

# EASTERN CANADIAN MESSENGER

General Conference Library

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No. 20

## Spiritual Life at Buena Vista

"What a friend we have in Jesus!" What sweet assurance it is to those who are in the Lord's work that it is possible for the Christian to claim companionship with the Creator—the One with whom all things are possible! This sustaining power has been felt by all who attended school this year. As teacher and students associate together there is a grave responsibility on the part of the stronger to help the weaker spiritually. This requires a deep heart's reaching on the part of the teacher; for "The mightier the trust and the higher the aim, the closer the test and the more severe the discipline."

"God shall be first in everything" has characterized the school home life. Every morning after breakfast a few minutes are devoted to worship, when the Morning Watch verse is reviewed, several beautiful passages of scripture read, and prayer offered. This is Christ's ideal for us; for we read from the Word that He rose a great while before day to ask help for the duties of the day. How much more our need?

Then to relieve the monotony of the school-room our chapel exercises, which I think we shall never forget, are occasions of great pleasure. The songs, numbers 449, 452, 340, and 779 especially, and the scripture reading always inspires us to

do better work the rest of the day. During the year we have had many of the elders to talk to us at this hour, and it has been encouraging to hear the reports of work done in our schools all over the world. One morning this sentence was read from "Education:" "The Lord has

no place in his work for one who has a greater desire to wear the crown than to bear the cross." No; there must be that complete surrender,—a "Take the world but give me Jesus."

Students' prayer bands are held every afternoon, except Friday, for a half hour. The students engage alone in a season of prayer and singing, the older students bearing the responsibility. God comes very near to our students as they, with a deep sense of their need, humbly bow at His feet for that power to win souls. Many have thus found their Savior.

"What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in pray'r"

As the day closes and twilight comes on, evening worship brings the school family together once more. Song 176 in "Christ in Song" has become a favorite, so it has been memorized by nearly all, both students and teachers. Thus ends each day; and

surely God keeps and guards those who trust in Him. God never forgets us; it is we who fail to keep in touch.

To close our school week the prayer and social meeting has been held every Friday evening. These are times



B. H. A. 1914-15 Graduates



of refreshing when we may reflect on God's care and goodness during the week, and prepare our hearts for Sabbath rest. How we miss these gatherings when we leave for the summer holidays.

The Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society has met every Sunday night. This is the preparatory training for our future elders, teachers and workers in any phase of the work.

Our school year is nearing its close; new fields have been explored, the landmarks are passed. The welfare of our students depends not on the knowledge gained from books but rather on the knowledge of God's power to save. "Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children. Godliness, godlikeness, is the goal to be reached. Before the student there is open a continual path of progress."

Are we not all students? E. V. JOHNSTON.

### Program of Closing Exercises

May 21-26

FRIDAY, 8 P. M.

Last Consecration Service

SABBATH

Sabbath-school

Baccalaureate Sermon, M. N. Campbell.

SUNDAY, 8 P. M.

Ministerial Reminiscences

MONDAY 8 P. M.

Cantata—Esther

Miss Annie Tenny, Director

TUESDAY, 8 P. M.

Class Day

Graduating Class

WEDNESDAY 8 P. M.

Graduating Address, M. M. Hare

### Our Environments

Outside the city limits of Oshawa, on a beautiful hill overlooking Lake Ontario, is situated the Buena Vista Academy. With its many hills and babbling brooks, it is as the name suggests, as beautiful a view as one might wish to see.

Connected with the school, and stretching out from it on every side, are broad, sloping fields, now green with the verdure of spring. The cultivating of this rich, fertile soil gives ample opportunity for the restless student, now tired of books and study, to exercise his physical powers and thus ward off that dreaded disease, "spring fever."

The schools of the world cannot be compared with Buena Vista Academy where the student is taught manual labor as well as book-lore; where, when he has finished his course, he has learned something of the practical side

of life as well as the theoretical, thus enabling him to adapt himself readily to circumstances.

It is indeed a pleasure to be here to enjoy the pleasant association of fellow-students and teachers; to share in the burdens of the work, after which one experiences that sweet repose which comes only to those who are temperate in all things—in study as well as work.

We give our Heavenly Father thanks from whose hand we have received untold showers of blessings during the year. Our only regret is that we are not worthy of these manifestations of his love. I trust that as we leave here, which we shall in a few days, we may share these blessings with others; for in helping others we are blessed.

NETTIE J. KNISTER.

### What Buena Vista Has Done for Me

During the past two years I have been a student of the Academy. I have not lived in the school as a home student, but at the home of Mr. C. D. Terwillegar. He has been my benefactor in helping me through school. Before coming to school, I had heard of the truth, but I did not accept it fully. By the encouragement of Professor Blake I took a firm stand and now look forward to having a humble part in giving the last message to the world.

Among the many helpful talks we have received from the chapel exercises, which have been conducted chiefly by Professor Rowe, I have received a clearer view of the work which the Lord has for the young people of this denomination to do, and how they are to take it up when the older ones will have to lay it down. A statement made in chapel one morning impressed me very much. It was,—God has no place in his work for one who would rather wear the crown than bear the cross."

I hope to complete the Academic course in two years, but have taken studies from the commercial and music departments all the time since entering the school. If all goes well, I hope to pass a successful examination in the conservatory next year.

The school is in a very healthful location and I am thankful to say that I have enjoyed good health since coming. I hope these few lines may be an encouragement to others to attend our school.

RUTH ROSS.

\* \* \*

To FIND words to express the benefit the school has been to me is impossible. It is impossible, first, because the known benefits are numberless; second, because there are many that I do not know of, and never shall in this earth, in its present state. However, I will try to tell in a general way what Buena Vista has done for me.

Considering my school life in a general way, there are three ways in which I have been helped,—spiritually, mentally, and physically.

First in importance, as I, and every Christian would feel, is the spiritual side. The Bible lessons studied for



each day, the prayer and social meetings on Friday evenings, the advantage of having instructors whose aim it is to mold our characters so that we may be prepared to pass the final examination for an entrance to the school beyond,—these are the vitals that have been a spiritual uplift to me. In preparing my daily course of studies I have learned to trust in God as an ever-present helper.

When I entered school, a few years ago, I started in the lowest grade provided—seventh. I am glad to say I have progressed continually. My views of life and a life-work convey a broader and deeper meaning to me now. As I entered, I saw, in peering into the future, a pleasant, care-free student life—truly characteristic of childhood and youth. Now, I have learned to say "Blessed be Drudgery;" for Drudgery is the grey angel of success. It is work that makes life worth while; and what is more worth while than worth-while-work? Sometimes requirements set by those above me have not been what I would do. But, "To obey is better than sacrifice;" and though I did not see the reason at the time, the result always proved that older and more experienced persons know better than the young.

Speaking of the domestic work which develops the physical powers, the training I received was broad, because, as each student becomes thoroughly acquainted with one phase of work, he is given other tasks which give him the experience needed for his life's work.

In conclusion, Buena Vista has planted my feet on higher ground. I would say to other young people, there is no better place to develop one's capabilities for service in this earth, and higher service in the earth made new.

MYRTLE E. PATTEN.

\* \* \*

I HAVE NOW been at the school for one year and seven months. The help I have received, the lessons I have learned during this time, I would not sell for any price.

When I came here I had never been to school before and knew nothing about studying. Being naturally dull I did not expect much, but I was willing to try. For one year I had been left alone in the world. During that time I had grown to look upon everyone as being hardhearted and disinterested in me. The kindness and interest which teachers and students showed toward me can never be forgotten. At first I did not have much faith in them. I thought that it was only a show, but they soon proved that they were really in earnest by teaching me how to study and explaining the problems that were hard for me. I thought I was so stupid I could not learn anything. In this I was right had I undertaken to learn in my own strength.

At the opening of school, Professor Blake in a talk gave us the secret of success—prayer. He told us that angel's were here to help us, and that we should never undertake anything without first asking God to help us.

My teachers seemed to expect so much of me that I did not want to disappoint them. I knew that I could

not do anything of myself, so I asked God to help me, and he did. I learned much faster than anyone expected.

God surely is with this school. I feel that I can never appreciate all that the school has done for me. I shall try to do my best. My aim is not merely to tell what has been done for me, but to give my life for others.

BESSIE DOBBINS.

### Finances

The finances of an institution like Buena Vista Academy is no small factor in its management. The past year's success which has attended the school is due in large measure to the prompt payment of dues, and the students and patrons of the school are deserving of heartfelt expressions of gratitude.

Among the many other items of expense may be mentioned \$220.50 insurance premium and \$405.33 interest on outstanding indebtedness. On account of the war, flour, and nearly all other articles of diet are much in advance of former prices. This has made the past year exceptionally hard, but the prompt payment of bills has won for the school an enviable reputation among the business men of Oshawa and vicinity.

At the present time, there are about \$200 yet due on the operating expenses of the school, but if the outstanding accounts are as promptly paid as they have been in the past, we hope to liquidate these claims and have something over with which to accomplish the summer's work.

C. D. TERWILLEGAR.

### News Notes

Repairs voted to be made to the barn on the south farm have been progressing steadily under the hands of Brother Beazley.

Work was commenced on the new road entering the Academy grounds. The road is already in use and will be put in better condition after the spring rush of work on the farm is over.

These are days of much study in preparation for final examinations, which are drawing to a close. With preparation for the closing exercises and getting ready for examinations Buena Vista is a busy place just now.

The rains and warm sunshine of the last few days have coaxed some of the light garden vegetables to send their first green leaves above ground. Rhubarb from our garden has provided an agreeable change in the dining-room.

Elder Kirkendall, who will soon be leaving our conference, spoke to the students at the Friday evening social meeting. His text, "Have faith in God," and following remarks were of timely interest to the students as they prepare to enter the summer's work in various fields. We owe a debt of gratitude to Elder Kirkendall for his faithful and untiring efforts in establishing our splendid school.



# Eastern Canadian Messenger

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
EASTERN CANADIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTISTS

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M. M. Hare - - - - - Editor

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## Directory

### Union Conference

M. N. CAMPBELL, President - - - - Oshawa, Ont.  
M. M. HARE, Sec.-Treas. - - - - Oshawa, Ont.

### Local Conferences

Ontario: M. M. HARE, President, Oshawa, Ont.  
Quebec: A. V. OLSON, Pres., 280 Villeneuve St., Montreal  
Maritime: G. H. SKINNER, President, 184 Winslow St.,  
W. St. John  
Newfoundland: WM. C. YOUNG, Superintendent, Box 217,  
St. John's

## Mission Funds Statement

### ONTARIO

Amount at 20 cents to April 30 ..... \$1873 40  
Amount received ..... 1029 67  
Shortage to date ..... 843 73

### MARITIME

Amount at 20 cents to April 30 ..... \$792 20  
Amount received ..... 447 74  
Shortage to date ..... 344 46

### QUEBEC

Amount at 20 cents to April 30 ..... \$527 00  
Amount received ..... 379 81  
Shortage to date ..... 147 19

### NEWFOUNDLAND

Amount at 20 cents to April 30 ..... \$207 40  
Amount received ..... 101 11  
Shortage to date ..... 106 29

Members of the canvassers' classes taking "Coming King," "Great Controversy," or magazines, are preparing for the summer campaign. Judging by the earnest spirit of the prospective canvassers, we look for much good work to be done in spreading our literature.

Brother O. Clark of Quebec has been with us for a short time, attending the canvassers' class. Brother Clark is planning to work in the Ontario field this summer.

The work in some classes being finished, we have lost some of the members of the school family, Misses Thompson and Birch, of Brantford and Hamilton respectively, and Albert Matthews of Quebec having returned to their homes.

After the long winter months in-doors, the pleasant warmth of spring and the out-door work in the fields has come. The work of plowing and sowing has progressed splendidly and the Academy farm has donned a business-like appearance.

We are indeed happy to state that Sister Davies, who has recently undergone a serious operation, has returned to her home at Buena Vista. The many prayers of students and teachers have not been in vain. We thank the Great Physician for his healing power in Sister Davies' behalf. Brother Davies has also come with his wife, having given up his position in Toronto to build a home and care for his farm which he has recently purchased.

## Maritime Conference

### Maritime Annual Conference

The Maritime conference of Seventh day Adventists will hold their Thirteenth Annual session at Halifax, N. S., June 7-13, 1915. The first meeting will be called Tuesday, June 8, at 9:30 A. M. in the S. D. A. church. May we look for a full delegation from each church. Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one additional delegate for each fifteen members. Officers will be elected and such other business as may properly come before the conference will be transacted.

GEO. H. SKINNER, Pres.

L. VANBUSKIRK, Sec.

"There will be no idler, no slothful one who neglects the work of the Lord, found inside the kingdom of heaven."

## Colporteurs' Report, Week Ending May 1, 1915

### Ontario

| Name           | Book  | Hours | Orders | Value    | Helps   | Total    | Del.    |
|----------------|-------|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| John Pengelly  | C. K. | 45    | 9      | \$13 00  | \$21 45 | \$34 45  | \$      |
| John Heaver    | D. R. | 47    | 8      | 24 00    | 9 55    | 33 55    |         |
| Wm. Bryson     | Mag.  | 50    |        | 31 30    | 6 00    | 37 30    | 31 30   |
| G. W. Sowler   | W. C. |       |        | 14 75    | 9 40    | 24 15    | 24 15   |
| R. Gage        | G. C. | 44    | 19     | 63 00    | 9 00    | 72 00    |         |
| L. Chamberlain | G. C. |       | 4      | 12 00    | 25 30   | 37 30    |         |
| Miss Wallis    | Mag.  |       |        | 9 50     |         | 9 50     | 9 50    |
| Totals         |       | 186   | 40     | \$167 55 | \$80 70 | \$248 25 | \$64 95 |

### Quebec

|                 |       |     |    |          |         |          |         |
|-----------------|-------|-----|----|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Albert Matthews | C. K. | 14  | 3  | 4 50     | 8 80    | 13 30    | 5 25    |
| Grand Total     |       | 200 | 43 | \$172 05 | \$89 50 | \$261 55 | \$70 20 |