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Chatting

With M.H.B.

IF YOU'VE ever decided at the last minute, to take a trip and leave someone in charge of your children for a few days, then you can appreciate what a hectic two days we spent last Friday and Saturday preparing for a trip to the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association Convention in Quebec City. Paring down the preparatory jobs to a minimum we settled for doing the washing, ironing, shopping and baking and so our "chat" with you had to wait till this week.

Perhaps a good many of you have already visited Quebec City, but for us it was the first visit. We even enjoyed the daylight part of our trip from Toronto to Montreal, which we had been led to believe was quite boring, but to us was quite lovely, with occasional glimpses of Lake Ontario and the countryside so beautiful with its autumnal colouring.

The most unusual thing about Quebec City, outside of its quaintness, was its weather. We could hardly believe our eyes when we looked out of the window our first morning there, to find a regular mid-winter blizzard raging. And it snowed hard all day. Hardly anyone had come prepared for such weather and the stores there did a land-office business in overshoes.

THE CHATEAU Frontenac, where the Convention was held, is a lovely old hotel. From its windows, situated high on the cliffs of the "Upper Town", you have a perfect view of the St. Lawrence with boats of all shapes and sizes constantly plying its waters, the city of Levis on the opposite banks; and directly below, Quebec City — the turreted rooftops of its high narrow buildings closely clustered along the winding streets. As the lights came on and shone on the snow-covered rooftops that first night, Quebec looked like a scene from a beautiful Christmas card come to life.

The streets of Quebec are extremely narrow, and one is constantly aware of the ancient atmosphere of the city. The old houses and buildings have been well preserved as has the historic citadel from behind whose walls the attacks of invaders were repelled. The citadel is usually open to the public only during the summer months, but as a special dispensation, the press party was allowed a tour of inspection. We must have walked a good two or three miles, seeing the old fort from without as well as within. Inside the citadel, it was hard to realize that what looked like blank stone walls, studded with the odd rifle hole and topped by earth and grass, were really continuous buildings which housed the troops. A beautiful chapel has been restored and renovated, and one of the buildings is now being used as a museum. Modern troops are billeted in the Citadel which is being constantly renovated inside, but a great effort is being made to keep the outside as much like the original fortification as possible.

From one of the gun emplacements situated on one of the highest corners of the Citadel, there was an excellent view of Wolfe's Cove and the Plains of Abraham. The plains of Abraham are now a beautifully kept park in the midst of the City.

THERE WAS ONE little sidelight which amused everyone. At the dinner given us by the Government of the province of Quebec, the main course of the menu consisted of roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, mashed potatoes and brussels sprouts — how English a meal can you have? And then there was another sidelight at the dinners which made us all feel particularly welcome to Quebec. Several dinner speakers stressed their wish for Canadian unity, with no racial or religious prejudice to mar it. Sounded particularly convincing coming from the lips of bilingual Frenchmen.

It's a little hard to get back into routine again after such a holiday, but we find there is quite a lot of news to catch up on.

WE WERE SLOW learning of the new people who moved into Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Speight's apartment on Guelph St. a month ago, but chatting with Mrs. Speight we found their new tenants, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gunn, formerly lived in Long Branch. Mr. Gunn is a chemical engineer with Provincial Paper Ltd. The Gunns are members of the United Church and have an 8-month-old baby boy, Warren.

Note that Misses Cecily and Letitia Boomer have moved farther south along Main Street into the house formerly occupied by the Wrigglesworths.

While awaiting the completion of their new home, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Orr will live in the apartment above the Bank of Commerce. Mr. and Mrs. Orr moved on Saturday, and the new owners of their Maple Avenue home, Mr. and Mrs. Frost, are already here.

Saturday was moving day for

Mr. and Mrs. John Cummins, Joan John and Michael, when they moved into their newly built home on Morris Street, near the Public School. Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Hay, with small daughters Elizabeth and Mary, will live in the house on Albert Street, formerly occupied by the Cummins family.

IN A COUPLE of weeks now, Mr. and Mrs. S. Granshaw, and children Ian and Cynthia will be sailing back to England to make their home in Surrey, after living here for over two years. They will sail aboard the "Ascania" from Montreal. Son Ian, who is 17, was employed by J. B. Mackenzie and Son, and daughter Cynthia was a Public School pupil. The Granshaws live on Queen Street. When they arrive back in England the Granshaws hope to re-establish themselves in a wood business as they did before coming to Canada. Mrs. Granshaw feels they were fortunate to be able to book passage at this particular time, because she found our Canadian winters much too severe. Another daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Granshaw is Mrs. Ray Harlow, of town.

Miss Sybil Bennett K.C. On Speaking Tour



Miss Sybil Bennett, K.C. of the local law firm of Dale and Bennett will be an extremely busy lady for the next three weeks.

Miss Bennett left last week for a speaking tour of the Prairie Provinces on behalf of the Progressive Conservative party. She is travelling west by Canadian Pacific Railways after her first engagement at Brifndon, Man., last Friday and returns via Canadian National Railways.

During the trip she will address three Provincial conventions and speak to ladies groups and mixed meetings in over twenty-five cities and towns between Brandon and Calgary. Her speaking engagements number over fifty.

Miss Bennett, who was Progressive Conservative candidate at the last federal election, is looking forward to this opportunity to find out what people are thinking in the west and anticipates that the benefit she can render the party in her speeches will be doubly beneficial if she can ascertain what the western people want and expect from their parliamentary representatives.

Alexander Hamilton was killed by Aaron Burr on this same duelling ground where his son had fallen in a duel some three years earlier.

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TIPS TO THE HOUSEWIFE
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