FROM DAY TO DAY

THE VOICE THAT CALLS TO ME.

I.

Far to the Northland, far,
By the shores of the inland sea;
Where the sunbeams sift
Through the white spindrift—
There's a voice that calls to me.

II.

Far to the Northland, far,
In the forests so wide and free:
Where the red deer roam
In their woodland home—
There's a voice that calls to me.

III.

Far to the Northland, far,
Runs the trail of the years that flee;;
For my lost youth lies
'Neath those northern skies—
And it calls, it calls to me!

—Clarence A. Murch.

MY LADY AT HOME.

These winter days in Edmonton make the interior of a cosy home more than ever inviting and desirable. Not the rooms which seem furnished after a system, with chairs and tables at certain fixed angles, but the rooms that have every appearance of being designed to live and enjoy life in.

Even the detail of chairs is worth consideration. The clever woman realizes that the more comfortable her chairs the more popular her house. In other words, her guests find that they can settle down for a nice chat without endangering their own backs or those of the slender specimens called chairs so common in the "bric-a-brac" drawing room. On the other hand, cavernous structures low seated and deep barked, are equally distressing to the chance visitor, unless a few cushions are at hand to prevent the smaller guest from disappearing completely into their depths.

The too-high straight chair is another extreme to be avoided for comfort's sake.

The hostess who knows how to make her at home days a success puts a group of comfortable chairs in a circle, or disposes them so that conversation between their occupants is not difficult. A conversation carried on from opposite sides of the room is neither pleasant nor cordial, and if the chairs must be lifted around it makes dire confusion and a possible breaking of ornaments and tripping over rugs.

A woman who had a sofa with a seat so wide as to prevent any one except a veritable "Daddy-longlegs" from leaning on it without sitting sideways, massed it with the downiest pillows, with the result that her friends always made for it at first sight.

A pillow, however, must be used with some judgment. A cushion on some chairs is positive torture to some shy guest, who fears to risk offence by removing it. Then, too, a stiff uncompromising cushion is of itself uncomfortable. A cushion to be appreciated properly must be neither too elegant for use nor too hard for comfort.

Some one suggests that the race is degenerating if members of it cannot sit upright during the period of an average call. One would hardly go so far as that. It is not necessary to lounge, nor is it particularly proper to sit up so straight, as to both look and feel uncomfortable. But a chair which allows the shy guest to lean back comfortably and gracefully will cover a multitude of sins both in hostess and entertainment.

An open fire or a well shaded, well placed lamp is an additional help which a diplomatic woman calls to her aid: the light particularly is most important. The man or woman who must sit facing a light during a call is at a disadvantage sure to be resented; therefore, some regard to the placing of the chairs with this thought in view is also necessary in arranging a drawing room or boudoir.

SOCIAL.

Mrs. W. H. Cooper entertains at the tea hour this afternoon, and gives a children's party tonight for her son, Master Charles Cooper.

Mr. Charles Mair, of Lethbridge, and his son, Mr. Cecil Mair, of the Union Bank, Maple Creek, spent Christmas day with his brother-in-law, Mr. H. W. McKenney.

During a week that is more devoted to family reunions than wider social affairs the Opera house, where Harold Nelson and Clifford Bruce are playing, draws each night a large number of society people.

Among the Canadian visitors registered at the Canadian high commissioner's office, London, in the early part of December, were Mr. T. W. and Mrs. Lines, Edmonton; Mr. W. F. Frisby, Pincher Creek, and Miss E. McBain, Winnipeg.

The engagement is announced of Miss Elizabeth Brough Spencer, only daughter of Alfred J. Spencer, treasurer of the town of Owen Sound, to Mr. Frederick James Carscallen, Calgary, Alberta, only son of the late William Carscallen, Belleville. The marriage will be solemnized quietly in St. George's church, Owen Sound, on Wednesday, December 26th.

Hon. W. B. McInnes, governor of the Yukon, and Mrs. McInnes, whose house was destroyed by fire on Christmas day, are at present at Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. McInnes were with several other westerners, the guests at a brillian official dinner given by the Speaker of the House of Commons and Mrs. Sutherland, before the House adjourned. Some of the guests were: Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier, Sir Richard and Lady Cartwright, Hon. William and Mrs. Templeman, Hon. Frank and Mrs. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Borden, Chief Justice and Mrs. Fitzpatrick, the Speaker and Madame Dandurand, Col. and Mrs. Hanbury-Williams, General and Mrs. Lake.

During the regime of Lord and Lady Minto at Rideau Hall skating in Ottawa received social impetus, which has been maintained during the present term, as Lord Grey is quite as fond of outdoor sport as his sister, Lady Minto. Consequently the Minto club continues to flourish. At the first outing of its members this season in the Rideau rink, Ottawa, there was an excellent display of skating and mny westerners were on the ice. His Excellency, Earl Grey, was present— the vice-regal party including the Ladies Evelyn and Sybil Grey, Mrs. Hanbury Williams, Capt. Newton, A.D.C., Major Poynter, A.D.C., and Mr. Leveson-Gower. The skaters wore their prettiest costumes. Lady Sybil Grey wore crimson velvet and ermine; Lady Evelyn Grey had on a smart costume of ruby velvet with mink furs. Mrs. Hanbury-Williams as in green with ermine and toque to match. Others on the ice were Major and Mrs. Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Jones, Miss Elinor Taylor, Miss Claire Oliver and the Misses Haycock, who are noted for their graceful skating. Miss Claire Oliver wore an attractive costume of royal blue velvet.

A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE.

Harold Nelson again appeared to advantage in an adaptation of a romantic play of German mediaeval days, as presented at the Edmonton Opera House last night. Its possibilities are apparent from the merest synopsis thereof: a high-spirited princess, a prince in bondsman's guise, a stately ermine-backed chancellor, a trial by combat, a holy palmer with an aptitude for awesome poses of the Richelieu character. From these has been evolved a play filled with color and incident.

From a spectacular viewpoint Harold Nelson filled the romantic role of Sir Rupert, the unknown prince, to perfection. The one drawback was that the personality of the actor seemed insufficiently merged in the part taken—the palmer was too handsome of face in his make-up, the soldier, too correct in attire. A little bass of insouciance would have lent to the artistic effect, but throughout the evening it was always apparent that Nelson's acting and Nelson's magnetism can draw his audience with him in whatever role he appears.

Miss Reesor as the Princess Yetive worried by her state, by old relative and cares of state was both pretty and appealing, her flashes of imperious temper excellent, but as Yetive the sweetheart, she was not convincing. She sadly lacked warmth. Frau Twinkle's part was delightfully taken by Lucy Thayer and it seemed a pity that the play does not permit of more frequent appearances of this buxom laddady with the shrewish tongue and warm heart. In the Countess Sylvia Miss Goodrum had a disagreeable part to play and played it well. She was artistically cold and malicious and thoroughly disagreeable. The men of the cast were in some cases very good—George Dayton made an effective chancellor and in the poisoning scene and death played a difficult part delicately and with dignity. Oscar the court jester was presented fairly well by Bryce Desmond, William Yule as Lawyer Reinhaus was so quaintly like some figure in the old Dutch print that his make-up was one of the pleasing things of the play — as pleasing as the Burgowelster's (Victor Travers) delightful bursts of laughter. Donald Patterson as Victor Von Tellremund was inadequate in voice and gesture—too wooden. It is evidently not a role suited to Mr. Patterson's particular line of talent.

Tonight the company will present the dramatization of Owen Wister's fascinating story—The Virginian — with Clifford Lane Bruce in the title-role.

(Wednesday's Daily)

CHRISTMAS AT IMMIGRATION HALL.

"Christmas is everywhere Christmas, but every man likes his own country's way of celegrating it," a Greek in Edmonton said the other day as he talked of the Christmas lamb roasted out-of-doors at his old home, the Christmas trees and the gifts. His eyes shone as he talked of it—for "every man likes his own country's way of celebrating it."

There were very many in heterogenous Edmonton who had the same thought yesterday, as they looked on at an Edmonton Christmas from hotel windows or livery sleighs. But down at the immigration hall, where one would expect some trace of loneliness at Christmas, there as instead Christmas cheer visible everywhere. Some of this was due to the fact that a few citizens had remembered these "strangers within the gates," and Some of the parents had been able to buy gifts, but to many of the children Santa Claus' stock of good things was largely helped out by the kind thoughtfulness of Mr. C. W. Marshall, manager for Revillon brothers, who had sent a box of slightly damaged toys to the hal llast Saturday. These were put in excellent shape by Mr. Wilkie and on Christmas eve another box of sweets and toys was brought from Revillon's to the Lester family, whose father died just after his arrival in the city last week.

Other gifts were brought to this family, a very practical one being a fine roast of beef. Mrs. Lester, who has been widowed under such sad circumstances, and on her arrival in a strange country, has six children, the eldest of whom is a bright boy of twelve. He has secured work for a few days as messenger boy, and in manly fashion expresses his determination to help his mother provide for the five younger children.

Prosperous Edmonton has not often such an opportunity to exercise its warm-heartedness and its heed of the divine mandate to care for the widowed and fatherless. So that it is likely that this manly boy will have work of some nature provided for him very shortly. He is there awaiting it. Mrs. Lester, who was for seven years a dressmaker, will be glad to have work of this kind brought to her as soon as her goods arrive and she moves into a small home of her own.

Most of the men at the hall have employment, and were able to provide Christmas cheer for themselves or their families. But passing from room to room one could not but remark how little reading matter was there—practically none, and the gentlemanly young English boy poring over an old magazine had my sympathies. A few magazines are being sent to the hall today, but there is a place there for more from the well-stocked tables of Edmonton living-rooms and offices.

Several families of the hall are homesteaders from North Dakota, ho have a number of friends across the border, who are only waiting for a good report of this country next summer to come over also. Mr. H. C. Stemper is one of these, who says there are about thirty men in the Dakotas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, who are anxiously awaiting the news of his progress in Alberta. A bright young English couple, the woman being a good cook, are at the hall, but look forward to getting work together somewhere. But yesterday as the varied assemblage of people chatted together about the fire in the decorated hall or in the dining rooms, while the little ones prattled about their toys, the uppermost idea was the enjoyment of the moment. The little girls, dressed in their Sunday best, carried about some lovely dolls that looked more apropos in their arms than on the Revillons' shelves, and the small boys showed their toys to the stranger with frank delight in Santa Claus' memory of them. They were bright, wholesome children, who will be good citizens of Alberta some day.

A NOVEL SCHOLARSHIP.

Recently in Manitoba college a function took place, says the Manitoba Free Press, which is somewhat unusual, and interesting. The graduating class of '06 has added another public spirited act to their many attainments. This unique function was nothing more or less than the dedication of a christening mug to the class. In this manner the boys hope to keep alive the old class spirit and perhaps aid in the education of another student in the University of Manitoba, for articles were drawn up and signed by the boys of the class who will provide for the free university education of the fortunate winner of the cup who must be the first born of the class.

Headed by the piper the class paraded the college halls and stopping at all places of local interest speeches and songs were the order. Having made the round of the building the procession retraced their steps to one of the upper rooms where a little banquet was held. Here the dull monotony of appeasing appetites was broken by several toasts, proposed and replied to in true college style.

PUNCH AND THE LORDS.

Punch does not often appear on the tables of Edmonton bookstores, but Punch is still holding its own place as a humorous paper that actually produces humorous things. One recently directed its satire at the House of Lords:

THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The Archbishop of Canterbury.—I am so deeply convinced of the necessity for this amendment that I now rise to move it.

Lord Halifax—I do not rise, my Lords, for the purpose of intervening for more than a few moments in your Lordship's debate. Is this fair? Is it right? Is it honorable? Is it what we have a right to expect? Are we going to take it? I may seize this opportunity of referring to a remark once made by a noble Lord, who is no longer a member of your Lordship's House, or, for the matter of that of the world at large—

Lord Ampthill (intervening)—Is the noble Viscount entitled to discuss—

Lord Emly (interrupting)—When my revolution——

"BUTTING IN."

Lord St. Aldwyn (interrupting)—Is the noble Lord aware that we are now discussing—

Lord Cawdor (breaking in)—This is not the House of Commons—

Lord Salisbury (interjecting)—Let me recall your Lordships to the traditions and unparalleled and unmatchable and unexampled gravity—

Lord Clifford of Chudleigh (interfering)—My Lords, the Catholics of England will never—

Lord Harris (expostulating) — My Lords, I have been listening with great attention to this debate, and I confess that I utterly fail to understand where we are. Who, my Lords, has moved what? Will not the noble Earl, who has charge of this bill give us some guidance? There was once, I remember, a slow bowler who had a most deadly delivery. It used to puzzle us, my Lords. My Lords, we are now puzzled. (Opposition murmurs of sympathy.)

LIFT HIM TENDERLY

The Archbishop of Canterbury — My Lords, I will endeavor to explain, or, if I may use a vulgar phrase, to put the matter in a nutshell. If this amendment is carried, we shall by the insertion of mandatory words previously rejected by the Government, and therefore eminently worthy of your Lordships' best attention, nullify — at least I hope we shall to some extent though to what extent I cannot quite say, but at any rate the effect cannot well be the same; and we shall then, if we strike out lines fourteen, fifteen, sixteen and substitute the words such lowling as a majority of parents may be shall after an appeal to the Board of Education——" I think this makes it perfectly plain.

Lord Harris faints and is carried out.

NOBLE LORDS IN BUNCHES

Lord Stanley—To which clause does the Archbishop refer?

Six Noble Lords (rising together) — The clause to which he refers has already been omitted.

Lord Onslow (Chairman of Committees)—Ah, yes, that was the day before yesterday, but it was reinserted yesterday.

Ten Noble Lords—(rising together)—We never understood that.

Lord Onslow—Anyhow, that is what was done.

Lord Lansdowne—We re-omitted it half an hour ago.

Lord Onslow—That being so the Archbishop is perhaps not strictly entitled to move his amendment.

The Archbishop of Canterbury—I shall move it, nevertheless.

Lord Salisbury—Hear! Hear!

Their Lordships then divided, and there appeared—

Content, 352.

Not content, 31.

Majority in favor of amendment, 321.

STRATHCONA NEWS

(Wednesday's Daily)

AT THE HOTELS

Dominion hotel—Ulderic Marcotte, Mackenzie; W. J. Chambers, Calgary; Louis Verrault, Lorne Bus, Ed. Herrick, G. Stewart, Mrs. O'Brien, Edmonton; Mrs. Willingham, do.; Mrs Hume do.; F. A. McLaban Calgary; Arthur W. Maquire, Wetaskiwin.

Strathcona hotel—Joe Desmond, Calgary; George A. Field, do.; J. Leduc, do.; R. Patterson, do.; F. Teeter, do; W. J. Shields, do.; Miss Russell, J. Barnes, A. E. Townshend; T. P. Malone; E. Carrigan; R. Downing; T. Blythe; F. W. Hirtzel, Grand Forks; D. Longtin,; W. E. Toney; P. Newman; W. McC. Moore, St. Albert; W. H. Ketchum, Edmonton; T. M. Turnbull, George J. Kinnaird, Dan Tipsbury; W. G. Ibbotson, A. C. Fraser; A. H. Ladd; J. T. Neil; W. McKinney, Calgary; R. Jackson, Edmonton; Jno. Cotton; J. S. Hanan.

LOCALS

—A private dance was given last night in Ross hall and was much enjoyed by the large number present.

—The Strathcona plant is now in regular use, the lights first being turned on Christmas eve. The second dynamo will be in working order in about three weeks.

—Yesterday two Edmonton rinks skipped by Messrs. G. J. Kinnaird and A. C. Fraser defeated two Strathcona rinks skipped by Messrs. W. H. Shoppard and G. E. Downes.

—A quartette from the Baptist church furnished an enjoyable musical afternoon at the Strathcona hospital yesterday. The quartette was composed of Messrs. Daniel, David and Angus Currie and D. Brown.

—At the police court yesterday before Magistrate Tipton, Angus McCrae and a Galician named John Orsehnar, were each fined $1 and costs for disorderly conduct on the streets.

—Recent games in the Sandiman Cup competition have resulted as follows: R. E. Douglas beat J. B. Millar; G. F. Townsend beat S. H. Somerscill; J. F. Weir beat George Thomeson; J. M. Douglas beat W. H. Surgile and W. H. Shoppard beat A. J. McLean.

HOLY TRINITY CONCERT

A very enjoyable concert was given in Ross' Hall by the Sunday School of Holy Trinity Church on Christmas Eve. The chair was occupied by Mr. George. After the program presents were distributed and a tableau made of the dialogue by six little girls and the May Pole Drill.

The program follows—

Hymn—Adeste Fideles—School.

Address—Santa Claus — James Bullied.

Recitation—The Shiniest Dime—Marjorie Spicer.

Song—Jolly St. Nicholas—John Marshall.

Recitation—May Thompson.

Song—Myrtle Annabel.

Recitation—Christmas Fairies—Hazel Forte.

Piano selection—Muriel Wilson.

Dialogue—Christmas Invitation —Six girls.

Recitation—Letter to Santa Claus—Helen McLean.

Song—Twenty Frogies—Infant class.

Recitation—Best Gift —Emely Johnson.

Dialogue—Christmas Time—Julia and Henry Wapshott.

Recitation—John Marshall.

Recitation—Santa Claus and the Mouse —Olive Wells.

Recitation—Annie and Willie's Prayer—Ethel Porte.

Duett—Jean Skinner and Agnes Wilson.

May Pole Drill—By eight girls.

BAPTIST CONCERT

There was a large attendance in the Baptist church Christmas eve at the Sunday school concert. The chair was occupied by Mr. George Nightingale and after the program came the Christmas tree and then the new maps were presented to the school by the pastor and the prizes for the largest collections awarded to the successful ones. Misses Ritchie, Blakney and Grant and Mr. Angus Currie who trained the children are deserving of much credit. The program was as follows.

PART I

Chorus—Beautiful Season—School.

Prayer—Pastor.

Address of welcome—Warren Houghton.

Recitation—Why do Bells for Christmas Ring—Primary class.

Solo—Mrs. Houghton.

Recitation—The Shepherd Boy of Bethlehem—Helma Lindberg.

Exercise—Shining Little Candle — 8 Little Candles.

Recitation—What makes Christmas—Russel Hulbert.

Chorus—In the Land of Somewhere —Primary class.

Exercise—Presents for Grandma —4 children.

Solo—Star of Bethlehem—Mr. Brown.

PART II

Exercise—Jesus our Light—9 girls.

Exercise—Jesus—5 little girls.

Anthem—Glory to God in the Highest—Choir.

Recitation—But That's not Much — Mary Beaton.

Quartette—Quartette.

Recitation—When Xmas Comes —Six boys.

Solo—Bethlehem lullaby—Helen Cooley

Exercise —Trimmin gthe Christmas tree—ten girls.

Exercise—The Stars—Five girls.

Chorus—The Angel Chorus—School.

Presentation of prizes, distribution of candy, etc.

THE BRITISH PROTECTIONIST AND CANADIAN CATTLE

The report of the veterinary director general is issued. He states that during 1905, 547,705 cattle were dipped for mange a first time and 422,805 a second time, and commends the disposition on the part of cattle owners to carry out the law regarding dipping. Many ranchers who formerly opposed now declare "a good vat is better than a big haystack."

He further calls attention to the unfairness of the British agricultural press in attempting to create a prejudice regarding our cattle because of the existence in one district of a simple, simple skin affection. Mange in cattle is well known in Great Britain and is not looked upon with any degree of alarm, and much more easily treated than ring worm with which opponents of Canadian cattle in Great Britain have in the press and on the platform quoted the number of cattle dipped as being the number suffering from mange whereas not more than five per cent are affected. If the conditions in Alberta were similar to those in Great Britain and in the older provinces of Canada, mange would be of very little importance, but among the thousands of semi-wild cattle ranging without restriction over a vast country and depending for their sustenance upon grass alone it is an entirely different matter.

MINERAL PRODUCTION IN CANADA

The total mineral production of Canada for the last year for which statistics are completed is $60,073,897. In 1886 when the collection of mineral statistics was begun by the mines section of the Geological survey the total production was a trifle over 10 millions so that in the period of 18 years the output has increased six times. Gold last year shows a decrease of two and one-half millions of dollars, and is chiefly due to the drop in the Yukon output. Against this there is a satisfying increase in pig iron, silver, lead, asbestus and coal. Compared with the United States production for Canada is $10.47 per capita as against $15.75 for the United States which is an increase of 2.7 per cent per capita for Canada and a decrease of 9.18 per cent per capita for the United States.

Ninety five per cent of the mineral exports of Canada go to the United States, and 3.5 per cent to the British Empire.

The Northwest Territories and British Columbia produce 98 per cent of the $16,462,517 of gold. Seventy-five per cent of this is obtained from placer mines and the balance from lode mining. Five hundred dollars worth of gold was taken from the Saskatchewan river.

Silver shows a marked increase due to the cobalt deposits and the purity placed lead by the Federal Government, which led to the opening of several mines of argenteferous galena in the East Kootenay district.

The production of coal in 1904 was 8,754, 595 tons valued at $16,592,231 or 2.16 per ton. For the first time since 1897 coal stands first in the list of minerals produced in Canada. It was in that year that the discovery of gold in the Yukon began to increase the figure of the output of that metal to an extent that put coal in the second place. The production of gold in the Yukon reached its maximum in 1900, and this year the total stands slightly below that of coal in the table of proportionate values. The coal production is distributed over the province as follows—Nova Scotia, 5,596,241 tons; British Columbia 1,862,625 tons; Northwest Territories, 786,617 tons; New Brunswick 9,112 tons.

PREFFERS TO HANG

Regina ,Sask., Dec.21—Condemned to to be hanged in Regina jail on January 18 for the murder of Barrett Henderson, a wealthy Prince Edward Islander, Joseph Gilbert strenuously objects to the efforts being made by his lawyers to secure a reprieve to life imprisonment on acount of his oldage.

He prefers the rope to languishing in prison. Used to an outdoor life this sportsman will welcome death as a glad relief from the four walls of his cell. Standing on the threshold, life has few charms for him. Nevertheless his lawyers are not relaxing their efforts on his behalf.

TELEGRAPHIC

Ottawa ,Dec. 23—Surgeon Col. G. C. Jones, Halifax, has been asked to report at Ottawa to succeed Col. Fisett as director general of the army medical corps.

There will be no more meetings of the cabinet until the 31st inst. Most of the ministers will spend Christmas in the city.

AROUND THE CITY

(Wednesday's Daily)

—Jasper Lodge, K.P. No. 6 meet in Oddfellows hall, Norwood block tonight.

—The Liberal executive meets in the Young Liberal Club rooms tomorrow evening at 8.30.

—Mrs. Decliene, Morinville, left Monday afternoon for Quebec City, by the C. P. R.

—Over three hundred tickets were sold by the C. N. R. for the special train to Strathcona yesterday.

—Mr J. Jacques left Monday for Vegreville where he has taken a position in the store of Poulin & Pepin.

—On Friday evening the Sabbath school scholars of First Baptist church will hold their annual Christmas tree.

Daniel Dyer, P. R. Williams and J. A. Poole have passed the qualifying civil service examination held here last November.

—Mr. J. Hart of the Matlaggi has the thanks of the bulletin staff for a handsome Christmas box of the Slazar cigars presented with his Christmas greetings.

—Revillon Bros. are making extensive alterations in the department formerly occupied by retail hardware. It will be filled up to carry a larger wholesale stock.

—The Sabbath school children of the First Presbyterian church were entertained to a sleigh ride this afternoon followed by a social at 5 o'clock in the church.

—The annual Sunday School Christmas entertainment of the First Baptist Church will take place on Friday night, Dec. 28th at eight o'clock. Everybody welcome.

—Miss Jean Ross of Winnipeg, a sister of Mr. Donald Ross, of Edmonton, died in Winnipeg on the 19th, inst. The late Miss Ross lived in Edmonton in 1884 and 1885. She was here on a visit with her mother from the old country.

—Harold Nelson and his company will appear to-night in the Edmonton Opera House in "The Soldier of Fortune." It is a delightful play, beautifully staged and cleverly presented. The cast includes, besides Messrs. Nelson and Bruce, Wm. Yule, Geo. A. Dayton, Bryce Desmond, Pearl Reesor and others.

—The guests and boarders at the Pendennis hotel remembered their hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Finch on Christmas eve in a very kindly manner. Mr. and Mrs. Finch, Miss Frankie, and Mrs. Donnelly, mother of Mrs. Finch were each the recipients of suitable Christmas gifts. Mr. E. Mayfield Williams, made the presentation after which an enjoyable time was spent in games.

—A very happy time was spent by a large number of young people last night at Rennie's Academy. Harger's Orchestra furnished the music for dancing. A delightful feature of the evening was a Christmas tree upon which a large number of gifts were laid by the young people for their friends. Mr. Rennie is also giving a party on New Year's day and is preparing for a special Scottish night on the Burns' anniversary, the 25th January.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

(First Edition Monday)

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mowat, of Edmonton, are the guests of Mrs. McLaren, St. George street, Toronto.

P. E. Lessard and J. Labissionere went to Morinville on Monday.

Mr. Joseph Decliene is spending the Christmas holidays at his home in Morinville.

Mrs. Frank Oliver entertained at a delightful luncheon in Ottawa recently in honor of Miss Elinor Taylor, of Edmonton. The table was centred by a pretty basket of pink carnations and ferns. Covers were laid for fourteen. With the guest of honor, some others were Miss Edith Fielding, Miss Katherine Moore, Miss Eileen Dennis, Miss Nora Gwynne, Miss Nanhi Power, Miss Nora Lewis.

The following ladies and gentlemen had the honor of being invited by Their Excellencies to dinner at Government house last evening: The Hon. L. P. and Madame Brodeur, Hon. Frank and Mrs. Oliver, Hon. R. and Madame Dandurand, Hon. Sir Adolphe and Lady Caron, Hon. W. C. and Mrs. Edwards, Lt.-Col. Ward, M.P., and Mrs. Ward, Col. and Mrs. Macdonald, Col. and Mrs.. Fiset, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Hodgins, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kohl, Mr. and Mrs.. David Gilmour, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Macoun, Mr. Hanee Logan, M.P., Mr. A. C. Macdonald, M.P., Mr. A. Stockton, M.P., Mr. H. Southam.—Ottawa Journal.

Christmas joy bells rang about the pretty home wedding that took place at 8 p.m. yesterday at the residence of Mrs. James McKinnon, Eighth st., when her daughter, Miss Margaret McKinnon was united in marriage to Mr. Edgar H. Walker, of Vegreville, son of Mr. A. T. Walker, formerly of Edmonton. The ceremony was performed by Rev. D. G. McQueen. Only immediate relatives of the bridal couple were present. The wedding march was played by Miss Hazel Walker. The house was appropriately decorated with evergreen, Christmas roses and holly. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Jas. A. McKinnon, wore a pretty gown of cream silk eolienne, over cream taffeta and carried a shower bouquet of white roses and hyacinths. She was accompanied by Miss Lucille Walker, who made a winsome little flower girl. The groom's present to the bride was a pearl necklace. A large number of presents were received by the bridal couple from friends in Alberta and various eastern points. Mr. and Mrs. Walker left by the midnight train eastbound, the bride wearing a costume of green crepe de chine and fur-lined coat.

PRISONER OF ZENDA.

The "Prisoner of Zenda," as put on by the Nelson and Bruce Company, at the Edmonton opera house last night, was an excellent production of this romantic play of Hope's. It was practically a first production of this play by the company and sustained their reputation for accurate reproductions, and clever acting.

The marvellously quick changes of character made by Harold Nelson in the dual part of Rudolf, or Rudiania and Rudolf Rassendyle, the young Englishman, delighted the audience. William Yule, as the grizzled old Col. Sapt, and George Dayton, as Duke Michael, took their parts effectively. The leading lady, Miss Reesor, made a charming Prince as Flavia while Lucy Thayer, as Antoinette de Manban, played the part from an intellectual viewpoint rather than emotional, and the effect was slightly stilted. On the whole, however, the production was very satisfactory, and a credit to the company, which has so often recommended itself to Edmonton theatre-goers in the past.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

At All Saints' Church yesterday morning the Matins and Choral celebration at 11 o'clock were very largely attended. The rector, Rev. H. Allen Gray officated. The music under the direction of Mr. Vernon Barford was rendered in an excellent manner. An appropriately festive appearance was lent the church by the handsome decorations of evergreen about the windows and doors and other portions of the building. The floral decorations and evergreens decking the sanctuary were particularly beautiful evidencing the good taste of the ladies of the church, who had undertaken this Christmas work.

At both St. Joachim's Church and the Church of the Immaculate Conception services of the Midnight Mass were very largely attended, the chairs placed in the aisles all being occupied as well as the pews. At St. Joachim's the music under the leadership of Mr. Chas. Hall was rendered most effectively, and a brief appropriate sermon breathing the Christmas spirit of good-will was preached. At the east end church Mr. Laron conducted the music, which was also of a high order.

Each church was bright with candles and electric light, while the Coral decorations were very pretty. Realistic cribs have been erected representing the stable at Bethlehem, and drew many people.

PRIZES AWARDED.

At Revillon Bros. on Monday afternoon a number of young hearts were made glad by the receipt of the prizes won in the Christmas letter competition. The large toy department was thronged with boys and girls. Mr. C. W. Marshall, the manager made the presentations.

A number of consolation prizes were given and Miss Emma Rattray, whose letter had expressed forcibly her desire to win her own Christmas happiness by making poor people happy, was given $5 with which to carry out her will. In addition she was given an Astrachan cap for herself. Before the crowd of children left the department Santa Claus himself in fur-trimmed coat and cap distributed oranges and candy to each.

The prizes given were—Girls — 1st Paris doll, worth $15, in chiffon gown and hat to Josephine Varley for best letter; 2nd, Doll's house, dishes and stove to Lillian Wilkins; 3rd Pair of Astrachan mitts to Nellie Hawkins.

Boys—1st, Hockey outfit, skates, stick &c to Donald Taylor; 2nd, Handsome set of soldiers, Vernon Vance; 3rd, Rocking horse, George Duke.

Special prizes for artistic merit in letters were won by Florence McKay, Olga Lelpki and Eva Blaisdell.

Consolation prizes for girls including silver mounted inkstand, thimble, drinking cup and hat pin of silver, 4 dolls, 2 albums, 2 purses and glove box were won by Dora Pascal, Rose Lidstone, E. J. Lidstone, Winifred Heathcote, Edna Clark, Cecil Porter, Alice Hart, Theresa Chrisholm, Nora Kelly, Mabel Long, Maud Looby, Myrtle Van Buskirk and Catherine Cairns.

Consolation prizes for boys including two warships, soldiers, cuff and collar boxes, sword, bank, fancy ball &c., won by Freddie Porter, Billy McNab, Gerald McVeigh, Willie Sinclair, Gordon McIntosh, Collier Green, Ronald Watson, James Walker, Lyndon Stevens and C. C. Noller.

The Revillon employees were each presented by Mr. Marshall as manager with a cheque for a Christmas gift, and several boxes of slightly damaged toys were sent about to the orphanage, hospitals &c. for children.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT WILL NOT DISSOLVE.

London, Dec. 26.—There will be no dissolution of parliament as a result of the action of the House of Lords in defeating the government's education bill. Although the rejection of this, the main Liberal measure of the session, is the most serious rebuff Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's cabinet has yet suffered, it is not regarded as being sufficiently grave to necessitate an appeal to the country. Whether the government could now successfully appeal to the nation on the education bill is the question on which even many Liberals are in doubt. The only immediate effect of the step taken by the upper house, therefore will be to give an enormous impetus to the radical agitation in favor of curbing the veto powers of the peers, and to furnish the nonconformists with a new gun and ammunition in their fight for the disestablishment of the Church of England.

There is to-day a widespread impression that a purely secular education bill will be introduced during the next session of parliament, while no doubt the coming during recess will consider what means are possible to prevent the house from nullifying prolonged labors of the Commons and to debar the veto of measures passed twice by the lower house. It is the general view of politicians that the peers have entered into a constitutional struggle embracing much more than the educational bill. The Liberals promise that there shall be no cessation of the fight until the constitutional issue is settled as to whether the Liberal party is to be forever checkmated by the "standing committee" of the Tory peers.

London, Dec. 20.—The education bill was buried by Premier Campbell-Bannerman in the House of Commons this afternoon. After a speech defending the course of the Lower House in rejecting the House of Lords' amendments and repudiating the claim of the peers that they have the right to lecture the Commons on the subject, the premier announced that the government had decided to withdraw the measure. "Is the general election and its results to go for nothing?" he asked, with warmth. "It is intolerable that the second chamber, while our party is in power, shall be its willing servant, and that when that party is emphatically condemned by the country, it shall still be able to thwart and distort the policy which the electors approved. It may be necessary to submit for the moment, but neither the resources of the British constitution nor of the House of Commons are yet wholly exhausted and a way must and will be found whereby the will of the people, expressed through their elected representatives in the House of Commons, will be made to prevail." Prolonged cheering followed the speech.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

H. W. Campbell—The furniture store of H. W. Campbell has one window transformed into a man's sitting-room that, lit at night by an electric flame in the fireplace and by a quaint lantern-shaped electrolier, is a credit to the handsome establishment. It is done in Mission-style, in soft tones of drop green and a subdued rose. The massive oak settee is upholstered in dark green leather, and cosy wicker rockers, stained green, make an attractive addition to the room. On the walls done in green and rose tints are several amusing pictures handsomely framed.

The Crown Real Estate Co.—Something of the cheer of the Christmas season has been actually transferred to the windows of the Crown Real Estate Company, where Christmas trees adorned with ropes of silver tinsel bear most ingenious invitations to make your friends, your family and yourself happy with a Christmas gift of real estate.