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THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE RICHMOND HILL HIGH SCHOOL
MOST FITTINGLY CELEBRATED.

Another Mark of Progress in
the Village.

(Continued from last week.)



MR. COOMBS' ADDRESS, (condensed.)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and gentlemen. I am very glad that this day has dawned in Richmond Hill, that we have reached this point in our history when a new high school building is opened for promoting the work of education in this community. And as I see such a goodly number before me I would like to ask you this question: "Why has this building been built?" Of course the publicity that has already been given the ceremony through the columns of the press will enable you to say at once, it is built for a school. Right enough, but now consider further what this means. It means that it was built for the noblest of human purposes; for the highest earthly object this side of heaven for which any building can be built. It was built for a school-house; for a means of enlarging the opportunities of boys and girls of this neighborhood for high education along the lines of Christian ideals.

"And why educate? Because no animal on earth seems to have been less prepared for his natural environment than man. From the very beginning of his existence here he has commenced life the most dependent and most helpless of all the animal kingdom. So far as we know, no other animal at birth is so poorly equipped for the life thrust upon him. Other animals have, from the cradle of their being, bodily protection without need of artificial coverings. Man alone has not. All animals except man were endowed at birth with natural instincts as perfectly adapted to their necessities that they were so correctly guided in the preparation of food and homes that nothing was left to be desired for their well being. Man at his birth had no such instincts, no ready-made law for the government of his daily life and like the Son of Man himself had 'nowhere to lay his head'."

From these premises shall we argue that nature's plummet slipped when man was placed on earth amid such conditions. Not at all; rather we argue the opposite. For while man was the most dependent of mortals at the start he was endowed with potential powers which are capable of development in such a degree as no other animal possesses. As then these undeveloped powers at birth lie dormant in man it naturally follows that unless they are drawn out by education and training he must always remain in darkness and doubt. It is seen at once then, what the province of education is. It is to draw out man's innate powers. It is to elevate him in the scale of intelligence so that he may make and enforce law without waste or friction. It is to develop that personality which will make him king over all the kingdoms of nature. This is the work of education and to advance this work we are dedicating this building to-day.

The children of this age are "heirs of all the ages." The record of man's experience will wonderfully aid in developing the child. The steps by which civilization has reached this nineteenth century perfection will afford invaluable education to the young. These things are our inheritance and the work of education is to distribute this inheritance without partiality or selfishness. Education has flowed down to us by a very winding stream. Look at the educational condition of the east. Far back in the centuries the Chinese government enforced general education. Its chief purpose was obedience to the ruler, religious homage to the Emperor. These principles were absolutely enforced and the price of disobedience was death. Any display of original thought was fatal and the result is that the oldest and most

populous nation of the earth has for centuries stood in its wooden shoes upon the same intellectual dead level, producing nothing but intellectual dwarfs who rest in the supreme contentment that they have nothing more to learn. Would we like such a system as that? Looking next at India we see the effects of Brahminism. Education was monopolized by religion. The priests alone were permitted to drink at the fountains of knowledge. Society was enslaved by caste. The lower people were little better than slaves, and here, especially is seen that

"Just experience tells in every soil That those who think must govern those who toil."

Would you like such a system as this? Compare Egypt with its mysterious sphinx, its sleeping mummy and its immovable pyramids. They all show motionless national life.

Look, too, to ancient Greece and Rome. They used to be great. But their narrow educational system largely wrought their ruin. Their children were given up to the state. They were educated for physical endurance, and history has shown how unsatisfactory their system was.

And now we come to the Christian era. We have not time to speak of many systems, we will speak only of our own. Ours is formed on moral ideas and standards. The gateways of knowledge are open to all. Every child in our day must get a public school education, and so much faith have the world in education under our system that it is hard to find a parent who does not most earnestly wish that his son or daughter may have a High school education also. And what are the results. Some say we are over-educated. That's not so, we are not yet educated enough. I quote here the substance of what H. S. Inspector Seath recently remarked on the state of education in Ontario. While admitting the large number who are qualified to take positions as teachers he says that experience teaches that education makes the farmer and the mechanic better workmen beside increasing their means of enjoyment. Experience also teaches that manual labor is quite as honorable and at least as healthily as mental labor.

Now, sir, to my mind the solution is this. We should not think of suggesting that fewer of our young people seek education but should, on the contrary, do our best to encourage our educated young men to seek employment as farmers and mechanics. Much has already been done for that. One of the ministers of the local cabinet is a practical farmer. The premier of our prairie province follows the plow. There is a party of farmers in our local parliament which at present almost hold the balance of power. Also Agricultural colleges and agriculture classes in high schools are doing much to put things as they ought to be.

I wish to speak one word, too, against the tendency to cry down such subjects as Algebra on the H. S. curriculum. This subject as well as others that come in for a good share of blame are invaluable as instruments for teaching reasoning. There is every reason for keeping them as they are. One other thought and I am done. Many parents are anxious that their children be hurried through the school. This is a serious mistake as one of the most important factors in Education is Time.

The speaker then on behalf of the pupils presented a handsome flag to the Board.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Wanted—Canvassers.

"Queen Victoria; Her Life and Reign," has captured the British Empire. Extraordinary testimonials from the great men; send for copy free. Marquis of Lorne says, "The best popular Life of the Queen I have seen." Her Majesty sends a kind letter of appreciation. Selling by thousands; gives enthusiastic satisfaction. Canvassers make from \$15 to \$40 weekly. THE BRADLEY-GARRETTSON Co., Limited, Toronto.

Society and Fashion Gossip from the Queen City.

On Wednesday afternoon I had the pleasure of being a guest at a progressive pedro matinee given by a friend to entertain a lady from New York, who is a very charming person. After spending the time from four to six o'clock in playing the fascinating game, we sat down to an elaborate pink and white tea which we all enjoyed thoroughly. The table decorations were exquisitely arranged. A handsome centre piece of drawn work over pink silk was the centre foundation, in the centre of which was a handsome silver candelabrum filled with pink candles. A large double bow of heavy pink satin ribbon about four inches wide was laid on either end of the centre piece immediately under the candelabrum, which gave a pinkey effect, and at each plate a

lovely pink rose was laid. The honored guest was gowned in a dainty toilet of sage green nun's veiling and white chiffonette, with white satin ribbon for decoration. A gored skirt fitted very closely to the knee and flared below, the back hung in fan plaits. The bodice was of the blouse effect, and made of the chiffonette stock and sash of white satin ribbon—the sash being drawn through a jewelled buckle in front, knotted at the back of the waist and hung to the foot of the skirt. It was certainly one of the prettiest costumes seen this winter for such an occasion.

I was highly amused the other afternoon while calling upon a lady, whose floors are very highly polished, to find that her pet pug dog, who answers to the very sweet sounding name of "Ugly," was roaming around the house with his feet encased in shoes made of chamois for the purpose of preventing scratches on the floor. I have seen handsome blankets for pet dogs, also collars, but the shoes are decidedly a very novel idea.

An English fad, which is strikingly different from the prevalent New York styles, is an exceedingly becoming bit of neck wear. It is a collar of dark ostrich tips with a large handsome jewelled buckle. The winter sailor hat is much worn with this and is made to resemble straw, and for trimming uses only a band of ribbon in the Roman stripe.

The most recent addition to the Cummings Stock Company playing at the Princess Theatre (and which, by the way, is a very fashionable place of amusement just now), is Mr. Frank Drunner, who is a splendid acquisition. Upon his first appearance, three weeks ago, he at once became popular and bids fair to captivate the fair sex. Mr. Drunner possesses a very pleasing and powerful voice, with refined and artistic methods, also a fine stage presence, and has proved himself to be an actor of great ability. We were very much pleased to see Mr. John Shaw back again last week, and he rendered his part remarkably well. We are all delighted to know that we will have the pleasure again of seeing Miss Nettie Marshall, who will take part this week.

Small coats of jetted lace over white or colored satin, worn with a picture hat of black velvet and plumes, and a black brocaded satin skirt, is a stunning costume for teas and receptions.
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T. S. LINSKOTT, Toronto.

Sherwood

The funeral of the late Frank Burkholder of Toronto was held at the Lutheran cemetery Monday afternoon.

The remains of the late Mrs. John Ellis of the 8th concession were interred at the Lutheran cemetery Tuesday forenoon.

Mr. W. Wylie took a business trip to Malvern, Scarborough, on Friday.

Mr. McBride who has been ill for some time is able to be around again.

Mr. S. Ireland is quite ill at present. Mr. Colin Campbell is still confined to the house.

Mrs. Simons and son of Scarborough were visiting the former's brother Mr. E. Chapman last week.

A number of our young people spent Wednesday evening at Mr. M. Boddy's, Woodbridge.

The Lutheran Sunday school which was formerly held at 2 o'clock p. m. is now conducted before morning service.

Mr. Phillips of the 7th concession has purchased the property now occupied by Mr. W. Wylie.

Mrs. Wm. Line visited friends at Thornhill on Tuesday.

Mr. Wm. Clark of Stouffville attended the funeral Monday.

The Y. P. S. C. E. of the Lutheran church 4th con., Vaughan, intend commemorating Christian Endeavor Day, by a special service, on Tuesday evening Feb. 1st. The service will consist of singing, recitations and addresses, appropriate to the occasion, by the members of the society; also addresses by Rev. C. A. Campbell of Maple and Rev. J. E. Lerch pastor. Services to commence at 7.30 p. m. A collection will be taken.

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