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South Porcupine High School Concert Success

Three Plays Presented with Striking Talent and Effectiveness. Work of High School Orchestra and Glee Club Very Pleasing. Exhibits of Boys' and Girls' Athletics Pleases Big Crowd at South Porcupine.

South Porcupine, Ont., March 20th, 1937. Special to The Advance.

One of the very best concerts that our High School pupils have as yet offered, was that held here on Friday evening.

The school auditorium was packed to the doors and over sixty Schumacher residents showed their interest in their sister school by being present. The entertainment provided was sufficiently varied in character to be interesting throughout, and each number given showed a definite polish. Great credit must be given the staff for this, as we know they have worked unsparingly early and late to make the pupils as perfect in their parts as they were. And as we mentioned in a previous review of our High School's activities the unobtrusive capability of that staff is being more and more a factor in our school's efficiency. We saw last night only two members of the staff, the principal, Mr. Blake, who spoke very briefly and to the point (and then—as he said, to put in time during scene-

shifting) and the conductor of the school orchestra. But the wheels of the concert moved like a charm, no hitch in anything, no waiting, no nervousness, no self-consciousness, no hesitancy, but perfect precision, excellent order, and really fine exhibitions of music, dancing and histrionic ability.

Three little one-act plays were produced, each entirely different and each a gem in itself. We have, we confess, sometimes been bored with amateur plays, when woodiness was the greatest thing noted about the actors but in no single instance, in any one of these plays was that quality even hinted at. At least four of the actors in these plays showed distinct talent, and the co-ordination between the actors was excellent. The whole of the plays depended on the words said more than the actions made (save possibly in the last act), and each play gripped the audience. We had a ghost story a historic incident (Canadian history), and how well such history may be impressed upon our students by such little plays) and finally a crazy act. Each utterly unlike, and each practically word-perfect, with an utter absence of stage consciousness.

One comment given us to-day was that the audience enjoyed so much the spirit of spontaneous joyousness exhibited by the actors. They were not acting—they were enjoying themselves, he said. The same attribute he applied to the boys' athletic display—they so thoroughly enjoyed it.

The High School orchestra (both Schumacher and South End) played exceedingly well—under the leadership of Mr. P. Roy. "Irish Medley," "Singing in the Moonlight" and "Olympia" were all very nicely rendered.

The Glee Club, also under Mr. Roy's leadership is a new introduction in our High School, and they sang really tunefully the old folk songs "Come to the Fair," "A-hunting We Will Go" and "Speak of Love." And by the way, the proposed High School uniform was worn by these girls. They really looked smart and were universally admired in their yellow shirt-blouses, with navy-blue skirts and blue triangular ties. (The sooner this uniform is generally worn and insisted on, the better pleased will we parents be! D.)

The exhibition of girls' athletics was really wonderfully creditable. Tap-dancing by two second-form girls Isabel Rapsay and Olga Gerneck in costume was excellent.

The Sailor's Hornpipe by the young girls in costume was a big favourite, being unusually well presented, and all the girls looking especially well as sailors. Those taking part in this number were:—Isabel Rapsay, Valerie Besette, Arma Elliott, Shirley Ewing, Betty Cummings, Betty Mawhinney.

A Country dance "Gathering Peascods" was most gracefully and lightly executed. The girls under Miss Wilkins and Miss Lucas have been trained to do this well. It reminded us of Greek dancing it was so gracefully done. The blue and yellow motif appeared again in the smocks and sashes of the dancers.

The boys' athletic exhibition (under Mr. Mulchly) was as fine a gymnastic display as we have ever seen from boys of this age. Really remarkable were the pyramids and tumbling examples shown. Grace, easy action, strength, balance, muscular-activity, lissomness all were apparent. The boys got great applause and deserved every clap. From George Dague whom we could see was one of the best, to Stephen Evans, the smallest boy, each was on his toes, and not one miss-timed act was noted. The two clown (Pecore and Donaldson) saved their quota of laughs, and even they couldn't be awkward.

"At the George" the first act, was splendidly done. Five people who had been present at an old friends house, the night before he mysteriously died, have all received telegrams signed "I" to meet at a remote country inn at a certain date. They all go—they all meet; they talk things over, while things get creepier and creepier. They discuss ghosts and murders, and finally when they are all worked up in the spooky atmosphere one present confesses to poisoning his host. It was a good play—well written—arriving at its climax gradually and each character did marvellously well. It is not fair to the other young actors to single one out for special praise but Bessie Verner as Mrs. Vane put on a splendid piece of natural acting. It would go over well anywhere. She was Mrs. Vane. The Landlord (Clayton Kavanagh)—and the rest of the caste were all excellent.—Richard Punnell, Ruphoff Bepalko, Arthur Moyle and Joan Mills—all word perfect and free from awkwardness.

"The Patriot" starred William McNevin in the role of Wm. Lyon Mackenzie. It gave a typical picture of an early Upper Canada settler's life, and the incident of the stranger who was mistaken for a rebel. Wonderful memory-work was shown. McNevin did a masterful piece of work, and was upheld nobly by Dorothy Couch as the

settler's wife. She looked the part and did her act splendidly. The two children (William Murphy and Joan Maxwell-Smith) were both children as they were meant to be, and Norman McLellan as the settler-farmer, in his difficult role, was a fine character actor.

"Thank you Doctor" was the third play and so very realistic, that some of us wonderer afterwards if we were "seeing things." A clever little play with a clever anti-climax and superbly done by the caste.

Nurse Grey..... Cinderella Harvey Mrs. Lester..... Lillian Kaufman The Doctor..... William Jamieson The Patient..... Dennis Pullin "Cort"..... Eino Kautto Dennis Pullin as a crazy man was almost too realistic and Lillian Kaufman as a clever jewel thief was most convincing also. The whole plot was cleverly laid. A patient was to come to the famous psychiatrist at his sister's pathetic plea. His falling was that he imagined he had lost a valuable pearl necklace. The patient comes (he is a fake, of course and in league with Mrs. Lester) and put on his act. Afterwards a jeweller's assistant calls at the office with a string of pearls (and is met by Mrs. Lester) for the doctor's niece (also a factitious lady made up by Mrs. Lester). She goes off with the pearls. He waits while she interviews here "uncle." In comes the crazy "brother" and all go "unts" together. By the time that "Cort" is strapped in a strait-jacket (Cort is really wonderfully portrayed by Kautto) and we all are wondering how it will end, Dennis comes back (sane) and handcuffs the jeweller—sounds complicated, but seemed all right as acted by these clever youngsters.

Mr. Blake and his assistants are to be complimented on the success of the concert, and we feel sure that the bringing together of pupils from Schumacher and teachers from both schools, to say nothing of Schumacher people patronising a South Porcupine concert, will do a very great deal toward cementing the two ends of our township into one.

Mr. Blake directed and trained the caste of "Thank you Doctor." Miss Lucas trained and directed "The Patriot."

Mr. Ellis was responsible for "Five at the George."

Al G. Luxton Buys Tea Room at Rouyn, Quebec

The Rouyn-Noranda Press last week had the following paragraph which will be of general local interest:

"A business change of considerable local interest took place in Rouyn this week when the Royal Sweets Tea Room on Main street was purchased by A. G. Luxton of Timmins, a well-known resident of the north for many years who recently disposed of his business in that town. He took over the business on Tuesday and will be assisted in his new enterprise here by Mrs. Luxton and their son and daughter. The family comes to Rouyn with the highest credentials and will be welcomed as citizens. They hope to merit a continuance of the patronage which has long favoured the popular Royal Sweets and Mr. Luxton will be on hand at all times to welcome old and new customers. Good food, well cooked, and quick courteous service at reasonable prices will be the inducements offered the public and Mr. Luxton hopes in this way to merit public confidence and support. The tea room will be open day and night. Hector and Frank Elliott, the late proprietors intend to take some holidays, and Hector will probably be in business again somewhere before long, while Frank is planning a visit to Italy his homeland, before settling down again."

Lord Riverdale Notes Conditions

(Continued from Page One)

Armaments Necessary
"Has the armament industry had much to do with British prosperity?" he was asked.
"Not a great deal," he replied. "Our plants were working at 96 per cent. capacity before the present armament programme was undertaken. We don't like the business of arming but we find it necessary."

War, Lord Riverdale said on his visit two years ago to Timmins, was impossible for fifty or a hundred years in Europe. He still holds that view, and to-day at the Kiwanis Club, he gave the reasons, clearly and authoritatively. Questioned about an article that appeared in British, American and Canadian medical journals that left the impression that the poorer classes in England suffer from malnutrition, Lord Riverdale said that condition definitely did not exist. In Germany, though, the people are beginning to suffer. Malnutrition may soon show its effect there, he said.

The Years Hang Lightly
Personally, Lord Riverdale is an immediately attractive sort of man. Tall and well built, he is now a man well on in years. But they seem to hang lightly on his broad shoulders. Pleasant of voice and hearty of manner, he makes friends rapidly. He talks easily on almost any subject.

President of the Arthur Balfour & Co. (Canada) Ltd., and the Capital Steel Works, Sheffield, Lord Riverdale has for years been an authority on international economics. He was the chief British delegate to the World Economic Conference of 1927. This visit to Canada is one of a series of trips of a "purely personal" nature made by him once every two years, he said.

Speaks of Corcentration
Like most British subjects, Lord Riverdale is somewhat excited at the prospect of the Coronation celebration this May. "You'll see millions of people in the streets of London. Traffic will be completely stopped. There'll be dancing and singing." Police will throw off for one evening at least their traditional air of reserve and will be seen dancing in the streets just as the others. What happened at the Jubilee celebration of two years ago will happen again. Despite the dense crowds and the wonderful opportunity for pickpockets, there will be nothing of that sort, he predicted. Even thieves make a state occasion of it and refrain from plying their "trade."

Timmins' distinguished visitor is to be here only for a very short time. He arrived on Saturday night and leaves to-day to keep up with his half-completed tour of Canada.

COULD WRITE! COULDN'T READ!

Half and Half—A Mexican gazed through the bars at County Jailor H. F. Cox.

"Can you read and write?" demanded Cox during the booking process.

"Can write, not read," replied the prisoner.

"Write your name, then," said Cox.

The Mexican scrawled huge letters across the page.

"What is that you wrote?" inquired the puzzled jailor.

"I don't know," said the Mexican, "I told you I can't read."—Imperial Valley Press (El Centro, Calif.)

Kitchener Record:—If your nose becomes too sharp by keeping it to the grindstone, you can put it back into the normal state of bluntness by sticking it into other people's business.

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Another Bonspiel at South Porcupine

Cars Crash, but No One Injured. Other Items of South Porcupine News.

South Porcupine, Ont., March 20th. Special to The Advance.

A four-end bonspiel will start on Monday at the curling rink. Members only will compete, with one invited rink from the Dome and one from Timmins. Bonspiel manager Mr. Wm. Fairhurst is giving one set of prizes, while Mr. E. Cantor of the Porcupine Hardware, is donating another. This is a shorter bonspiel; it will only last for two evenings.

Mrs. F. McPhail, of Boundary Lane, has been quite ill for a few days. We are glad to know that she is now making good recovery.

Quite a few of our townpeople left on Thursday morning by the "special" to Toronto to return on Tuesday. Among them were Miss Dorothy Kaufman, Mr. Clifford Schmeitz, Messrs Bert and Uly Levinson, Mrs. H. Owens Mr. George Smith and Mr. Joe Mitchell.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brown, who have been paying an extended visit to Mr. and Mrs. E. Covey of Connaught Hill, left on Friday for their home in Brantford.

Mrs. Knechtel, who has been visiting friends in town, left on Thursday for Stratford.

Mr. "Al" (Cyclone) Taylor, who has been away from our hockey all winter in Sault Ste. Marie, has returned to camp and is working at the Dome Mines.

A crash between Dr. Atkinson's car and the car of Dr. Barry occurred on Railroad street on Wednesday when the cars slid on the icy road at Rich's corner. It was a head-on collision but fortunately nobody was hurt.

The lantern lecture on Wednesday in St. Paul's Church was on "The Anglican Mission" in Kangra, India.

Mr. Jack Hean, of Gravenhurst, is visiting Mr. Carl Gilmour for a time.

Many Catholics of town, who came from the Ottawa Valley, will regret to learn of the death last Wednesday of the Rev. Father Murray, who for seventeen years has been parish priest at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Campbell's Bay. News was received here yesterday of his death from cancer in St. Vincent's Hospital, Los Angeles. He had gone to California for his health early in January. Father Murray was one of the speakers at the banquet given in Timmins a year ago last September by the Catholic Women's League and was a great friend of Father O'Gorman and Father McManus of Timmins. His body will be brought from California to Pembroke where his mother is living and a requiem mass said there before interment in Campbell's Bay on Tuesday. Father O'Gorman left on Saturday and Father McManus will leave on Monday to attend the obsequies. Father Murray was 47 years of age and had won the Military Cross during the war. He was noted as a fine orator.

The unaccompanied part singing was most ably conducted and the items given simple and harmonious. To a stranger the Croatian music as heard has a touch of plaintiveness, the lilting quality of English folk-song music being quite absent. In the string orchestra, however, the joyful music found an outlet, this being very good indeed. As most of the numbers were rendered in Croatian it was a little difficult to follow but the appreciative audience made it clear that it appealed very strongly to them, many of the items being encored.

Croatian Concert at South Porcupine

Croatian Society of Schumacher Please Good Attendance at South Porcupine Last Night.

South Porcupine, Ont., March 22nd, 1937. (Special to The Advance)—A concert was held on Sunday night in the Mascioli theatre in South Porcupine by the Croatian Society of Schumacher. The theatre was well filled and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the numbers given.

The recitation in English was Hood's "Song of the Shirt" by Mrs. Shaldoff, and quite nicely given. The accordion and guitar duet was also a very fine piece of work. We hope the returns from the concert were sufficiently good to compensate the choir for its efforts in bringing this choir and the music over to this end of the township.

Montreal Star:—The Cologne Court passed a heavy sentence on a citizen of Aachen, who had prepared a pamphlet containing a large number of "jokes" about new Germany and its Government.

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