

SOME STRIKING CHARACTERISTICS OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST REFORMERS

By C. D. Cliffe in Busy Man's Magazine.

"I am a solitary man. I do my own thinking. I do my own acting. I am sorry you ever suggested the idea of writing anything about me because I do not like it."

So spoke Sir William C. Macdonald, the other day, the noted philanthropist, benefactor to McGill University and education generally, and highly successful business man of Montreal. This, then, in one paragraph explains one side of the man. To call him a merchant prince would be no compliment. To say anything but just plain unvarnished truth would be a waste. Cut out all platitudes, and Sir William stands alone as one of the world's greatest reformers. His munificent donations to education running into millions have established a monument to his memory more lasting than bronze. "How did he make his money?" "Is it tainted?" "How much did he pay his half-capable employe whom he discharged?" etc. "Whisper it not in Gath," etc., for it would be a weary word, were it not for the open-handed generosity of the Carnegies, the Strathconas, the Mount Stephens and the Macdonalds.

Sir William Macdonald has been over half a century in the tobacco business. He has always been as near independent as human beings can be, because he believed early that when men get the crook out of their backs and the cringe out of their soul they are free.

From his earliest childhood in Glensdale, P.E.I., where he was born in 1831, his dominant characteristic has been thoroughness, an ambition to be first in his classes, first in competitive games in the field, and, later, first in affairs. Those who have known him all these years believe him to be just such a man all through—a man in whom the people could easily believe; they know his voice, the very intonation of kindness, they looked upon his strong, lithe, form, have seen the gleam of his honest eyes, and felt the presence of a man—a man who wants

ugh the American War as captain of the Royal Highland Emigrant Regiment, organized by Col. Allan Maclean for the defence of Quebec.

His young grandson was proud of his stirring parents, and it is easy to see that Sir William inherited the power to reach, and rule men, by his mental strength, his excellent physique, and the combination of poise and sympathy which go to make up the equipment. The Macdonalds were like most of their race; they always bought the things they should have bought and never left unsold the things they should have worked off. William was at work early, although he acquired a fine education. He spent one year in the employ of Daniel Brennan, in Charlottetown, which is merely an incident, and is more honor to that man than to Sir William now as it was really the only man he ever worked for. At 23 years of age, a time when most young men are just beginning to find their feet and often are just "getting out of college," young Macdonald left his native district and started business for himself as an importer and commission merchant in Montreal, subsequently going into the tobacco business. From the crudest beginnings he has developed an immense business, and, incidentally, a large fortune. Employment is given to a large number of hands and the business ranks as one of Canada's leading enterprises. His business methods and his opinions have been kept as secret as if in watertight compartments. Even in the matter of his donations to McGill College, he loathes even the mentioning of it. He has given nearly two millions of

donations to needy and suffering ones, are known to the writer, and when the idea of mentioning them was heard by Sir William, he exclaimed, "Horrible! Horrible! I am sorry I ever met you." What then can be done to dissipate the misunderstanding that is abroad among such men? Self-seekers invariably brand such a man as the "meanest man on earth," "an old curmudgeon," "a shyster millionaire," "he made his money by grinding down his staff," and all the other pulling and jealous fortune seekers who hate, because they from incapability and decline to dip down into his pocket and pass out his hard-earned money whenever asked.

"Misunderstood, indeed! It is a right fool's word. Is it too bad, then, to be misunderstood? Carnegie was misunderstood, and Rockefeller and Strathcona and Mount Stephen, and every pure and wise spirit that ever took flesh.

Sir William is on close and friendly terms with many of Canada's greatest men. He is friendly with his employes and also with the majority of his customers. He does not dictate their religious opinions or tell them how they shall vote. He respects their convictions, and, incidentally, a large fortune. Employment is given to a large number of hands and the business ranks as one of Canada's leading enterprises. His business methods and his opinions have been kept as secret as if in watertight compartments. Even in the matter of his donations to McGill College, he loathes even the mentioning of it. He has given nearly two millions of

are like the old maid who had a profound belief in the rectitude of man—it was all founded upon hearsay.

The man is a picture of what is known as character. Character is like an Alexandrian puzzle; read it backward, forward or across and it still reads the same thing. He wears a full beard which is now flecked with grey, but to see that long, square, lower jaw, with the chin almost sticking out, it is so prominent; pursed lips; the long, nicely curved nose, with just the hint of a hook, topped by a broad, well-shaped bare head, the forehead bulging out just over the eyes which twinkle through his glasses, and the thought of mastery, control, and success strikes one with even ordinary observation. The face itself is smooth and rosy as if its owner had never known a care, while at seventy-seven he walks as straight as a lance and with a step as firm as a lad of twenty.

At Christmas, 1908, he was knighted by her Majesty Queen Victoria, for his services to education. His great work has been, however, latterly. Jas. Wilson Robertson, now principal of the Macdonald College at St. Anne, had been for many years very successful in Canada as a dairy expert, and later as Agricultural Commissioner for the Dominion. Some years ago he had a plan for interesting the young people of the Dominion in the work of agriculture. He had offered \$100 in prizes to boys and girls who would send him the largest heads of wheat and oats from their father's farms.

The response was most gratifying

over five million dollars into the movement for the betterment of rural conditions by means of education. Not many men are able to inspire such confidence as to receive co-operation, and backing so magnificent. This is as true of the one man as of the other, for Professor Robertson says Sir William has ever been the predominant partner in ideas and good-will as well as in wealth.

Recently the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants was formed at the Macdonald College, with Professor Wm. Lockhart as President and Brother Liguori, of La Trappe, as vice-president.

The purpose of this organization is to study and control the insect and fungus pests that cause so much loss to farmers.

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LIBERAL POLICY IS SCORED

Mr. Borden Shows How Empty are Promises

Shubunacide, N.S., Sept. 10.—An enthusiastic gathering made up of electors of Hants, Halifax, and Colchester, welcomed Hon. R. L. Borden to the village of Shubunacide to-night. It was a warm and interested audience, which needed no prompting to applaud. John Stanfield M.P., F. W. Haneyght, candidate in Hants, and Mayor Crosby of Halifax, supported the Conservative leader. The hall was hung with banners, indicating the temper of the local organizers, "It is Time for a Change," "Turn Out the Graters," "Canada for Canadians," "Abolish the Unclean from Politics."

Mr. Haneyght confined himself in large part to the politics of his county, mentioning his opponent, Dr. Black, as a Liberal of to-day, but a Conservative of yesterday. The fight would be a broad one if the Provincial Government was putting its influence to the riding against him. The election should be run on absolutely clean plans, with, he hoped, the co-operation of his opponent.

John Stanfield made only a brief statement in regard to the election charges in Colchester. "I have issued a statement explaining how I stood in the matter and I will stay," Mr. Borden's address covered a wide field. With great rapidity he went from point to point, showing how flimsy was the no platform of the Liberal leadership. They had promised reform of the Senate, but had simply filled it with their partisans, irrespective of merit or fitness for honor. They had smashed every plank of the criticism of the Conservative in their platform. To Mr. Fielding leader had not sought the verdict of the people before bringing down a platform. Mr. Borden said he would take Mr. Fielding at his word, and ask what mandate the Liberal leaders had from their supporters for the wholesale changes of platform from a measuring of the taxation by the per capita party rule. Mr. Fielding had come to sneer at the rule when it no longer suited his purposes. They had adopted a pernicious land policy. Public land was farmed out, leased, they called it, but the leases were practically perpetual, to satisfy partisans and land was put up for auction at a time when it was impossible for anyone to visit the lots offered by the intended purchaser. Evidence was produced to show wasteful expenditures in many departments of the Administration was reproached with having done nothing to justify the huge sums expended.

Mayor Crosby, of Halifax, and Mr. Borden's colleague there, made a short, but lively speech, in which in a somewhat ingenious way, that seemed vastly to please the electors, he asked for support for his party.



PROF. LOCKE. Prominently Identified with the Macdonald Agricultural College.

the remedy will be more readily discovered and applied.

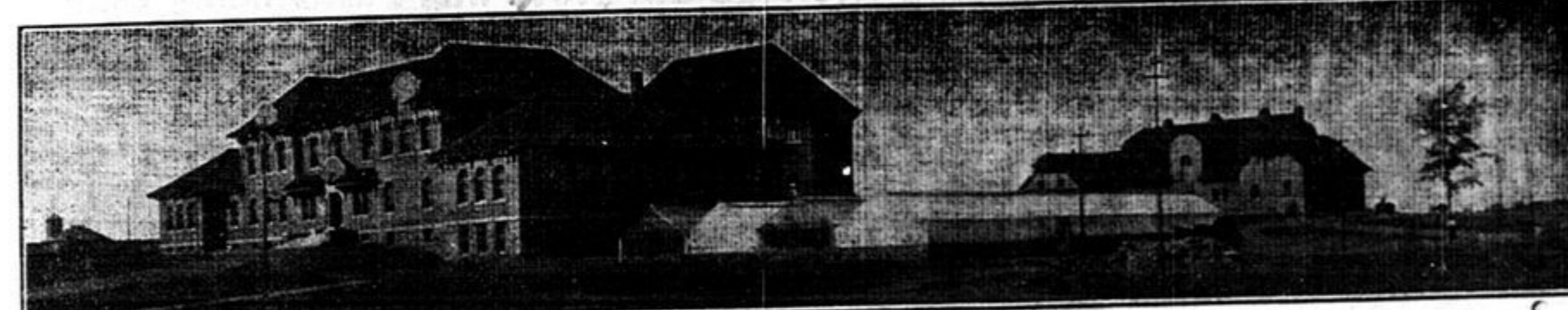
It has been said that Sir William's characteristic virtues are commonplace, and that it is easy to give money when you have it. Then may heaven send us more such commonplace men. He has accomplished a work which would have broken a genius and driven a creature of public belief to despair. If this be not greatness, no man need desire to be great.

His donations to education may be enumerated as follows:

- \$20,000 to endowment for mechanical engineering; erected the W. C. Macdonald Engineering Building, valued with its equipment at \$350,000, and an endowment of electrical engineering with the sum of \$40,000; erection and equipment of the Physics Building, valued at \$300,000, and two chairs of Physics, with endowments amounting to \$90,000; the endowment of the Law Faculty, \$150,000; a further sum of \$150,000 for the maintenance of the engineering building; \$50,000 towards the endowment of the Pension Fund; erection of a new building for the Department of Chemistry, Mining and Architecture at a cost of \$50,000, making a total of \$1,650,000 in this list.

In December, 1897, he founded a new chair of chemistry in McGill and contributed a further sum of \$250,000 towards those departments with which his name was associated.

A short time ago the McGill Engineering Building was completely destroyed by fire, and it is now in course of reconstruction. Thanks also to private work on the part of Sir William.



The Macdonald College Farm is Splendidly Equipped With Buildings of all Descriptions

money alone to McGill, to say nothing of his five-million dollar college bearing his own name at St. Anne de Bellevue, and his hundreds of thousands distributed in other ways. He is the largest shareholder in Canada's largest bank, the Montreal, is a director of it, as well as many other important financial and commercial institutions; is life governor of many charitable and beneficent institutions and a supporter of many unknown to the public, yet he holds up his hands in apparent agony and cries out: "LEAVE ME ALONE. I DO NOT WISH TO HEAR ABOUT IT." Though Sir William seems to have shut himself in, he has never been a recluse, nor has he ever been in danger of dying at the top from mental asphyxiation.

Asked why he did not now advertise his tobacco freely. This, with a good factory system and a very high quality in his products laid the foundation for the largest individually owned tobacco business in the world. He would have been equally successful in any other business. The methods he employed in his career form the strongest object lesson for the present-day business man. Questioned further about his business and some of his peculiar methods, Sir William said he would be shocked to have any reference to his private business.

Many acts of munificent man to man charities, kindnesses to old employes

head may be sometimes in the clouds. Think what it would mean to have his services at the disposal of the nation. Firm, resolute and incorruptible, unmoved by flattery, unshaken by fear, just and tenacious in conviction, he has enriched Canada by a modest and noble example of strength and fidelity. He has given a rebirth to education; has quickened the aspirations of our children and planted firmly a heritage worth more than a mint of gold.

In his home, and this is dangerous ground, as far as displacing Sir William is concerned—one finds all the earmarks of a voracious student. He has a fondness for fine books, and loves the work of fine artists, and engravers; joys in communing with the thoughts of great souls who have worked and loved and failed and died to help the world's freedom. That he thinks his own thoughts or is a free-thinker is his own business. His heroes are men like Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Thomas Paine.

The students at McGill conboculation have been heard to say, "Bill we need the money." But Sir William, only smiles and gives more. Those who do not care for him do not know him.

Those who think Sir William anything other than a high-minded gentleman of superior attainments,

and Prof. Robertson saw its future possibilities. He enlisted the support of Sir William Macdonald, who offered \$10,000 as prizes. As a result the yield of grains increased 27 and 28 per cent, and from this movement has grown the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, who estimate that in three years crops have been increased in value by half a million dollars.

From seed grain Professor Robertson interested Sir William in many of the best systems in vogue in the United States, England and elsewhere and adapted their best features to his manual training schools. He founded twenty-one of these, attended by 7,000 children. Sir William contributed the whole cost for three years, and then the municipalities free to continue the schools if they wished. In every case they have been continued, and the movement is spreading rapidly. In Ontario the number grew from three to forty.

Another move to consolidate rural schools. Professor Robertson took up this work with his characteristic energy and again enlisted the sympathies of Sir William Macdonald. In these consolidated schools the course was broadened to include gardening, sewing, cooking and manual training. Dr. Robertson felt that our elementary education was too bookish, that it did not appeal to the skill of hand and eye which

The School of Household Science gives instruction in a wide range of subjects, including the study of foods, cooking, housekeeping economics, clothing materials, dressmaking, millinery, fuels, ventilation, home nursing, and hygiene, and home art. These courses admirably supplement those of the school of agriculture and show the wonderful educational instinct of the principal. The School of Agriculture boys are taught how to win wealth from the soil, the dairy, the cattle farm and the poultry yard. How to earn a good income is taught here and how to spend it wisely and carefully is taught in the department of household science.

Professor Robertson's work has been a natural growth. From seed selection and manual training grew the movement to re-organize rural schools. From consolidated rural schools grew the plans for the great Macdonald College at St. Anne. The question naturally arises, will he succeed in the larger sphere? To know the man is to say yes.

St. Anne has won more than a national reputation. Delegations from the United States and Europe have visited Macdonald College in numbers. Professor Robertson so won the confidence of Sir William Macdonald that together they go forward developing ideas and applying them to the advancement of education and to the "building up of the country." Sir William has put



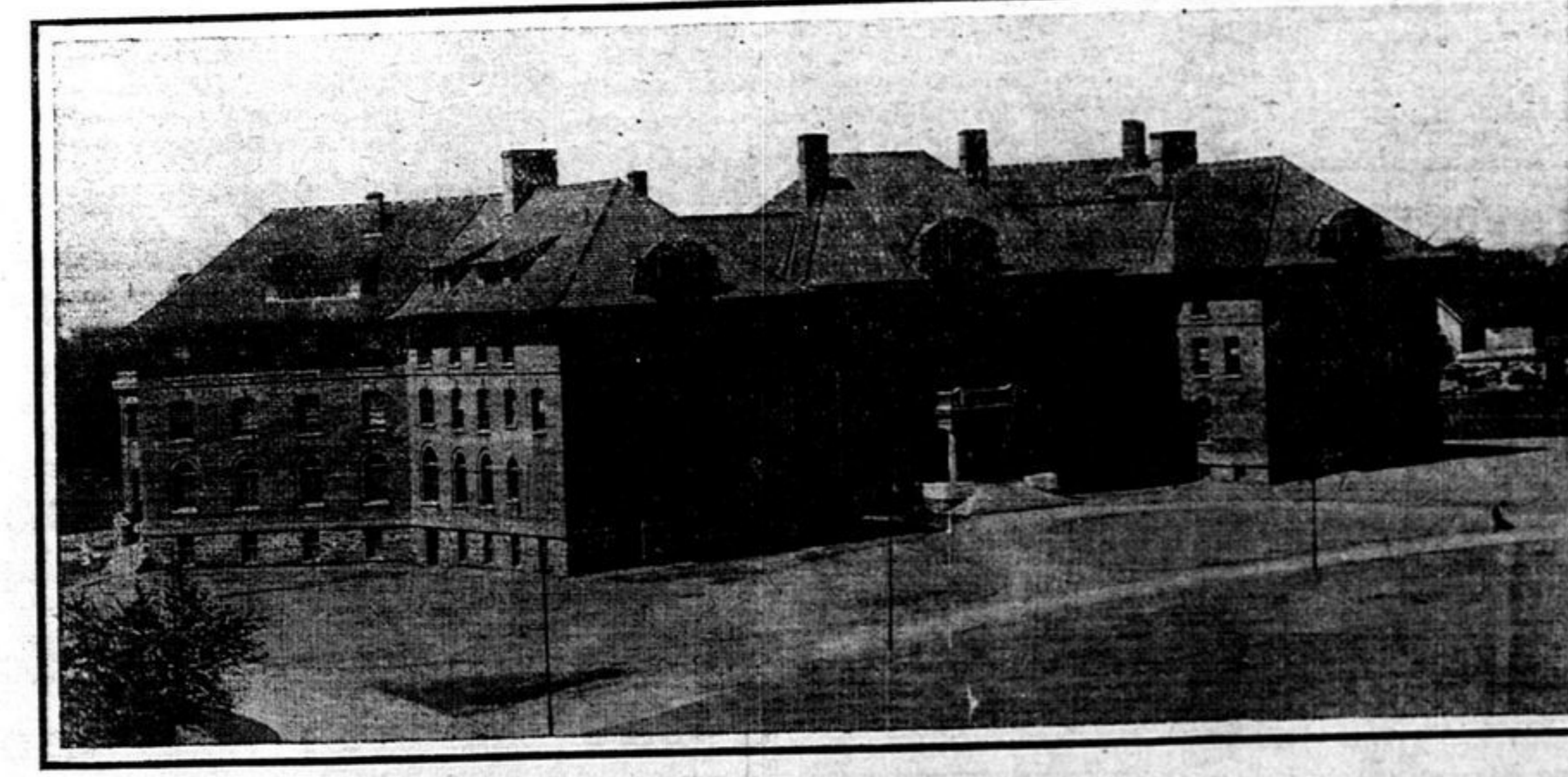
PROF. J. W. ROBERTSON. To whom Sir Wm. Macdonald entrusted the work of founding the Macdonald College at St. Anne de Bellevue.

nothing and gives much—a man who has given more than his life for this country's education. When asked as to how he came to turn his mind towards educational improvement, if it was want of education in his own life, etc., he smilingly replied: "Want of education applies to all mankind." So there is the keynote to his benevolence, the subtle basis of his scientific economy for education.

In the little Central Academy at Charlottetown, P.E.I. the future millionaire, knight and benefactor, was educated, his capacity for absorbing knowledge was early marked. The traits of the rugged Scotch settlements were his, even to a theological stiffness at home which robbed his mind of much of its humor. In fact it is well known that reformers must be color-blind—they see only red or purple and nothing else. Young Macdonald left home early, and to use his own expression, he escaped much religious rigidity. Morgan's Book of Men states that he was of Roman Catholic family. This is wrong. He is opposed to the Roman Catholic doctrines and to much of the Protestant.

His parents, though not wealthy, were people of prominence, and were best of all thinking people. His father, Donald Macdonald, was a well-known figure in the East, and was for some time President of the Legislative Council of Prince Edward Island. His mother, Anna Matilda Brecken, came of good old United Empire Loyalist stock, and was very fond of William, her youngest son.

She it was who instilled into the young man the right principles of life, the careful thrift and the evenness of mind which have served him well. It is said by those who know that Sir William's abiding affection for his mother prevented him from marrying at an early age, so that, however, from his grandfather, that Sir William inherited much ability. He was Captain John Macdonald, eighth chieftain of the Clan Macdonald, of Glensdale. He was a leader of men and a benefactor, living a life devoted to public good. After founding the sterling Scotch settlements of Tracadie, Scotch North, Glensfinn and Fort Augustus, all known throughout the province of Prince Edward Island to-day for their sound Scotch worth, he served three



Two Views of the Macdonald College Buildings at St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec

Head Lake Woman Burned to Death

On Friday morning, about seven o'clock, Mrs. Henry Southern, of Head Lake, Laxton Township, was burned to death at her home while getting breakfast ready.

Mr. R. H. Southern, her stepson, got up about six o'clock, lighted the fire, called his step-mother, and then proceeded to get a pair of water about sixty rods away at his sister-in-law's house, and it was during his absence that the terrible affair happened.

Just as he arrived at his sister-in-law's house he heard someone calling for help and screaming at the top of her voice. He immediately turned around and saw the blaze through the window and hurried to the house, but he was too late, as his step-mother was lying on the floor unconscious and her body badly burned.

Dr. Geo. Lipps, of Victoria Road, was sent for, but she was so badly burned that nothing could be done to save the unfortunate woman's life.

In conversation with her stepson this morning he stated that the cause of the accident, he thought, was due to the fact that she must have been taking the tea kettle off the stove to put water in the porridge, and while doing this the flames caught her clothing. This must have been the cause as the stove lid, kettle and porridge pot were on the floor. Very little damage was done to the house with the exception of a few chairs and a hole in the floor being burned.

The late Mrs. Southern was 64 years of age, and wife of the late Henry Southern. She was a well known and respected citizen, having lived there most of her life. She leaves to mourn her loss two stepsons at home, and a daughter at Sebright. She was also a first cousin of Mr. Wm. McGill, and a second cousin of Mr. T. H. Gostlin, of town.

The funeral will take place on Monday afternoon at Yelverton, Manvers.

A TWELVE POUNDER.

The fish are biting good on Sturgeon Lake now. Ancel King caught a twelve-pounder on Saturday evening.

AFTER DOCTORS FAILED

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Restore a Despondent Sufferer to Health

"Although it is now some years since I found it necessary to take medicine of any kind, I attribute my present good health entirely to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills." Thus writes Mr. Wm. M. Ferguson, St. John West N.B., Mr. Ferguson continues: "For years I was a sufferer from chronic bronchitis and general debility. I grew older I seemed to grow weaker, and at the approach of autumn I commenced to cough and had to remain in the house all winter. With the coming of summer I always got a little better, only to be laid low again when the fine weather was over. During my last and most severe attack my cough became more distressing and I raised considerable phlegm, while at night I would be bathed in a cold, clammy sweat. The doctor's medicine relieved my cough a little during the day time, but there was no other improvement, as I had no appetite, the night sweats continued and I was growing weaker. I changed doctors three different times, but with no improvement. Then I began to take cod liver oil, but my stomach had grown so weak that it refused to retain it. It was at this time that when I was trying to reconcile myself to my fate, that a pamphlet relating cures wrought by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills was left at my door. Although my friends thought me in a decline, and although I was feeling hopeless, myself, I decided to try the Pills. After using several boxes, though I still continued to cough, I felt better in other respects, and my appetite was gradually returning. I was not much surprised, but pleased to find that improvement, and I gladly continued their use. By the time I had taken eight boxes the night sweats and the cough had entirely disappeared, and I was feeling quite vigorous. I took two more boxes, and felt that there was no necessity to continue the treatment as I was in better health than I had ever been before. When I completed the twelfth box I weighed myself and found that I had gained 32 pounds. As I said before, it is some years ago since my cure was effected, and I have not had a cough in any season since, and have always enjoyed the best of health. I believe, therefore, that it is entirely due to the agency of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills that I am alive and well to-day, and I trust that others will benefit by my personal experience."

You can get these pills from your medicine dealer or by mail at 50c. a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

LOCAL RUNNING talent will find an opportunity to exercise their ability in the coming four mile race, Thornbury, of Glenora, will come second in the five-mile race, and W. H. Simpson will have his little redskin, Smoke, in trim for the race.

FALLING SICKNESS
Pins, Epilepsy, St. Vitus' Dance, Nervous Troubles, Etc., positively cured by LEEB'S FIT CURE. Free trial bottles sent free on application. Write the LEEB CO., Fresno St., Toronto.

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SALEM Sept. 13.—Pir our vicinity lo ham homeless I thought a spark on the roof, and no men around ed great headw ed. The cont with the except that were in the

TORY Sept. 14.—We and hot weather the farmers. Our volunteers Capt. Anderson, Friday night fine time, and praise for Col. officers. Miss Elizabeth Mr. J. H. And Mr. John All from Wallace Mr. Deyman, her sister, Miss visited at Mr. A. Mr. Joe. Park in town on busi His Honor, J court on Friday cases of any im was represented don. Miss Minnie A Anderson spent Gooderham. Mr. R. Bonha these days. It