

### Two S. S. 4 Pupils Win Essay Prizes

**WILLIAM BRAIN AND FRASER McNABB PRIZE-WINNERS IN NELSON ESSAY CONTEST**

William Brain and Fraser McNabb, both pupils of Miss Wilma Stull, S. S. No. 4, Esquimaux, brought distinction to their school recently when they were awarded third and fifth prizes respectively, in the annual Nelson Essay Contest.

Following are the prize-winning essays:

#### THE LIFE OF LORD NELSON

By William Brain

England expects every man to do his duty. These words were spoken by our famous hero, Admiral Nelson. In a small house in the town of Burnham Thorpe in the County of Norfolk, in England, on Sept. 29th, 1758, a son was born to the Reverend Edmund and Catherine Nelson. Mrs. Nelson's grandmother was an elder sister of Lord Walpole. The child was named after the first Lord Walpole. When Mrs. Nelson died in 1767, leaving eight out of eleven children her brother, Captain Maurice Buxton, promised to take care of the boys, one of which happened to be Horatio. Horatio had a weak body, but had a brave heart. He would never cause others unnecessary pain. He wanted to help those less fortunate when possible. This noble mind and unselfish spirit was with him always in his life of labor and glory. Many stories have been told of his fearlessness and courage. Once when he was missing for some time his

grandmother found him by a brook. She said, "Would hunger and fear not drive you home?" He replied, "Fear, Grandma, I never saw fear."

Another story is told of him stealing pears out of his master's backyard. His playmates were afraid to go and get the pears. His friends made a rope of bed sheets and let Horatio down into the garden. He pulled the pears and took them back to his room. He gave them all to his playmate, but did not reserve any for himself. When questioned about the affair, he said, "I did it because every other boy was afraid."

In Horatio's twelfth year he read in the county papers about his uncle's appointment on the *Raisonnable* of sixty-four guns. He asked his older brother William to write to his father and state that Horatio would like to join the navy. His father, knowing that Horatio wished to support himself and understanding his character, had said that in whatever place Horatio was he would, if possible, climb to the top of the tree, so he gave his consent to join his uncle in the navy.

On a cold spring morning, Mr. Nelson's servant came to the school at North Walsham with the summons for Horatio to join his Uncle's ship. The parting with his playmates and brothers was painful, but this is the sailor's lot through life. Captain Buxton was removed to the *Triumph* and Nelson was sent to the *West Indies* on a merchant ship. He returned a practical seaman. After his return from

the West Indies, an expedition for the North Pole was ready to leave, so Nelson joined them. This expedition was not very successful.

Nelson later went to India and was there for about eighteen months, when he took sick. The climate there didn't agree with him. During his trip back to England his health improved and after arriving home he took a lieutenant's examination.

In December, 1778, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the "Badger." While in Montego Bay, the "Olga" of twenty guns came in and anchored in two hours time it took fire. Nelson ordered the ship to throw their guns powder overboard and point their guns upward.

After one return voyage to the Mediterranean he married Mrs. Nebel, a widow with one child. After the wedding one of the sailors said that it was a great loss to the navy. This marriage was not a very happy one. They were separated in about three months time. Possibly the reason for this was because he was very fond of a friend by the name of Lady Hamilton, who afterwards influenced his life very much.

Nelson was very unfortunate in losing the sight of his right eye at the siege of Calvi. In another engagement at Tenerife he was shot in the arm. It had to be amputated. He said, "Tell the surgeon to make haste with my instrument. I know I must lose my right arm so the sooner it is off the better. I have yet my legs and one arm left."

It is very difficult to see the physical weakness Nelson is truly a hero. The great period of Nelson's life was in 1801, with Napoleon's Egyptian Expedition. His brilliant victory over the French fleet in the battle of the Nile. It was before this battle he said to one of his midshipmen, "There are three things to keep in mind; first, you must always implicitly obey orders without attempting to form any opinion of your own; secondly, you must consider every man your enemy who speaks evil of your King; and thirdly, you must hate a Frenchman as you do the devil."

When hostilities were again renewed with France in 1803, Nelson shouldered the flagship *Victory*, as Commander-in-Chief, was again active. The French fleet after a blockade of two years slipped out of the harbor at Toulon. Nelson started after them in pursuit. He engaged them in the conflict of Trafalgar. It was during this engagement that he displayed the famous flag signal, "Britain expects every man to do his duty."

In this battle Nelson divided his fleet in two parts to attack. The *Victory* never shot a gun till ten minutes to twelve. Once when the ships got so close together each gunner stood ready with a quart of water in case of fire. A shot was fired after one a ball hit Nelson and wounded him.

Captain Hardy was only a few steps ahead of him when he turned and saw three redoubts hit Nelson up. Captain Hardy was under Nelson's command on the *Victory*. Nelson said, "They have done for me now," Hardy said, "I hope not." "Yes," Nelson replied. "When they were carrying him down to the hold he noticed the tiler ropes were broken. He ordered them to be cut in two so that the sailors would not know him, he covered his face with a handkerchief.

When he heard yelling and shouting pain I wish I were dead, but still I wish I could live a little longer to see the long sea-faring results." He was said in a low tone, "If my Lady Hamilton knew what sort of affair I was in, I wonder what would happen to her." Although Nelson was in pain he was still thinking of others. Fifty minutes after Hardy called on Nelson the first time he came again. He took the hand of his dying friend and congratulated him on a complete victory. Nelson said, "How many ships were taken?" Captain Hardy replied, "Fourteen or fifteen at least." Nelson said, "That was alright, but I bargained for twenty." Nelson was fast falling but he said to Hardy, "Don't throw me overboard, I want to be buried beside my parents. Kiss me, Hardy, and take care of my Lady Hamilton." Hardy knelt down and kissed his cheek, and Nelson said, "Now I am satisfied. Thank God, I can die happy." Outside, he would ask for Captain Hardy. In about an hour and a quarter time Hardy came. When Hardy went to leave he took a very solemn farewell. Nelson was asked if he had much pain. He said, "I have such a peace in my duty." Nelson replied, "God bless you Hardy." Hardy left then forever.

It is to be noted that the victory was decisive and the last guns which were fired at the enemy were fired a few minutes before he died.

All the honours which a grateful country could bestow were heaped upon the memory of Nelson. He was returned to London in a leaden coffin which was cut in pieces and distributed as relics of Nelson. He was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, England.

In Trafalgar Square there towers up into the sky a column a hundred and sixty-six feet high. It is the Nelson Column. Today when friends from every part of the Empire see that column amid such destruction, a new courage, new hope, and a fresh determination rise in their hearts, for they are reminded of those principles which their hero, Nelson, loved and for which he gave his life.

In Halifax County we have two townships to the memory of our hero, Nelson, and Trafalgar. In the battle of Trafalgar these two names are linked together. Many places in Canada bear the name of Nelson, a city in British Columbia, a street in Victoria, and several other cities and towns throughout the Dominion have streets and parks named after this heroic man.

THE LIFE OF LORD NELSON  
By Fraser McNabb  
In these days of great trial our minds go back to when we studied about great men in history. Our minds are fixed on two men. The first and greatest is the late Admiral Horatio Nelson, and the other the Duke of Wellington. In their battles against Napoleon, for that reason I wish to refer in your mind the life of Lord Nelson, the greatest English Admiral, greater even than the Elizabethan seaman, Drake. Born in a small country town in Norfolk, in the year 1758, the son of a minister, Nelson grew up delicate and weak. When only a boy he went with another boy who tended roses to birds' nests. At dinner time Horatio did not appear. His grandmother searched for him fearing he was carried off by spirits. When they found him he was beside a stream. His grandmother asked him when he got home if he had been afraid. "What is fear?" he asked, and that was his attitude till death. At the age of twelve he went to sea. Later the ship on which he was sailing went North on a sealing expedition. Nelson went with some other sailors on a polar bear hunt. Nelson stayed from his companions and excited a bear. He became so excited he could not hold the gun straight, and when he fired he wounded. The bear rushed at Nelson who clubbed it with his gun till one of his comrades came and shot it. He was fond of the sea and at the age of twenty he was made a Captain of a ship. He was sometimes referred to as the "Boy Captain". On St. Valentine's Day in 1797, Nelson won his position and was promoted Rear Admiral. At this battle Admiral Jervis defeated the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent in 1797. While the Spanish fleet was trying to escape, Nelson steered his ship in and blocked the way. He endured heavy fire for half an hour. Just the rest of the fleet came up and beat off the Spanish. When they came back they found Nelson with his badly disabled ship, had sailed alongside a Spanish ship and captured it, and passed on to another, for that reason Admiral Jervis had him promoted to Rear Admiral in command of the Mediterranean fleet. In July 1798, Napoleon was in command of Egypt, and the French fleet in the harbour at Alexandria. The French ships were so much larger that the British could sail between them and the shore. This Nelson did and destroyed all the French ships but two or three that escaped. Before the battle Nelson said, "Before this time tomorrow I shall have gained a peerage or Westminster Abbey." Napoleon tried to make the Scandinavian countries stop trading with England. But Nelson again blocked him by defeating the Danish fleet at Copenhagen. In March 1802, peace was signed. The ink was scarcely dry when Napoleon was again preparing for war. He forced Spain to join him and with 100,000 soldiers he marched to Boulogne. There he had a fleet of flat-bottomed boats ready as soon as the channel was rid of the English fleet. "The channel," said Napoleon, "is but a ditch and anyone can cross it who has the courage to try." The same year the British were again at war at Boulogne, the French fleet was stationed, with Nelson watching them, outside. Napoleon told his Admiral to start out towards America for Nelson would give chase; he was then to double back and guard the channel while he invaded England. So in a storm the French fleet slipped out. Nelson followed fast. When he found they had doubled back he sent a swift ship back to notify some ships left at home. These ships crossed the path of the French fleet, stopping them and chasing them to Cadix. Napoleon was angry and sent word to his admiral that he was a coward not to go out and fight. This stung the Frenchman's pride and they sailed again to battle. When Nelson saw them coming he went to his cabin and prayed to God for victory. When on deck again he flashed the wonderful message, "England expects every man to do his duty." When he went to attack he had second in Command, Admiral Collingwood, sail in one side of the French and he on the other. When the time came they cut right through the French, thus the French took fire from both sides. In the thick of the fight Nelson was on quarter deck of the *Victory*. Then a sniper in the rigging of an enemy ship shot him through the chest, and he fell. Captain Hardy got to the hold. He was picked up to carry him downstairs when he thought and took his handkerchief and laid it over his face and his medals, so his men wouldn't recognize him. When they were carrying him to the hold he saw some of the ropes in the rigging were shot off, and ordered them to be replaced. Doctor Beatty pronounced his wound mortal, but he lived long enough to have the news brought to him that the English fleet were victorious. On his deathbed he said, "Thank God, I die happy." Thus died the greatest admiral of all times.

#### THE LIFE OF LORD NELSON

By Fraser McNabb

In these days of great trial our minds go back to when we studied about great men in history. Our minds are fixed on two men. The first and greatest is the late Admiral Horatio Nelson, and the other the Duke of Wellington. In their battles against Napoleon, for that reason I wish to refer in your mind the life of Lord Nelson, the greatest English Admiral, greater even than the Elizabethan seaman, Drake. Born in a small country town in Norfolk, in the year 1758, the son of a minister, Nelson grew up delicate and weak. When only a boy he went with another boy who tended roses to birds' nests. At dinner time Horatio did not appear. His grandmother searched for him fearing he was carried off by spirits. When they found him he was beside a stream. His grandmother asked him when he got home if he had been afraid. "What is fear?" he asked, and that was his attitude till death. At the age of twelve he went to sea. Later the ship on which he was sailing went North on a sealing expedition. Nelson went with some other sailors on a polar bear hunt. Nelson stayed from his companions and excited a bear. He became so excited he could not hold the gun straight, and when he fired he wounded. The bear rushed at Nelson who clubbed it with his gun till one of his comrades came and shot it. He was fond of the sea and at the age of twenty he was made a Captain of a ship. He was sometimes referred to as the "Boy Captain". On St. Valentine's Day in 1797, Nelson won his position and was promoted Rear Admiral. At this battle Admiral Jervis defeated the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent in 1797. While the Spanish fleet was trying to escape, Nelson steered his ship in and blocked the way. He endured heavy fire for half an hour. Just the rest of the fleet came up and beat off the Spanish. When they came back they found Nelson with his badly disabled ship, had sailed alongside a Spanish ship and captured it, and passed on to another, for that reason Admiral Jervis had him promoted to Rear Admiral in command of the Mediterranean fleet. In July 1798, Napoleon was in command of Egypt, and the French fleet in the harbour at Alexandria. The French ships were so much larger that the British could sail between them and the shore. This Nelson did and destroyed all the French ships but two or three that escaped. Before the battle Nelson said, "Before this time tomorrow I shall have gained a peerage or Westminster Abbey." Napoleon tried to make the Scandinavian countries stop trading with England. But Nelson again blocked him by defeating the Danish fleet at Copenhagen. In March 1802, peace was signed. The ink was scarcely dry when Napoleon was again preparing for war. He forced Spain to join him and with 100,000 soldiers he marched to Boulogne. There he had a fleet of flat-bottomed boats ready as soon as the channel was rid of the English fleet. "The channel," said Napoleon, "is but a ditch and anyone can cross it who has the courage to try." The same year the British were again at war at Boulogne, the French fleet was stationed, with Nelson watching them, outside. Napoleon told his Admiral to start out towards America for Nelson would give chase; he was then to double back and guard the channel while he invaded England. So in a storm the French fleet slipped out. Nelson followed fast. When he found they had doubled back he sent a swift ship back to notify some ships left at home. These ships crossed the path of the French fleet, stopping them and chasing them to Cadix. Napoleon was angry and sent word to his admiral that he was a coward not to go out and fight. This stung the Frenchman's pride and they sailed again to battle. When Nelson saw them coming he went to his cabin and prayed to God for victory. When on deck again he flashed the wonderful message, "England expects every man to do his duty." When he went to attack he had second in Command, Admiral Collingwood, sail in one side of the French and he on the other. When the time came they cut right through the French, thus the French took fire from both sides. In the thick of the fight Nelson was on quarter deck of the *Victory*. Then a sniper in the rigging of an enemy ship shot him through the chest, and he fell. Captain Hardy got to the hold. He was picked up to carry him downstairs when he thought and took his handkerchief and laid it over his face and his medals, so his men wouldn't recognize him. When they were carrying him to the hold he saw some of the ropes in the rigging were shot off, and ordered them to be replaced. Doctor Beatty pronounced his wound mortal, but he lived long enough to have the news brought to him that the English fleet were victorious. On his deathbed he said, "Thank God, I die happy." Thus died the greatest admiral of all times.

(Continued on Page 8)

# what is a VICTORY BOND..?



A VICTORY BOND is the promise of the Dominion of Canada to repay in cash the full face value of the Bond at the time stipulated, with half-yearly interest at the rate of 3% per annum until maturity.

A Victory Bond is the safest investment in Canada. The entire resources of the Dominion stand behind it.

A Victory Bond is an asset more readily converted into cash than any other security.

National War Finance Committee, Ottawa, Canada

# GET READY TO BUY THE NEW VICTORY BONDS

A40