

At Home

Come in & Chat Awhile

—Ruth Raeburn.

We continue to give some more of the songs and sonnets from the book, "Among the Immortals," by Rev. R. Walter Wright.

From the second Book of Kings Mr. Wright has given us a beautiful picture of Elisha.

"Man's fellow-man, in common garb he went
In common ways, yet more than halo-light
Beamed from his pitying eye; in mercy's might
Of gentleness he stood pre-eminent."

Then the author enumerates some of the great things he did but the greatest of all he did is summed up in these words:

"Come like the Master into daily life
A benediction calming all its strife,
The poison from earth's pottage to expel,
And beauty o'er its barren grounds to spread."

The first Book of Chronicles gives the story of a great man of whom the author says he has a "Resplendent Name;" David, and that he is the "Beloved of Israel." A portion of this sonnet giving the biography of this great man reads this way:

"A kingly man, a kingly prophet, too,
Inspiring all with spirit of worship true,
He tuned their hearts to pure ecstatic song,
Taught them to expect the greater King; and hence
Though once he stooped to deep and deadly wrong,
We see him kingly in his penitence."

The Second Book of Chronicles

The story in the beginning of this book is of Solomon and his request of the Lord. What a great request it was and how generously it was and how generously God added to it, just as he does to each of us if we only have eyes that see. The author sums up this thought in this beautiful way.

"Great things of earth are only great when God
Is centre, source and goal; severed from Him
Their inner light and glory waxeth dim."

One reads on through Chronicles and agrees with Mr. Wright that it is indeed "The changeful panorama."

Another poem comes from the inspiration that the author receives on

the story of Josiah as recorded in Chronicles II. The summary of Josiah's beautiful life is for us to take today:

"Young men, that song ye hear today,
That book ye read; O then,
Be yours the mandate to obey,
And quit yourselves like men."

The next two books are those which tell something of two great men. At least, the faithful fulfilling of the task that was their's made them great men—Ezra and Nehemiah. Of Ezra the author of "Among the Immortals" says:

"He was the law incarnate, in him burned
The swift reforming fire which with white heat
Consumed the chaff, though it might scorch the wheat;

The law must be supreme, will o'erturned,
From bleeding hearts, the dearest loves be spurned—

Yet he was true, and to his mighty soul
We owe treasures untold."

Of Nehemiah he speaks as
"A kingly man in this world's downward drift;
A Nehemiah who their lives may lift
To higher levels."

There is surely great need in the world today for "kingly men," and men who know of the "One whom each heart may know as perfect Strengthener—the Son of Man."

The author speaks of the story of Esther in a very beautiful way. Some people's criticisms of this story are mentioned and set aside with this fine tribute to a woman with a true, loving heart.

"Where'er the honest heart in league with truth
Bears goodly fruitage, and with heaven-born tact
Meets every artifice of malice fell,
What need of words or rhetoric forsooth?

God is the lever."

The author has made such an understanding summary of the Book of Job that we quote in full:

Job
Daybreak and perfect sky
And hearts that lie
In the pure ether bliss
Of a sweet world that is—
No breeze-born voice that questions
"Why?"

A shade beats o'er the sky
A challenge to content,
A ghost of weird presentiment,
And mutterings dim;
From 'neath the far horizon's rim
Of sin—yet why?

Then from the noonday sky
There breaks the tempest wild,
And wealth, and home and child
Drift down a vast abyss

Where devils yell and hiss.
Amid a thousand hopes that die
Rises a man's despairing cry:
"Why? God, my God, O why?"

And 'neath the palled and shivering sky
Old men from their experience
Give learned words of what and whence.

And a young man more wise gives store
Of sage-like counsel; but the roar
Of deafening elements on high
Are dominant in a thunderous "Why?"

And jagged lightnings on the writhing sky
Write one weird word with fiery fingers, "Why?"

Then speaketh God the Lord,
Earth hangeth on His word:
"It is enough that I am I—
Not 'Why?'"

Sunset and perfect sky,
And hearts that lie
In the pure ether bliss
Of God's great promises—
No breeze-born voice that questions,
"Why?"

Allan Park Women's Institute

The members of the Allan Park Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. B. Coutts, on Wednesday afternoon for the annual meeting. There were twenty-one members and a number of visitors.

The meeting opened with the usual opening Ode followed by the Lord's Prayer repeated in unison. Miss Gladys Mighton read the Scripture reading. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The roll call was well answered on something pertaining to gardening. There were letters of thanks for fruit sent from Mrs. G. Mighton, Mr. Cecil Reay and from the Tobermory doctor for a donation sent them. The Institute Ode was then sung. Miss Vera Reay gave an excellent paper on "The beauty of unselfishness." Mrs. H. Chittick sang a solo accompanied by herself on organ. A favorite hymn, "Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past," was sung.

During the year a roll call contest was sponsored with Mrs. B. Coutts and Mae Sharp as captains. It proved very helpful. Mrs. Coutts' side had 775 points and Mae Sharp's side 762. The losing side are to banquet the winners.

The president gave a report of the year's work. There were twelve meetings held during the year. We had two speakers from other branches, Mrs. Sutton of Hanover and Mrs. Lamb of Aberdeen; also a summer speaker. There was a membership of twenty-nine. Papers and addresses were given on the following subjects: "Fall pulp planting on tulips," "The first Canadian wedding," "The ideal wife," "Home made Christmas decorations," "Home nursing and first aid," "The beauty of unselfishness," "Grandma's Valentines," "The bridal wine cup." Grandmother's Day was observed, also a Temperance meeting. We lost two good members by death, Mrs. James Park and Mrs. Gordon Reay, who are missed very much in the meetings. A bale of clothing was sent to the West. There were sprays of flowers given to each of deceased members. Christmas cheer was sent to the Children's Shelter at Owen Sound; also gifts and boxes to sick and shut-ins in the community. Stove pipes and window shades were placed in the Orange Hall at Allan Park.

The secretary-treasurer gave a report showing a balance of over sixty dollars on hand.

Miss Florence MacDonald, teacher at Ebenezer, presided over the election of officers. Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. John Sharp; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Ed. Bailey; second vice-president, Mrs. Elmer Reay; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Mather; district directors, Miss Gladys Alexander and Miss Mae Sharp. Program committee: Marjorie Charlton, Mrs. T. Kennedy, Mrs. H. Chittick, Mrs. B. Coutts, Miss Vera Reay, Miss Mary Hopkins; press secretary, Miss Gladys Mighton; flower committee, Vera Reay, Mrs. A. Meyer, Mrs. George Brown, Mrs. B. Coutts, Mrs. R. Johnston and Mrs. W. Mather; organist, Mae Sharp; assistant organist, Vera Reay; auditors, Vera Reay, Myrtle Charlton.

Miss Marjorie Charlton was presented with a beautiful silver cake tray by Mrs. Joe Brown and an address was read by Mrs. B. Coutts. She was taken greatly by surprise and thanked the members very much.

Mrs. John Sharp was also presented with a beautiful rayon spread by Mrs. Ed. Bailey and an address was read by Miss Vera Reay. She thanked the members very much for their kind remembrance.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem, after which the hostess and assistants served a dainty lunch. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. George Mighton on June 8.

Your disposition will be suitable to that which you most frequently think on; for the soul is, as it were, tinged with the color and complexion of its own thoughts.—Marcus Aurelius.

Miss Macphail's Letter

The Public Speaking Contest for the High School students of Southeast Grey, held in the auditorium of the Flesherston High School last Saturday, was the best yet. Having four subjects to choose from, the speeches did not become monotonous. For the most part, senior students participated. In construction, language and delivery the speeches were above the standard set by the contests of former years. Professors MacLean and Calvert of the English Department of the Ontario Agricultural College were the judges. They have the unique distinction of making a judgment with which the majority of the audience agreed. Milton Shoultice, Chatsworth High School, won first place; Mary Lockhart of Dundalk High School, second; Mr. Cooper, of Hanover, third; with fourth and fifth places being taken by Irene Martin of Flesherston and Peter Somers of Feversham. I appreciate very much the assistance given by Dr. Stevenson, head of the English Department of the O. A. C. and the Professors named above. Each year they have judged the essays and speeches and have given valuable criticisms.

The many committees set up to investigate this and that have arrived at the reporting stage. The special committee investigating the Civil Service Commission recommended that the three Commissioners, Roche, MacTavish and Tremblay, be retired. Dr. Roche on account of his advanced age; the other two for no given reason. It has been evident to those who were following the work of the committee that the Government was out to "get" MacTavish and Tremblay, but by the evidence it would appear that those two Commissioners voted in some cases to appoint Civil Servants to positions not because of their qualities but because of their political affiliations.

A further recommendation of the committee dealt with Postmasters in offices having a revenue of \$3,000 and less. These are now to be patronage appointments. Until the present time, only offices with a revenue of less than \$400 were exempt from appointment on the merit principle. A great many members in the House felt this was a backward step and when E. J. Garland moved an amendment to the report bringing Post Offices under the administration of the Civil Service Act, he got considerable support from all sides of the House, 55 voting for his amendment, with 92 against it. The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition stood in their places and solemnly announced to their followers that they could vote on the merits of the question, i.e., that party lines need not be followed.

The row in the Canadian National Railways committee is still on. Matters are not improved by the fact that Hanson, the Chairman, is one of the most bitter partisans in the House. So objectionable is his conduct that even E. C. Buchanan in an article to the Toronto Saturday Night said: "High Priest Hanson seemed at times to lose his head completely, and his treatment of National Railway officials and witnesses was of the kind generally thought to be exclusive to police officers administering the third degree. So insupportable was it that such a fair-minded Liberal member as Major Power demanded that he leave the chair and place someone else in it for the protection of the witnesses while he was attempting to bully them. And this failing, Liberal members with ample justification, threatened to walk out of the Committee. One was surprised they did not. The effect of it all was to prejudice the case Mr. Hanson and his friends were endeavoring to establish, to create the impression of unfairness and ulterior motives."

Friends of public ownership have heavy hearts over the revelations made in the committee. Undoubtedly extravagant expenditures had been countenanced by the president and directors of the Road and I think by the Minister of Railways as well, but even at that, the Chairman did not help matters by bulldozing the witnesses. At the last sitting of the committee for the week, the tables were turned; until now the Government had righteously been running evil to ground but now the Prime Minister was on the stand explaining to the committee how it was that although he occupied a fifteen-room suite in the Chateau Laurier, the rental paid by him is only \$400 a month. It seems that while the Prime Minister was at the Imperial Conference in 1930, alterations were made in the hotel which cost \$110,743.94, in order to create the fifteen-room "vice-regal" suite now occupied by the Prime Minister. Before leaving Canada Mr. Bennett had made arrangements for the alterations, but when he found, while in London, that the cost would exceed the \$50,000 stipulated by him, he cabled requesting that the work be not proceeded with. On his return, however, he found the remodelled suite ready and moved into it.

Sir Henry Thornton was present at

the committee meeting and took full responsibility for the transaction, saying that while the Prime Minister paid only \$400 a month, he spent \$20,000 a year in the hotel and as such was a valuable patron. In the year 1930 the Prime Minister paid a hotel bill of \$11,943.67, Sir Henry said; in 1931, \$19,938 and this year so far, \$8,236. A heated discussion followed. Ross Gray, M.P., asked the Prime Minister if, now that he knew at what cost to Canada the suite had been prepared for him, he would be prepared to make financial adjustment in view of the present state of the Canadian National. The Prime Minister is reported to have expressed surprise that a member of Parliament would ask such a question; he said that if the Hotel asked for more, he would consider their proposition and either pay or vacate.

After considerable discussion the Unemployment and Farm Relief measure has passed all its stages in the Commons and now awaits confirmation in the Senate. The Provincial Governments at their gathering here recently informed the Federal Government that they were not in a financial position to take care of any public works. Moreover in a great many parts of the country public works had been undertaken and completed many years ahead of their time.

The Provincial authorities were unanimous on this question, therefore they decided jointly with the Federal authorities to limit practically all their relief activities this year to the granting of direct relief. It was not possible to obtain a great deal of information as to the intention of the Government even in this respect, but it appears that the scale of relief granted, which is a very important matter, will be determined mainly by the joint action of the provincial and municipal authorities. It will be the duty of those on the spot to see that a proper scale of

(Continued on page 6.)

WHAT IS SUCCESS

He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given the best he had; whose life was an inspiration and whose memory a benediction.—Exchange.

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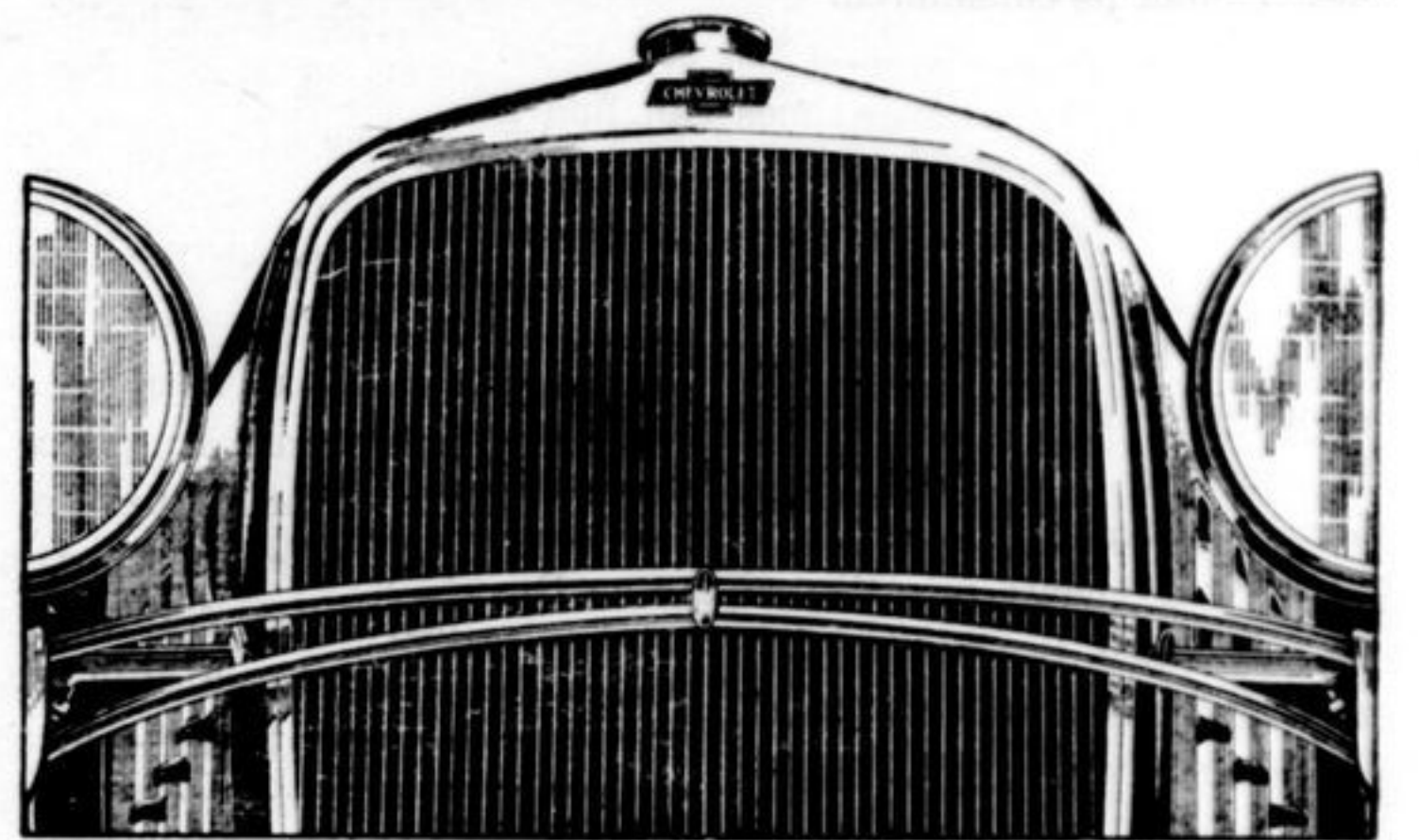
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