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**St. Patrick's Day . . .**

St. Patrick's Day is one thing all Irishmen, come they from north, south, east or west, from Belfast, or from Cork, have in common. And each March 17 St. Patrick works a miracle no less wondrous than his driving of the snakes from Erin — he rallies all Irishmen in agreement. They agree that it's the greatest day of the year; and they all wear paddy green.

Conflicting legends surround the antecedents of Patrick's Day observance. There is disagreement even over the earliest Canadian celebration. Nova Scotians claim to have remembered the "17th of Ireland" back in 1750; but the first certainty on record is an annual Charitable Irish Society banquet inaugurated at Halifax, March 17, 1786. Quebec records go back farther, reporting a military celebration of the day in 1765. The Dominion's first St. Patrick's Day parade was staged at Quebec in 1819.

Even dimmer is St. Patrick's history across the sea. Kilpatrick, near Dumbarton, Scotland, is said to be the birthplace of Patricius Magonus Sucatus Calpurnius, and many a present-day Scottish place-name does him homage—Kilpatrick, Dalpatrick and Cragphadrig, among others.

Just why the ancient saint is honored on March 17 also permits of speculation. One story is that March 17, 461 A.D., was the date of St. Patrick's death. Others suggest the seventeenth was his birthday. Then there's the story that a Father Mulcahey settled upon the March 17 as a compromise between two schools of thought which had claimed March 8 and 9, respectively, as the saint's natal day.

Besides driving the snakes from Ireland—it's a fact, there's not a snake or a toad to be found on the Emerald Isle, though neighboring islands have them—St. Patrick is also credited with giving the Irish their revered shamrock emblem. He is said to have been speaking at Tara when someone expressed doubt regarding the Trinity. St. Patrick, then a Christian missionary among the pagan Irish, silently plucked a shamrock and held it triumphantly aloft as an instance of there existing three in one and one in three. Since that day, the shamrock and St. Patrick have shared their Irish immortality.

**ACTIVITIES OF Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. (By DOROTHY GARBUTT)**

More about the work of the Y.W.C.A. War Services in England during the last war. This time it's all about the services to the munition workers—

It was in the spring of 1915 that the great demand came for the services of the Y.W.C.A. The shortage of munitions had become publicly recognized. Great shell factories were springing up all over the country and every engineering shop was turning out war material. More and more recruits were being enrolled for the army and the demand came for women, not only to serve as nurses and the hospitals as in previous wars but for the first time to take the place of men in factories and workshops in making munitions of war. As is well known, the response from every class was immense so much so that it was impossible for the government to cope with the emergency without voluntary help.

For six months the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. worked together in organizing canteens but, at the end of that time, it was decided to work independently although in close touch with each other.

The Y.W.C.A. Munition Workers' Welfare Committee worked from June 1915 to February 1919 and in that time started 100 centres—51 canteens, 40 clubs, 9 hostels—and took over the management of a government colony of 700 girls working on dangerous war material. Sometimes the request was for the Association to provide the canteen workers and be responsible for the management with everything provided by the government or the firm but frequently the whole financial outlay for equipment and for the provision of voluntary staff and buildings were the responsibility of the Y.W.C.A.

In these days of financial difficulty it may be interesting to note that the income of the Y.W.C.A. which in 1913 was under £6000 (\$30,000) rose in 1916 to £104,000, \$520,000 and in 1918 to over £269,000 (\$1,345,000). Large huts had to be put up quickly for canteens and clubs and sleeping accommodation provided and, although a great deal of magnificent voluntary help was given by night and day to the Association, the centres had of necessity to be in charge of trained and experienced women.

Later on in the war the same kind of provision was undertaken for the Army pay and other government clerks in which work girls were replacing men in large numbers. Under this special committee 55 canteens and hostels were organized, the largest undertaking being the canteen in the Ministry of Munitions itself at Hotel Victoria, where the Y.W.C.A. fed 2000 men and women daily and provided a rest room for the women. . . . (Tomorrow about the work of the Y.W.C.A. in France.)

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**BASKETBALL LAST NIGHT**

Deployed along the full length of Kaien Island, basketball skirmishers traded shots last night in tussles at Seal Cove, the Naval Drill Hall, and Port Edward. Out of six games scheduled, four were played. Postponed was the C.W.A.C. Jeppettes—U.S.E.D. girls affray, called for Seal Cove. It will be played off on Tuesday.

Also at Seal Cove, Reserves won by default over Midlands, when the Ontario boys failed to turn up.

Results of other games were: Women: Maple Leafs 19, Last Resort 10, Seal Cove.

Port Edward 72, High School 35, Port Edward.

Yanks 101, Co-Ops. 27, Port Edward.

Fortress 47, Coast Battery 34, Naval Drill Hall.

Going hog-wild on a scoring spree, the Yanks ran up 101 points, the highest tally ever tallied in area basketball combat. It was said this morning, possibly with some exaggeration, that there was so much leather flying at the co-op's hoop that it resembled a minor "sitation of meteorites."

Cancelled from Wednesday night, when they were to meet on the Group 4 floor, the W.D. Tremblins and C.W.A.C. are to collide tonight at the same place.

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**Henry Collison, Kitkatla, Dies**

Henry Collison, one of the best known native leaders of this district, died at his home village of Kitkatla down the coast from here on Tuesday of this week, according to word reaching the city. He was about sixty years of age and is survived by a widow and sons and daughters. He was a familiar figure in Prince Rupert, having often visited the city. His father, the late Henry Collison, was a famous chief.

**CHINESE RELIEF GIFT**  
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