

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1919

What New York Does For Its Children

Mrs. T. N. Vincent of St. John Tells of Wonderful Work of Playgrounds

A May Day Festival

Thousands of Children With Parents and Play Teachers Enjoy Competitions in Sheep Meadow, Central Park — Sixty-one Play Leaders.

In a note from New York to the Times-Star, Mrs. T. N. Vincent, president of the St. John Kindergarten Association, writes:

"It is perfectly wonderful what this city is doing for its children. Mrs. Vincent encloses a copy of the printed programme of a great May Day in Sheep Meadow, Central Park, where children, parents, and play leaders of the park playgrounds of Manhattan assembled in thousands for a May Day celebration with contests between the playgrounds in folk dancing, flag relay, original costumes, 40-yard dash for mothers, 60 yards dash for fathers, over-head relay and artistic May Pole. These exercises were under the direction of the bureau of recreation, department of parks, boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond. There is a field staff of four directors for the playgrounds and no less than sixty-one play leaders. Mrs. Vincent also enclosed a clipping from the New York Herald, with illustrations, and the following account of the May Day exercises:

Several thousand children, for many of whom the mere treading on green grass is a rare privilege, spent a glorious afternoon on the Sheep Meadow in Central Park yesterday, revelling in a continuous round of May Day festivities that sent them home happy, bright-eyed and with flushed cheeks. They were the children of the park playgrounds of Manhattan, and, of course, they took their parents and aunts and uncles with them, and their play leaders were there to see that everything went off in an orderly, well regulated manner.

It was a day of fairies and wood nymphs, nursery favorites and Maypole Old King Cole was there and Mother Hubbard and the little lady whose meal was interrupted by a spider and even so many others from the nursery world. They were there in all sizes from little ones, for whom the mere act of walking was an accomplishment, to girls who had learned to dance with real grace. The programme, which was preceded with a luncheon on the green, was in six parts, each consisting of a contest of some kind. First came the folk dancing which brought out many sets of striking costumes, Scotch, Irish, French, Italian, Japanese, and others not representative of any particular nation. In this the little dancers from the Hamilton Fish playground won first prize with their Japanese folk dance led by a little dark haired girl with an American flag. The Carl Schurz playground took second prize with an Italian folk dance. The original costume contest won enthusiastic applause from the spectators, especially the Kew-Forest wedding staged by the Seward Park children. A score of little ones, dressed in the

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scant costume of the famous dolls, marched out in dignified manner with the very tiniest one of all as the bride. And there was a sedate little minister who performed the ceremony with all the decorum that could be desired. This exhibition captured the first prize, but the Astoria playground with its flower garden pageant, won honorable mention while others which did almost as well were the Five Points Playground with "Little Maids of Olden Days," John Jay Park, with "Vegetables," St. Gabriel's, with "Nursery Rhymes," and Colonial, with "Children of the Woodland."

The final event was a maypole dance in which the children holding to ribbons skipped about twenty flower bedecked poles, all in good time to the music of the band. In this event St. Gabriel's playground captured first honors. In between the main events were a flag relay, won by the Thomas Jefferson playground, overhead relay won by Tompkins Square playground, a forty yard dash for mothers, won by Mrs. Willie Poggi, of No. 134 White street, and a sixty yard dash for fathers, won by Arthur Thaler, of Montgomery street.

The children had the greatest thrill of the day when Lieutenant Jack Murtha, formerly a playground supervisor of St. Gabriel's, looped the loop over the park in an airplane. The judges of the contests were Mrs. Josephine Fabricant, Miss Anna E. Chaires, Miss Rosalie Manning, Mrs. Julius C. Brenchin and Miss Marie W. Lambin. And when the games were ended the children rode home in motor trucks bearing big placards with the inscription: "We don't want our ice cream and soda water taxed."

ARMY HONORS 'PHONE GIRL.

Coblenz, May 22—(Associated Press)—Before a crowd of admiring officers and enlisted men, Miss Grace D. Banker of Passaic, N. J., received the Distinguished Service Medal from Lieut.-General Liggett at army headquarters today.

Miss Banker is chief operator of the army telephone service here, and has been overseas one year at general headquarters with the first army. The citation reads: "By exceedingly meritorious and distinguished service, and by untiring devotion to her exacting duties under trying conditions, did much to assure the success of the phone system during the operations against the St. Mihiel salient and north of Verdun."

OHIO NOW DRY

Most of Its 6,000 Saloons Were Closed Last Saturday Night to Avoid Payment of Extra Tax

Cleveland, May 28—The state of Ohio yesterday passed into the operation of the recently enacted law prohibiting the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors within its boundaries. Thus a state with 5,000,000 population and extending from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, joined forces with its sister states to the south, West Virginia and Virginia, making a continuous dry territory from Cleveland to Newport News, Virginia.

John R. Rutledge of this city, who for seventeen years has been at the head of the Anti-Saloon League of Ohio, which next to the Women's Christian Temperance Union, founded by Frances Willard, is the oldest organization having this great object in view, said:

"The Ohio prohibition law becomes effective on May 27, but the year for payment of the extra tax on saloons in Ohio closed on Saturday last, and a majority of the saloons in Ohio closed that night. Fifty-eight out of about 1,800 saloons in Cleveland alone, however, paid \$300 each for the privilege of keeping open the extra day, today.

"There are, according to the best information gathered from reliable sources, 6,000 saloons in Ohio paying the Dow tax, and it is estimated there was spent in the state of Ohio \$110,000,000 in the saloons annually. The closest estimates which we could make indicated that for the last five years there has been spent in the city of Cleveland from \$22,000,000 to \$25,000,000 a year for intoxicating liquor.

"In spite of the fact that Saturday night saw the culmination of several days revel and several weeks of continuous storing away of liquor for future use, we all know what the ultimate benefit this newly enacted law will be. In the town of Vermillion the largest saloon has already been turned into the finest restaurant the town has ever had and the second largest is already prepared to dispense ice cream and soft drinks."

COMMON COUNCIL

Mayor Hayes, at the council meeting yesterday afternoon, advocated the appointment of a commission to study the fund under the housing act. Action was deferred. Applications from J. H. McNeil for \$8,000 and from Robert Crawford for \$1,000 under the act were referred to the commissioner of public lands. Mr. Thornton said that unless there was a reduction in automobile speeding in the city he would have to ask for money to employ spotters and that the fine be increased.

The report of the committee of the whole was adopted, recommending the leasing of Firemen's Park, Fairville, from year to year, at a nominal rental; recommending co-operation with the board of health to prevent pollution of the city's water supply; awarding to Frank Wade the contract for setting curbing in City Road and Douglas avenue at forty-nine cents per lineal foot.

An application from Sarah N. Carleton, west side, asking for permission to put up a gasoline tank on her property, was referred to the public safety department. The resolution passed at the meeting at the board of trade on Monday night regarding vocational training, was read and the city passed a resolution that it was this year, but that it would be included in next year's budget.

George Carroll asked that the by-law respecting the proximity of garages to churches be changed to allow him to erect a garage in Cliff street. The letter was referred to committee. A resolution was read from the St. John board of trade suggesting that the city should secure legislation to enable it to proceed with its paving programme under the local improvement act, and that it be made necessary for half the shutters to sign a petition of protest instead of one-third. The question was referred to committee.

In accordance with an agreement with the Booth Fisheries Limited, in January, 1918, the council passed a resolution exempting the plant from taxation, excepting school assessment, for five years. Mr. Fisher discussed the application of the New Brunswick Power Company to put in a switch at the corner of Union and Sydney streets, advising that it be granted. To give the other commissioners a chance to look over the situation, the matter was referred to be taken up in committee.

On the recommendation of Mr. Fisher \$300 was voted to assist in grading and putting in concrete the south end playgrounds.

GIVING
Give thy heart's best treasures, —
From fair love, and ask not,
Wait not a return;
And the more thou spendest
From thy little store,
With a double bounty,
God shall give thee more.
—Adelaide A. Proctor.

The Salvation Army, having obtained options on five more saloons, now has 25 former cafes in New York for operation as temperance clubs after July 1.

MONTH OLD BABY HAD SKIN TROUBLE

On Face and Hands. Itched and Burned. Cuticura Heals.

"My baby was only a month old when her face and hands started to get red and scaly. The eczema started in the form of water blisters and itched and burned. She was so cross and fretful she could not sleep."

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RED CROSS BULLETIN SPEAKS OF THE WORK DONE AT THIS PORT

A bulletin published by the Canadian Red Cross Society, summarizing the work done by that organization during the war, and which also traces the origin of the society, has been received.

In an article entitled "Welcome to Canada," many expressions of gratitude are cited as coming from the lips of the English brides of soldiers when landing in the port of St. John, N. B. The women coming into this country were filled with stories that when they landed here they would be greeted with showers of eggs thrown by Canadian women, but instead they were greeted with every kindness possible. During the long waiting for trains after they disembarked from the steamers at St. John, Red Cross representatives were continually in their midst seeking to do something to help them and make them comfortable.

Two cuts in this bulletin show the committee at pier in St. John which handled the dependents in the midst of the war. The Red Cross and the Red Cross nurses and V. A. D.'s in the port rest room at this city. The committee handling the dependents is composed of F. S. West, secretary Patriotic Society; Mrs. H. Lawrence, Red Cross port committee; Mrs. George F. Smith, Soldiers' Wives League; Mrs. G. A. Kulring, commandant V. A. D.; Miss Perry, secretary Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Conde, Salvation Army. The Red Cross nurses and V. A. D.'s accompanied all trains carrying the dependents to destinations and rendered all the help to the women that was possible. The soldiers' dependents on coming to Canada received an excellent reception and were made to feel at home from the beginning.

The bulletin goes on to describe work of the society in Siberia and in other parts of the world as well as in each of the provinces in Canada. It also describes its good work done during the period the influenza epidemic raged throughout Canada.

An interesting article describes the work of the remnants of the Indian

tribes for the Red Cross and also the part played by the natives of Canada in the great war.

GOVERNOR SIGNS SYNDICALISM BILL

Lansing, Mich., May 28—The Governor of Michigan has signed a bill passed at the last session of the state legislature which has the title, "Defining the Crime of Syndicalism and Prescribing Punishment Thereof," which was introduced by John P. Fitzgerald, representative from Detroit.

The bill provides a penalty of ten years' imprisonment and a fine of \$5,000 for any person, who "by word of mouth or writings, advocates, or teaches the duty, necessity or propriety of crime, sabotage, violence, or other unlawful methods of terrorism, as a means of accomplishing industrial or political reform; or prints, publishes, edits, issues, or knowingly circulates, sells, distributes, or publicly displays any book, paper, or document or written matter in any form, containing or advocating, advising or teaching the doctrine that industrial reform should be brought about by crime, sabotage, or other unlawful methods of terrorism; or becomes a member of, or voluntarily assembles with any society, group or assembly of persons formed to teach or advocate the doctrines of criminal syndicalism."

FINAFORE REPEATED.

"H. M. S. Pinafore" was repeated in the new St. Vincent's Auditorium, Cliff street, last evening, and the house was even larger than on the opening night. The opera ran with more smoothness last evening. The Y. M. C. I. orchestra, under Byard Currie, did splendid work throughout the entertainment.

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MUTT AND JEFF—JEFF THOUGHT HIS TEETH MIGHT BE FILLED WITH BRASS
By "BUD" FISHER
DENTIST
I'M SORRY NOW THAT I WENT TO THIS DENTIST. I WONDER IF HE'S RELIABLE?
YES, CICERO, THEY MAY STING LITTLE JEFF ONCE, BUT THAT'S ALL. YOU PATTERN AFTER ME AND YOU'LL GROW UP TO BE A SMART MAN!
POP TOLD ME NEVER TO TOUCH THAT BOTTLE!
OUCH!!
FIRE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH JEFF?
HE HAD SOME DENTAL WORK DONE BY A STRANGER AND HE WAS TESTING THE GOLD CROWNS WITH ACID!
TEE HEE! THE POOR FISH!
TEE HEE! BLUE!