

## The Daily News

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1914

## McDONALD A SAFE MAN

Not even the most ardent opponent of John A. McDonald will gainsay the fact that he is one of the most careful, as well as one of the safest men, in the city of Brandon. His record in the city council for the past two years fully bears out the reputation he has borne for the past twenty-five or thirty years. His business life has been one of honest, frugal and painstaking character, and successful to an exceptional degree. Perhaps a trifle slow in coming to conclusions on questions of policy, but in these days of unusual conditions this is surely one of the outstanding qualifications which makes him a most desirable chief executive for the city. This is no time to be carried away with personal friendships. There is only one qualification that ought to carry any weight in choosing the mayor for the coming year, and that is a man's ability to analyse business conditions and govern the management of the city's affairs accordingly.

It is unfortunate for Mr. McDonald that he was not able to obtain the open door at committee meetings during the past year. It is in the committee that most of the work of the city council is performed, and if the press and public had been permitted to have access to those meetings Mr. McDonald's work and worth would have been better known to the ratepayers than it is at the present time. Reference to the work of the various committees will disclose many valuable suggestions and much profitable legislation enacted as the direct result of motions inaugurated by Ald. McDonald. He is not one who goes about the city with a trumpet to his lips constantly tooting his own deeds, but in the quiet of the committee or the council has planned and worked conscientiously and persistently for the benefit of the city, and not for the glorification of himself or any faction.

The ratepayers of Brandon can rest assured that John A. McDonald as mayor their best interests will be looked after with an eye solely for the benefit of the city and the ratepayers as a body, and not for any clique or faction.

## AN AUTHENTIC MUTILATION STORY

So many of the statements respecting the mutilation of children and grown up persons during the first few weeks of the war have been found upon investigation to be without foundation that the public begins to display scepticism toward even well-authenticated cases. It is necessary, therefore, to affirm that there were infamous things done during the rush of the Germans through Belgium, which entirely warranted the designation of those who did them as Huns. Here is a statement taken from The Daily News of St. John's, Newfoundland, that is true beyond dispute. Miss Eileen McCallum, daughter of Sir Henry McCallum, formerly Governor of Newfoundland, writing recently to Miss Agnes Hayward, a school girl friend of St. John's, told this story:

"I went home the past week-end, mother and daddy fetched me in the car. When I arrived home all of a sudden I saw a hospital nurse spring into view, so immediately thought someone must be ill, but it turned out that we have two wounded officers in the house, and two more are coming next week. The two here at present are Captain Campbell of the Camerons and Captain Anstruther of the Yorkshire Yeomanry. The former has hurt his thigh badly and is wounded in the head but the doctor says he will be convalescent by Christmas; the other poor fellow, Captain Anstruther, has no hands; it is too awful. He was slightly wounded and left unconscious on the field, and the Germans came along and cut off both his hands and left him. I really think it is about the cruellest thing they could do to a man. He is fearfully plucky, and only referred to it once when I went in to see him. We got talking about Christmas, and I was trying to buck him up by telling him things we could do when he became better, and presently he said: 'Do you ever have snap-dragon, as I am such a baby over it.' I told him we always did; he was getting quite excited at the thought, when all of a sudden he remembered about his hands, and sort of stopped and said: 'Oh, I forgot, I won't be able to.' I thought it too pathetic, and nearly cried on the spot."

This schoolgirl letter is too circumstantial to be doubted. The wounded officer was unconscious on the field of battle when he was mutilated. There could be no question that he was a British officer, and not a "sniper." His uniform and accoutrements would prove that. The man who cut off the hands of a wounded and uncon-

scious fellow-creature is worse than a murderer. Is it any wonder that the feeling in Britain runs high against the enemy when deeds so revolting as this related by Miss McCallum can be laid justly to the charge of Germans in the field?

## BEST BAR

The newly discovered solicitude of some anti-banish the bar men, for preserving the home from the invasion of drink is touching in the extreme. True, drink is a bad thing in the home; but if men will drink it is undoubtedly better and cheaper to drink in the home. The fact of the matter is that not one man in ten who drinks in the bar-room would think of taking drink to his home. If the public drinking places and the popular treating custom were banished, the women of Canada could be trusted to keep the home clean.

"A married man" asked a Florida editor if there was any good substitute for saloon drinking and received the following reply: "Start a saloon in your own house. Be the only customer. You will have no license to pay. Go to your wife and give her \$2 with which to buy a gallon of whisky, and remember that there are sixty-two drinks in a gallon. Buy your drinks from no one but your wife, and by the time the first gallon is gone she will have \$8 to put in the bank and \$2 to start business on again. Should you live ten years and continue to buy booze from her and then die with snakes in your boots she will have enough money to bury you, educate your children, buy a house and lot, and quit thinking about you."

## NOTE AND COMMENT

It is well known that Ald. McDonald is one of the heaviest property holders in the city, and one of its heaviest tax-payers. It requires no argument to convince the electors of Brandon that under the circumstances, if elected mayor, he will be certain to exercise the greatest care in the management of the city's affairs.

For three days The Brandon Sun has been printing articles in support of the candidacy of Mr. Cater, but as yet no one has been able to learn, from reading the articles, why.

There is one thing certain, and that is, if by any chance Mr. Cater should be elected mayor of Brandon, he will have no need to thank The Brandon Sun. The articles it published one year ago against the man it is now supporting are too fresh in the memory of its readers to permit its present murmurings to carry the least particle of influence; in fact it makes it look just "silly."

Some men can do more work by attending 54 meetings of the city council than others could if they attended 777 instead of 77. The number of meetings an alderman attends is not always a criterion of a man's capabilities, and is a very poor argument upon which to elect anyone to office.

As a flip-flopper The Sun outshines all others. A year ago Cater was the vilest of creatures. Today he is the "strong man" of Brandon. Six months ago local option was the one greatest temperance measure ever devised. Today "Mum's the word." Afraid to speak. Doctor Jekyl and Mr. Hyde had nothing on The Brandon Sun.

A year ago The Sun saw snakes every time Mr. Cater's name was mentioned as a possible mayor of Brandon. In the eyes of the Tenth street journal he was a discredited politician, unworthy of the slightest consideration. Twelve months later The Sun suddenly discovers many virtues in Mr. Cater which are supposed to make him a most valuable man as mayor of the city. The question is, who has changed, Mr. Cater or The Sun?

As a contortionist The Sun is no mean performer. Since its flip-flop in 1911, it evidently believes in being consistent—that is, flopping on every conceivable occasion and on every question.

A Spokane paper claims that the popular song, "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," was composed by an American. The author now has a chance to add another verse covering the distance to Vera Cruz.

The Germans and Austrians are beginning to allocate the blame for their failure. That is one of the best indicators yet of how things are going.

By all the good rules of strategy the Germans consider they should have won the big battle in Poland. What makes their disappointment more bitter is that there is no umpire to kill.

A correspondent wants to know if a standing army folds its wings when it wants to sit down.

"Eat 'em alive" is the battle cry of the Fiji islanders who have offered their services to go to the front.

After the Cossacks charged on the Kurds the survivors among the latter only had a hazy idea of what really occurred.

The war editor of the Boston Transcript opines that the Russians are probably waiting for the snow before they begin slaying.

## CORDIAL AND CAUSTIC

Comment on Matters of Some Importance, and on Some of No Importance

Those moccasined girls get into their shoes and skates first and look mighty warm and comfortable when they are standing around in cold spots.

Do the reduced prices of admission at picture houses for men in uniform apply to the girls they take with them?

The aldermanic aspirants seem to be quite willing to work for the honors that some of them had hoped would come almost gratuitously.

"The butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker," are all profiting by the occupancy of the Arena.

The promise that a Christmas tree will be given away with every two dollars spent in Toyland, almost induces us to spend two. Still in our present mature state the tree would be most as superfluous as the toys. Yes, quite so. Now don't all speak at once. We know there are scores of children among whom we might distribute them, but we'll have to think it over.

Officers with whom the representative of The News comes in contact at the Arena, are confirmed in their belief that Brandon has given them a most cordial and sincere welcome. There are few hours from their duties that they might not be guests of some person or organization and they are not slow to state that they could not be received or entertained better in any place. They are all particularly gratified with the privileges extended them at the Y.M.C.A. and more and more of them are making use of them. It is noted by the soldier men, that not only are they invited to different places, but that the invitations are presented with an air of cordiality and hospitality that cannot be questioned or denied.

We need a little snow to get the right Christmas atmosphere.

The store windows begin to make us more and more envious and we especially wish we were back to when we wanted a doll in our stockings.

One great big improvement that has been made in Christmas toys is the mechanical construction and real usefulness of many of the designs. The young hopeful who is presented with some inventions will be getting instruction in mechanical ingenuity. Should he have the curiosity of the young and want to look at its insides, the loss of the toy may be compensated by the knowledge he gets from the works.

From the plans talked about at our house, we believe we are going to take on three pounds extra at that Christmas dinner. We don't need the three pounds. In fact we'd hate to have them, but on this particular occasion we guess we'll have to take a chance.

The informer is not a pleasant specimen of humanity at any time, but occasionally he does serve a useful end that is desirable and justifiable. There have been two cases in court within the past few days that would hardly have been brought there if someone had not turned informer. It is likely that the object of the information in both cases may have to take a severe punishment as the case of theft that was brought against one, discloses quite a loss through the alleged depredations. The complaint of arson is an even more serious one and had the accused divided the money that he is said to have promised the informer, no information would have been laid with the police. The theft of ties could have gone on to considerable length and the C.P.R. constables who guard the property, would hardly notice. But, "to get even," notice was given the police of the matter. One never knows when this trail of human nature will expose itself. It is quite as likely to happen in the highest circles as well as among our foreign population and when a traitor in the camp is discovered, there is certain to be justice or punishment upon the one against whom his wrath is turned. Though the informer undoubtedly helps the ends of justice, no one ever has any particular admiration for anyone who seeks revenge through telling another's peccadilloes. Shakespeare only covered half the case when he said: "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." He should have included the men.

What Russia Sacrificed  
Russia by the stroke of the pen had stopped the sale of vodka, which was a state monopoly, and sacrificed a revenue of over £90,000,000 annually. Germany had become temperate beyond all precedent, without it was believed, any government interference. France had forbidden the sale of absinthe. Their own Parliament passed on Aug. 31, an act authorizing the closing of the public houses in certain circumstances, and it was now proposed that, in view of the beneficial effect which the Tsar's rescript had had in Russia, a similar experiment should be made in the United Kingdom during the war, or for an experimental period of six months.

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## A DRY CITY IS A DEAD CITY

## The Brandon Fair

## The Winter Fair

These two events are Brandon's greatest civic achievements. They mean a great deal to the City.

Brandon now has the greatest opportunity of her life to make the Summer Fair easily foremost in the West.

The interests of the Fair alone are enough to justify your vote against local option.

No Brandon Hotel has ever failed to do its big part towards the success of the fair. No Brandon Hotel has ever raised its rates for Fair week.

Local Option is a one-sided measure. It is destructive without being constructive. If the hotel goes—what then? Local Option invites a more insidious form of corrupting morals than it corrects. The larger the City, the more certain its practical failure.

The Ballot of confidence in Brandon will be marked thus:

For Local Option

Against Local Option

X

## SCOTLAND URGES PROHIBITION ACT

WANT TRAFFIC STOPPED DURING WAR OR AT LEAST FOR SIX MONTHS

Glasgow, Scotland—Meetings of the citizens of the great centres of population of Scotland are being held in large numbers with the purpose of making representations to the government on the question of the sale of liquor during the period of the war. Such meetings were held simultaneously in Edinburgh and Glasgow, and were crowded to overflowing.

The object of the Glasgow meeting was stated to be "to urge upon the government the desirability of prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor during the war, or for an experimental period of six months, and of appointing a commission to watch the results and to make recommendations regarding the equitable treatment of license holders and their employees."

The chairman, Sir D. M. Stevenson, said that in his opinion the meeting represented the great majority of the most serious and thoughtful people of all shades of opinion, not only of their own community but of the whole country. At such a time as that they surely could afford to give up at least their luxuries.

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that every supporter of such a measure and every member of Parliament who voted for it, would voluntarily accept the same self-denial that it would impose upon the mass of the people. He hoped that no one would think that this proposal was aimed at their soldiers and sailors. The men at the front were all right. Lord Kitchener had seen to that. Sir Samuel Chisholm said that more important by far than ships or guns were the men who were to use them; they must have men strong and sober, men of stern resolution and dauntless courage. It was in the constant supply of such men that Britain's hope and safety lay.

## CORRESPONDENCE

(The Daily News assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents).

Dec. 9, 1914.

Editor, Daily News,  
Sir: Our thoughts are taken up at this time with the Municipal elections and there are to my mind, things of very great importance to be considered this year. The greatest, perhaps, is the Local Option by-law. I believe I am expressing the wish of many as well as my own, when I suggest that a meeting be called to discuss this bylaw alone, and let each side be there to tell their own story. It would, I feel sure, be far better than to be guided by, or misguided by a circular, which no one can believe.

Yours truly,

A HUMBLE VOTER.

**FINLAY'S TOYLAND**  
BETTER THAN EVER THIS SEASON  
OPEN TO-NIGHT

## SOCIAL DEMOCRATS TO HELP WOMEN

Berlin, Dec. 10—The Social Democratic party has already held two public meetings to discuss the position of women during the present crisis, especially those whose husbands are at the front, or who have lost their employment by reason of the war.

Klara Weyl, as speaking to a large and attentive audience of women and girls on the second occasion, stated that experience had proved that the present wave of unemployment had affected women to a greater extent than men and recalled how the Social Democratic party had often striven in vain in Parliament to obtain regular government assistance for the unemployed.

Necessity had now rendered such a policy imperative, and she prophesied that state assistance for the unemployed had come to stay. The speaker further pointed out the advantages which organized bodies have over isolated individuals at such a time as the present, and trusted that every working woman would recognize the duty of becoming a member of a corporate body in the future.

Another speaker, Luise Zeitz, dwelt upon the duty of the community towards the wives of men at the front and unemployed workwomen who, she maintained, had a social right to assistance, and one to which they must lay claim. The duty which the man fulfilled in battle had its counter part in the duty which the woman fulfilled in and beyond her home, for humanity.

Mothers were reminded to impress upon their children that the soldiers of other nations were fighting for their Fatherland and had wives and children at home to whom they were dear; further it was the duty of those who were left behind to strengthen the organization and the Socialist ideals which they cherished would give them the inspiration necessary for the task.