

CELEBRATION OF EMPIRE DAY

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Empire Day was appropriately celebrated at the Patricxbourne and Bridge Church Schools on Tuesday. There was a large number of spectators of the interesting celebrations. Among those assembled on the lawn in front of the School were the Hon. Mrs. Milo Talbot, Lady John Joicey Cecil, Mrs. F. Penn, Mrs. E. Money, Miss N. Ramsay, Miss Sperling, Miss M. Tassell, Mrs. Chapman, Mr. C. Wills, and Mr. R. Friend (school managers). The children were lined up on the lawn around the flag staff, and looked very spruce and smart, especially the girls, who wore their ~~gymnasium frocks~~ and school berets. The proceedings opened with the singing of "O God our help in ages past," Miss Bran presiding at the piano. The opening prayers were then read by the Rev. J. T. Hales, O.B.E., M.C., Rector of St. Martin's Church, Canterbury. The flag was hoisted by the Headmaster (Mr. E. Pope), and the flag song was sung by the children of the junior school. A most interesting address was given by the Rev. J. T. Hales. He said the children should be proud to be British, pointing out to them how a Britisher's word was respected abroad, and he appealed to them to try always and be a credit to their King and country. He related an incident in his own school life which amused the children, and he then made an informal inspection of the children, and remarked on their tidy and smart appearance. A song, "O England My Country," sung by the seniors, followed, and then came the presentation of prizes for Empire essays, which had again been kindly given by the Hon. Mrs. Milo Talbot, who also presented the prizes. In a brief speech, she told the children that the essays had been judged by two friends of hers, both well-known soldiers, General Sir Leslie Rundle, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., and Brigadier-General Guy Lubbock, C.M.G., D.S.O. These gentlemen, she told them, had found their task rather difficult, as the essays were of a high standard, but they eventually found some which were a little better than others. She then presented the prizes as follows:—Standard 7: Douglas De Cent and Bert Hodder; Standard 6: Arthur Swan and Eileen Whale; Standard 5: Marjorie Webb and

Bert Price; Standard 4: George Davis and Edith Jarvis; Standard 3: Jimmy Wonfor. Cheers were called for by the Headmaster for the Hon. Mrs. Talbot and the Rev. J. T. Hales, and were heartily given by the children. "God Save the King" was sung, and the children marched past and saluted the flag.