

Province Makes Educational Progress During Past Year

By Dr. L. W. Shaw
Deputy Minister of Education

The most significant development in the field of education during the year now ending was the establishment of a uniform minimum Grade XI course throughout the Province. Since 1932 when a Grade XI was added to the programme of Summerside High School, this Province has had two different courses above the Grade X level leading to the completion of high school—namely that followed in Prince of Wales College and in the High School department of St. Dunstan's College, and that followed in other schools offering work beyond Grade X. The fundamental difference lay in the fact that in Prince of Wales and St. Dunstan's two years study beyond the grade X of the public schools was required for high school graduation of matriculation to the university, while in other schools the completion of the high school course, based on the Nova Scotia programme of studies, was attempted in one year (Grade XI).

Two such high school courses differing fundamentally as they did inevitably led to confusion. Apart altogether from the confusion, however, experience, not only in this Province but throughout Canada and the United States, has demonstrated that two years' study beyond the Grade X of our public schools produce far better results than the hurried attempt to complete the work in one year. The success of students from Prince of Wales College when they enter other institutions after completing Second Year at the College bears testimony to this. Apart from the academic standing, too, the greater maturity of young people at the end of a four-year high school programme enables them to adjust more readily either to the entirely different conditions in the university or to the circumstances in which they will find themselves in business, industry or agriculture.

May Broaden Programme

After careful and mature consideration of this whole matter, especially in the light of the ever growing need for high school education for all young people, the Minister of Education announced that beginning in September, 1954, a uniform minimum Grade XI

course would become operative throughout the Province. For the present this course is based on college preparatory requirements. Later developments might well lead to a broader programme offering alternative courses. The work as it is now being done in Grade XI will be carefully evaluated with a view to determining future developments in respect to additional high school centres and extension of the programme to the Grade XII level.

In addition to Prince of Wales College, the Grade XI course is now being offered in the following schools operating under the direction of the Department of Education: Summerside Grade (XII) Montague, Souris, Kinkora, Tignish, Stella Maris, O'Leary and Kensington. Private classes on the Grade XI level are offered in St. Dunstan's College, Notre Dame Academy, Rochford Square, Miscouche and St. Augustine.

For a number of years individual Home and School Associations have been active in several communities throughout the Province. A distinct forward step was made during the year 1953 through the organization of a Provincial Association under the Presidency of Mrs. Gordon MacDonald of Charlottetown. This Association includes 23 local branches within its organization. While the Department of Education is not directly concerned with the Home and School it welcomes this forward step as evidence of the fact that a stronger partnership is being forged between two of the most important agencies having to do with the education of children—namely the Home and School. We hope that many more local associations may be formed.

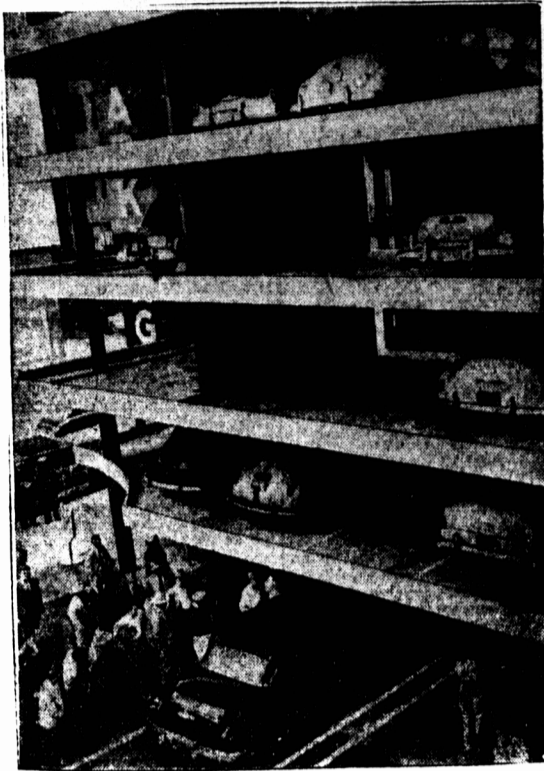
Essential Step

Undoubtedly the larger unit of school administration is the essential first step towards the solution of many of the problems inherent in a rural community such as ours. We are, therefore, recording with satisfaction the organization of an additional larger unit in the Fort Augustus area as indicative of gradually increasing interest in improving school facilities through improved local administration.

There is no evidence that interest is diminishing in the matter of improving school property. New schools were completed during the year in the following communities: Montague, Newton, Kinkora, Bear River North, Lower Montague, Fredericton, Lower Newton, Peter's Road West, Warren Grove, Newton Cross, Stanhope, St. Ignace, Hermitage, Miscouche, Urbanville and Egmont Bay. Additional rooms have been added to Kensington, Palmer Road South and O'Leary. Extensive remodelling has been done in connection with Marshfield, St. Gilbert, Augustine Cove, Brackley Point, Johnston's River, New Haven, South Melville, Glen Valley, York Point, Springton, Arville Shore, Upper Montague, Sinnott's Road, Red Point, Bridgetown, St. Georges, Little Pond, Poplar Point, Annandale, Roseneath and Central Royalty (Unit No. 1).

A new three-room school is now under construction at Carleton Place.

'Pigeonhole' Helps Solve Parking Problem



Exterior view of the five-story "pigeonhole" parking garage.



Up on a lift goes the car until a spot is found to deposit it.

ton, and a splendid new junior high school is being provided for Charlottetown.

The installation of indoor sanitary equipment is proceeding rapidly and satisfactorily. May the day soon come when the old type of outdoor toilets will be a thing of the past.

Brigadier Reid, Director in the Physical Fitness Division, reports greatly increased interest on the part of rural schools in securing play equipment. Play is an important part of a young person's education and the Division has been of great assistance to teachers in selecting, purchasing and indeed constructing much needed equipment.

In the Library Division it is interesting to note that new library buildings were constructed and opened at Murray Harbour, Murray River and Bradabane. Mr. Chandler reports a new high library circulation—300,000 volumes. We note, too, with satisfaction that approximately 3,000 parcels and boxes were distributed to the schools of the Province during the year.

There are now operating in the Province 18 film councils. The new ones organized during the year were Eastern Kings, Souris, Georgetown, Emerald-Springfield, FreeTown and Wellington. The Film Library reports that films were shown to approximately 150,000 persons during the year.

Adult Education

In the field of general Adult Education, the Adult Education Division cooperated with the Farm Forum Organization in conducting seven one-day courses dealing with community organization generally.

The various courses offered in the Vocational School, including evening classes, have continued to

This "pigeonhole" parking garage in downtown Los Angeles, Calif., may be a partial solution to the city's vexing parking problem. The space-saver accommodates 128 cars in a 60-by-90 foot area. When a customer drives in, he leaves his car in the entry way and shuts off the engine. A push-button hydraulic lift slides under the car and lifts it to a space just large enough to accommodate the auto. It takes 45 seconds for the lift to make a round trip from the entry way to the farthest space and deliver the car to the waiting customer. The operation is so mechanized it requires only one attendant.

Jane's Says Russia Has Rocket-Driven Fighter

LONDON, (AP)—Jane's "All the World's Aircraft," unofficial but authoritative annual publication, said Russia has developed a rocket-driven fighter plane to defend vital targets from fast, high altitude bombers.

Jane's also said the Soviet aircraft industry now has about 360 factories at its command, plus facilities in some of its satellite countries.

The publication said the new Soviet interceptor is a single-seat monoplane powered by an improved version of the Walther rocket motor produced in Germany during the Second World War. It is obviously aimed as a chief defence against strategic bombers which could attack key Russian centres with atomic bombs such as the U. S. air force's B-47s and the new B-52s.

Jane's said the interceptor "is now being supplied in some numbers to the Russian air force. Details of its performance, or even

its name, have not leaked out from behind the Soviet security curtain. However, it is believed to have been inspired by the Messerschmitt 163 which Germany turned out near the end of the Second World War. Previous reports on the Messerschmitt have said it could climb about 60,000 feet in from one to three minutes.

Jane's said that Russia's big aircraft production potential includes 85 factories turning out air frames, 30 plane engines, and the remaining 245 producing other aircraft components. The publication added:

"Russia is also taking advantage of the aircraft industries of some of the satellite countries, including Czechoslovakia and Poland."

Jane's substantiated previous reports that the Russians are producing a long-range bomber big enough to carry atomic bombs. The publication said the plane has a range of 7,650 miles and a speed of 415 miles an hour.

As it does sometimes, winter took a quick about face over the weekend and temperatures which had touched as low as five degrees in some parts of Eastern Canada soared into the 40's. The sudden change in the weather spelled disaster for many skiers for the long-awaited snow disappeared before they had time to don their hickories. However, at Hockley Valley, in Orangeville, things weren't quite "so sad" for the skiers, such as John McWhinnie, seen left, with his mother, who found new snow-making machine much to their liking. Then there's those who do their skiing on Lake Ontario, such as Eric Crane, top left, and Jack Gilmore, who hope to keep it up until Christmas. The two water skiers from St. Catharines have been at it every Sunday since last May and hope to be doing it on Christmas Day—after they've eaten their Christmas dinners.

The payment of family allowances combined with the work of the Attendance Officer has resulted in gradual and steady improvement in school attendance. For the school year ending June 30, 1953, the percentage of attendance reached an all time high of 83.56 for the whole Province, an increase of 1.91% over that of the previous year.

In common with the other provinces of Canada the problem of securing a sufficient supply of qualified teachers for our schools continues to be a major one. All schools in the Province having a sufficient number of pupils to operate are staffed. Unfortunately, however, it is still necessary for trustees to engage young people who are not fully qualified professionally for the important work they are to undertake. The enrollment in the Teacher Training classes at Prince of Wales College does not indicate that we may look for much improvement in this connection in the near future. The problem of recruiting and retaining teachers in the profession, then, is one that offers a challenge not only to the Department but to all who are concerned with the welfare of our schools.

Contract Bridge

Continued from page 8

The club queen, laid down the spade jack to draw South's last trump, and returned the club jack. When East got in again with the club ten he led his last heart, and South was helpless.

The club finess was superficially attractive, but it was by no means the best play. With six tricks home, South should have cashed the top diamonds and led a third round. Nothing could keep him from ruffing this trick with his otherwise worthless trump, and then he would need only the club ace to round out the contract.

BOY SAVES HORSE

BRISTOL, England (CP)—The friend of Bristol Horsters' Society has awarded a membership card to David Teahan, 8, for buying a horse to save it from slaughter.

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Major Hoople



BAXTER GOT A NICE SHINY NEW NOSE THIS YEAR

Burgess Bedtime

Continued from page 8

ed to him that he just must see those eyes again. When he could stand it no longer, he went over to where those eyes had been peeping out. There was no one under the snow-covered boughs of those little trees. The place was empty, but there was a scent there that told Too-Smart that the owner of those eyes was the same one whom he had tried so hard to catch up with a few days before.

Now he wanted to catch up more than ever. He went in under those boughs. He found where the soft-eyed stranger had gone out. He started to follow, then saw those eyes again. This time they were peeping from around an old stump. The young fox stopped. He didn't dare move. He could see now the full face of pretty Miss Soft-Eyes, for this was a lady fox. He was sure that she was the prettiest of all the Great Woods. You see, Too-Smart had fallen in love. Yes, sir, he had fallen in love. That pretty Miss Soft-Eyes wouldn't stay. He made up his mind right then and there that if he didn't then he would follow her. Such is love.

Bedeque Notes

Recent visitors to Bedeque were Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Callbeck, Summerside, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Affleck.

Mr. Harold Leard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hector Leard, Lower Bedeque, and Mr. Arthur Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Craig, Middleton, will attend the Boys' Parliament, at Sackville, from December 28 to the 31st. They are delegates, appointed at the Older Boys' Conference, which met at Margate, a short time ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Affleck were visitors to Charlottetown, December 14. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. William Callbeck, Cricpaud, and Mr. and Mrs. William Sentner, of Sackville, Sask. While in the city they called on several friends. They also visited Mr. Sentner's sister, Mrs. Moore, Hunter River, whom he had not seen for forty years. They called too on Mr. Sentner's niece, Mrs. Higgins in DeSable.

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Big November Gale Of 1906 Recalled

By J. F. L.

In marked contrast with the present season is the following account of the big gale of 1906 when a steamer, three sailing vessels and numerous other craft were wrecked on the North Shore of the Island.

For the first seventeen days of the month, there were fifteen days of heavy rain when it was estimated that eight inches fell. The first vessel to be wrecked was the "Turret Bell," a steamer of 2,210 tons. She was 297 ft. long with a beam of 40 feet, built at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1894. The ship was owned by the Inverness Railway and Coal Company and was in ballast from Montreal to Port Hastings. She carried a crew of 22.

On November 1st, the "Turret Bell" ran into a gale and fierce rainstorms and at five o'clock, on the morning of the 2nd, was hard and fast ashore, about 200 yards from land, near Cable Head. Two days later an exceptionally high tide and a northwest wind drove her further ashore, until she finally rested on the bottom only 20 yards from the cliff.

The captain came ashore that day and reported the crew all well. The following day they were brought to land by means of a boatswain's chair. Lloyd's agent, Mr. Pope Walsh, with Captain Taylor made a survey which indicated that although the ship was standing upright, she had five feet of water in her hold, so was condemned as a total loss.

The next vessel to end her career was the schooner "Orpheus" of St. John's, Newfoundland, bound for Halifax with a load of dry fish. When first struck by the storm, she anchored off St. Peter's, but both anchor chains broke and she finally drifted ashore off Priest's Pond, about a mile west of Campbell's Cove breakwater. Men in the vicinity quickly gathered on shore. Several of them tried to get to the ship with a dory but were unsuccessful. Finally a line was got ashore and the crew was landed safely. The ship struck her side and part of the cargo was damaged by sand and the sea.

The next ship reported lost was the brig "Oiga," an iron ship, in ballast from South Africa to the Campbellton, N.B., where she was to have taken on a cargo of lumber. She was caught in the storm and went ashore at Black Bush, about 5 a.m. on November 5th. At one time she was almost over on her beam end. A large crowd gathered on the shore and at three o'clock a cask was floated ashore and attempts made to rig a boatswain's chair. The line could not be made fast, however, and the crew of nine and two passengers were finally brought ashore by life-boat. The vessel was condemned as a total loss and later sold at a public auction to Mr. Andrew MacNair of Bruce Stewart and Co.

Serious as were the foregoing losses, they were overshadowed by the greatest catastrophe that had occurred in many years along the Island Shore. This was the loss of the four-master iron barque "Sovinto" 1615 ton, built in England and when lost was owned in Finland.

She had left Campbellton on Friday, November 2nd., and called at Dalhousie on the same day where she took on seven of the crew and provisions. She left Dalhousie on Sunday, Nov. 4th. The storm of Miscouche Point Light, the gale heightened and she lost her topsails. The heavy seas shifted the deck load and part of the ship's railing was washed away. The seas were running high, weather was thick and the wind increasing to gale proportions. The master fearing he was close to the Magdalen Islands, changed his course and let her run with the wind. All her top sails were gone. He set his course by North hoping he

would clear East Point. About 9 p.m., breakers were sighted and the crew started to man the life boats. As the port life-boat was being launched, it was smashed by the heavy sea and carried away. All hands went to the starboard side of the ship but since the ship had listed heavily and the masts and the rigging were breaking, they were mustered at, where they remained for the rest of the night. Next morning the ship had broken in two on the rocky coast, only 200 yards from shore. When roll call was taken, four of the crew were missing but it was found that three were on the forward part of the ship; the fourth had been washed overboard and had reached shore safely.

On Thursday morning a large crowd had gathered on shore but they were unable to help. The crew decided to launch a lifeboat. About two minutes after the boat was launched, it upset, throwing all into the water. Some clung to the boat, while others caught floating planks. Two of the crew caught the tackle and clambered aboard again. After floating in the water, some of them managed to reach shore but seven were drowned during the night. Of these seven, three were on the fore part of the ship. On Thursday, the 9th, two men in a dory rescued two men from the after part of the ship, while the third man jumped over board and swam ashore. On Friday morning the forward part of the ship broke in two leaving the ship lying in three parts in Priest's Pond, about twelve miles from East Point. Total casualties were ten drowned.

The last of the victims of the big storm was the schooner "A. J. McPhee," a ship of 60 tons which was wrecked on Albert Bar on the morning of November 16, while en route from Tignish to Alberton. They attempted to launch a boat but it was stove in and the crew took to the rigging. At daybreak a service boat was launched and after three hours of exhausting effort reached the ship which was on her beam end. After considerable difficulty, a line was got aboard and made fast to the foremast so that all the crew with the exception of the captain were rescued. The Captain was rescued after the ship which shortly afterwards broke in two and he of those who had made a gallant attempt to save him.

BEDEQUE W. M. S.

The Auxiliary of the W. M. S. of Bedeque United Church was held December 9, at the home of Mrs. Percy Affleck with Mrs. Walter Wright in the chair.

This was the Christmas meeting and opened with singing of carols followed by prayer. The Christmas program was conducted by Mrs. Affleck, on "What does Christmas mean to you?"

The nominating committee brought in the following slate of officers for the ensuing year: 1st. president, Mrs. Walter Wright; 1st. vice-president, Mrs. Ernest Johnson; 2nd. vice-president, Mrs. George Henderson; recording secretary, Mrs. Orville Johnson; corresponding, Mrs. Calvin Leard; treasurer, Miss Mildred Callbeck; Christian stewardship secretary, Mrs. Hudson Lovther; Mission Monthly, Mrs. Robert Affleck; literature, Mrs. Edna Jenkins; secretary, Mrs. Edna Jenkins; Miss Louisa Callbeck; press secretary, Mrs. T. J. Jenkins; community friendship secretary, Mrs. W. J. Reid.

HANDSOME CARD

LONDON (CP)—Members of Parliament this year are sending Christmas cards bearing a photograph of the Queen. The picture was taken at a pre-Coronation luncheon of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

OUR NEW DRESSES HAVE THEM ALL SAYING

"What Beautiful Fabrics"
"Such Wonderful Values"
"Look at the Smart New Styles"

See our window display of new Dresses for the Holiday Season.

Evening Dresses in net with matching Stoles or Boleros, in both Formal and Ballerina length. A wide variety to choose from.

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A deposit will hold any garment until needed.

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I saw the forbidden city

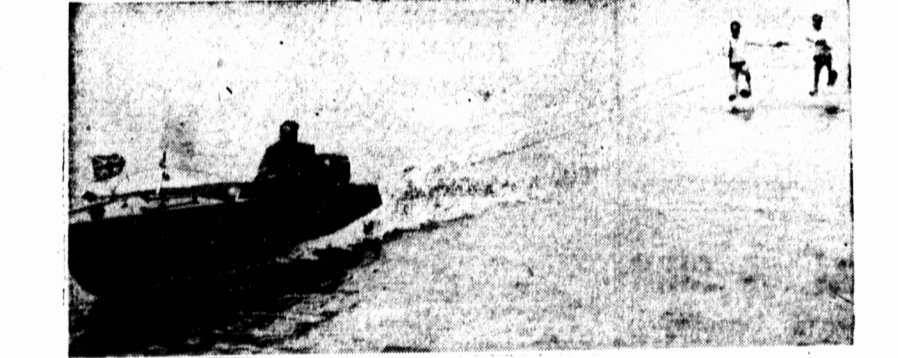
Death awaits non-believers who try to pass Mecca's gates — yet this American braved being torn to pieces by fanatics to visit Mohammed's birthplace in Arabia.

January Reader's Digest brings you his incredible story of a dangerous pilgrimage to strange and secret Mecca.

Here's an eyewitness report of blood sacrifices and other weird Moslem rites — many of them honoring people and events in our Bible.

Get January Reader's Digest today: 36 articles of lasting interest, condensed from leading magazines and current books.

If There's No Snow There Is Always Water Skiing



As it does sometimes, winter took a quick about face over the weekend and temperatures which had touched as low as five degrees in some parts of Eastern Canada soared into the 40's. The sudden change in the weather spelled disaster for many skiers for the long-awaited snow disappeared before they had time to don their hickories. However, at Hockley Valley, in Orangeville, things weren't quite "so sad" for the skiers, such as John McWhinnie, seen left, with his mother, who found new snow-making machine much to their liking. Then there's those who do their skiing on Lake Ontario, such as Eric Crane, top left, and Jack Gilmore, who hope to keep it up until Christmas. The two water skiers from St. Catharines have been at it every Sunday since last May and hope to be doing it on Christmas Day—after they've eaten their Christmas dinners.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION AND ANALYSIS
G. F. HUTCHESON & SON
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