that farmers should place more exhibits at fairs or exhibitions. He cited his own experience in connection with the Amherst Fair. Since attending that Fair he had carried off over \$200 in prizes. Mr. Joseph H. suggests more frequent meetings of farmers. The minutes of the last meeting were adopted as was also the report of financial conditions of the institute. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year. President—E. H. Pollock. Vice-Pres.—J. F. Arsenault. Directors for each district—Urbanville, Aubin G. Arsenault, and J. H. Arsenault. Abrams Village, Armie D. Arsenault and Prosper L. Gallant. St. Chrysostome, Pierre Gallant, Antoine C. Gallant. Maxim Village, Edward Pollock and Damien Arsenault. Auditor—J. F. Arsenault. Treasurer—H. O. Gallant. Delegate to the Central Institute—Joseph H. Arsenault and Charles M. Arsenault. After a unanimous vote of thanks to the President, the meeting adjourned.

SOIRIS SEED FAIR.—A meeting of the committee appointed to manage the Eastern Kings Seed Fair was held in Souris recently and the following changes suggested in the prize lists. It was agreed to cancel the 7th prize. To make the first prize for wheat \$2, for oats and barley \$1.50, for potatoes \$1.50 and to make the consecutive prizes correspond with this change. It was also agreed to cut out some classes in the poultry prize list, so that only \$30 would be offered in prizes for poultry. It was further agreed to ask the Provincial Department of Agriculture in arranging the dates for the fairs to make Souris the last fair. Formerly it has been one of the earliest. All the members of the committee were present.

PLEASANTLY ENTERTAINED.—Mr. Gallagher manager of the Frisco Edward and Peoples Theatre gave his regular annual supper to the employees of both Theatres last night at the Kozey Korner. The supper was served in the Kozey Korner's usual style and was pronounced by all a splendid success. There were thirty-three guests present including a number of the Parisian Girls troupe who were playing here. Mrs. Gallagher was Chaperone for the party. After full dinner had been done to the splendid repast prepared Mr. Gallagher gave each of a souvenir of the occasion. It may be noted that the employees had made Mr. Gallagher a handsome Christmas present in the shape of a fumed oak desk. Before dispersing for the night the company gave three rousing cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

BAD ACCIDENT.—Another bad accident occurred yesterday afternoon at the Kensington railway crossing, which has been the scene of several similar or even more serious occurrences. The afternoon train from Charlottetown in rounding the curve immediately east of the station collided with a sloop in which were Mr. Thos. Stewart of Kensington and a Mr. Cameron of Kinkora. The cowcatcher caught the sloop "amocoats," breaking it in two and carrying the hind wheels and their attachments a considerable distance. The two men were hurried a considerable distance. In the fall on the frozen ground Mr. Stewart had his face badly cut and bruised, besides receiving a severe shaking up. Mr. Cameron was more fortunate, escaping with a few minor bruises. Mr. Stewart will be confined to his house for some days. The horse escaped uninjured.—C

PLEASANTLY ENTERTAINED.—A very pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Leard, Alberton, on Saturday, Dec. 25th in honour of their son Spurgeon who is at present drilling with the 105th Battalion in Charlottetown and having been home on his Christmas holidays was not forgotten by his many friends who gathered there. The evening was spent in music and games. Supper being served in Mrs. Leard's best style, after which Mr. Leard and Mr. Arthur McRae, another of Alberton's loyal young men, who was also present, were presented with small gifts of remembrance from their many friends. The company dispersed by singing "God be with you till we meet again" and "God Save the King." Then all joined in wishing the boys every success.

O. G. T.—A very enjoyable evening was spent in Kingsboro Hall Dec. 24th when the members of the Kingsboro O. G. T. Lodge celebrated Christmas eve in a good old fashioned manner. The Hall was beautifully decorated everything was in splendid array. The Lodge was opened in the usual form by the C. T. the business of the evening was then hurried through. After which a short but interesting program was rendered. Then followed the most appropriate of all, a most magnificent table was set by the Sisters. Everything was beautifully arranged on it before the curtain was drawn aside and it was a beautiful sight. All joined hands and sat down together feeling that it was good to be there. After everyone had done justice the C. T. announced that the celebration would close with the singing of the Closing Ode after which the C. T. wished all the members a Merry Christmas and the same wish was made in return. Everyone went away hoping to be well and living to meet another year. This Lodge has now a membership of forty-two.

NORTH WILTSHIRE.—The Public hall on Thursday evening, December 23rd the Christmas tree and concert promoted by the Methodist Mission Band in aid of Missions was held. The attendance was very good and the financial results most encouraging. The Rev. George Orman presided. The enthusiasm and interest manifested by those taking part was unbounded. The patriotic Flag Drill was splendid, most intricate and complex. The cantata too was very interesting. The instructor, Miss C. B. Balderston, and her willing helpers must have felt rewarded. The time-honored Santa Claus made his appearance and was a source of merriment and pleasure to all with a little awe and fear on the part of the youngest. He genially and effectively filled his part. There was an intermission for sale of home made candy and the fair vendors were very successful. Following was the program: Chorus—Merry,

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AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER.—The contractors with their gang of men are busily engaged installing the new automatic sprinkler system in the store and warehouses of R. T. Holman Limited, Summerside. The immense water pipes have been connected with the town main, the concrete foundations for the water tank have been laid, and the other work is progressing rapidly. It is very indeed who have any idea of the magnitude of the undertaking. When it is stated that the system calls for over one hundred thousand feet of pipe and twenty thousand separate sprinklers, some little idea may be gathered of its extensiveness, and this is but a small portion of the complete equipment.

The following registered at the Cox Hotel on Monday: C. G. Duffy, Charlottetown; J. J. Johnston, John H. Bell, A. Scott, B. MacEachern, Geo. A. W. Robertson, A. C. MacKay, F. T. Watkins, J. A. Tannabill, D. L. MacInnis, P. Barlow, A. Bruce, T. Fullerton, Percy Farrar, Fryn, Ray Buet, Charlottetown; J. Arsenault, B. G. Acorn, Allen B. Cosh, Miss M. F. Bartlett, Miss D. Sutherland, Miss M. Ross, Geo. C. Taylor, Edgar MacNutt, Capt. MacLeod, Miss MacDonald, Miss Hughes, Miss Hunter, Miss Stewart, Miss P. Stewart, Miss Fullerton, Miss J. Fullerton, Rev. Littlejohns, Miss M. Gillisple, Lance Corporal W. B. Fitzpatrick.

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Merry Christmas. Recitation— Ivan Bowman. Patriotic Flag Drill. Recitation—Leonard Bowman. Exercise. The Snowflakes. Recitation—Harold Easter. Recitation—Harrison Balderston. Recitation—Flora Henderson. Duet—Florence Balderston and Emma Chandler. Recitation—Marcella Cullen. Reading—Harold Easter Cantata—Ready for Santa. Recitation—Florence Coady. Chorus—Pack Away the Frowns. Recitation—Bertie Clark. Recitation—Marcella Cullen. A Christmas Exercise by boys and girls. God Save the King.

The following letter has been received by Mr. Alexander Ross and family from their son Daniel, who is in the Siege Battery, England, dated Dec. 1st, 1915.

On board the S. S. Lapland.
 Dear Father, Mother and Sisters.— Well here we are in mid ocean, so I will start a letter and finish it when I get across. We left Halifax Sunday morning at 7 a. m. Came aboard Saturday at noon. From 11 a. m. Saturday until 5 there was a steady single file of troops boarding the ship, about 3000 strong. About 7 p. m. five or six tugboats took the big ship out in the harbour and we anchored until Sunday morning. We had great weather until yesterday, had quite a little blow and the most of the boys are sick, am glad to say I wasn't and feel fine so far. Poor Harry is very bad, hasn't eaten anything since we started. This is quite a ship, over 600 feet long but large as she is the seas here will rock her like a row boat. We are passing the Gulf-stream today, and it is quite warm. We do nothing but physical drill every morning and only one-fourth of the men show up on account of seasickness. We will be in the danger zone by tomorrow night. This boat has been used as a transport for a long time, and was chased two or three times by a submarine but always got away.

Thursday—We are in the danger zone and expect to meet an escort this afternoon. We got lifeboat drill every day, divided into parties of 25 men. Each party has their own boat or raft. Have great concerts, services &c. aboard. The ship is supplied with three bands, bugle, brass and ships band. They are fitting up machine guns on deck today. Harry is better, had first meal today. By this time to

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morrow we will sight the coast of Ireland. Saturday morning—Looks like business today, orders are for all hands to wear life belts. Most every one are in good spirits only a few worrying. Well here we are at last. Landed at Plymouth early Sunday morn. Warm weather, mud to the ankles, and raining nearly all the time. Expect to be here two months. Got Bibles and religious hymn-books in Halifax and have services every day. Get great receptions in the different towns we pass through. Am feeling fine, not the least seasick. Hope you are all well. With much love I remain
 Your loving son and brother,
DANIEL.

The Veiled Future

THE year upon which we are entering is dark with mystery—we cannot forecast the events of a single day of it.

A new year naturally arouses anxious thought, but the disastrous war now raging adds to the prevalent anxiety as to what 1916 has in store for us.

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