

The Albertan

W. M. DAVIDSON,
Editor and Manager.

1907.

The year is gone beyond recall. But, if ever there was a year during the course of which Calgary has prospered exceedingly, the year which has just been completed, the year 1906, has surpassed all others from every point of view. From strength to strength it went. And this is exactly what Calgary has done. Progress has been made and our city has never forsaken the keynote of her existence. The keynote was prosperity in the first place, and affluence in the second place. Both these are consummations which are devoutly to be wished. These two points have been attained. There is no city in the Dominion, or for that matter in the wide, wide world, which has more cause to be thankful for the privileges which it has received during the past twelve months than Calgary.

"Ring out the old, ring in the new."
So Tennyson wrote, and in some degree his sayings have an application for us. There are many things which exist in the city of Calgary which might well be dispensed with. Speaking generally and without special reference to any special person or any special body of persons there is growing in the city an indication of the conditions which prevail in towns of greater age and larger population. At this time, which the keynote of the thoughts of every person is reformation, it might be well for those who administer the affairs of our city to make a resolution—for New Year's eve is the night of resolutions—that they will do their best to conduct the business of the city in such a manner and by such methods that they shall be like the knights of old, "beyond fear and beyond reproach."

And for the humbler persons, to whom it is not given to hold the privilege of taking part in the city government, a resolution more or less in these terms might be good: "Let us strive in every way possible to do all we can, whosoever we can, and whosoever we can, to assist our town." Some persons have said that resolutions are like piecrust—things made to be broken—but if the men of Calgary look back and review what has been done during the past year, when they consider the immense strides that the town in which they live has made during the past twelve months—they will realize that what has occurred is as nothing to what will happen. They will understand that the growth of Calgary has but hardly begun.

Above all things let the people of Calgary be citizens. People who are working for the common weal, who are content to place their personal interests in the background and to carry to their hearts the conviction that it is not the individual who works for his own advantage which benefits the community, but that it is the man who first thinks of the interests of the society in which he lives and secondly of himself, who makes a citizen in the truest sense of the word. So let the New Year's resolution of every person within our gates be one and one only: "May the place in which I live be my first consideration. I will spare no pains I will count personal comfort as nothing, if I can, in any way or by any means, help to assist and forward the well-being of the town in which I live."

If this attitude is adopted and worked to a finish by the people of Calgary, the Albertan feels assured that not only will the wishes for a Happy New Year which it sends out to all its readers be heartfelt, but that they will also be fulfilled beyond the possibility of the slightest shadow of a doubt.

ANOTHER EVIDENCE OF INEFFICIENCY

Another evidence of the inability of the council that has just passed away to cope with conditions as they should be in a progressive city has been brought to light. The council at its last meeting did away with the commission, and left nothing in its place. The new council will not meet until Monday next and in the meantime there is practically no civic administration at all. That is a very good example of the method which this council had of doing business. The result of this little oversight is that the city of Calgary stands to lose several thousand dollars upon one item alone. The city council of 1906 has made a record in incompetency and it crowned its efforts in the very last act of the year. It is to be hoped that the incoming council will not consent to be dictated in its important matters by five citizens, who without any mandate from the people, ordered the new council to change the method of administering the city.

REGINA'S CALCULATIONS

An unscrupulous Regina Newspaper in an effort to place Regina highest in building activity in western Canada marks Calgary down at a little over one million dollars for the building done during 1906. The same paper might with equal justice have placed Calgary at half that amount, the only difference being that in one case it has less than 50 per cent of the building and in the other instance it would have a little less than 25 per cent of the building actually done. The building returns for Calgary during the year that has just passed showed that the building done in Calgary last year was about half a million more than that done in Regina during the same time, according to Regina calculations. The people of Regina may place their own building returns at whatever figures they please and doubtless will, but Calgary people have some objections to such base misrepresentation and untruthful quotations as given by the Regina Standard when reference is made to Calgary figures.

My First Appearance on the Stage

What a difference there is between the front of the stage and behind the scenes. Before the stage the audience and a mass of gold and splendor elaborate scenery and costly effects. Behind one sees an unshapely mass of wood, canvas and timber. The audience was waiting and I went before the footlights and made my debut. Before, below, and above me rose a seething mass of laughing faces, tier upon tier they rose almost to the ceiling. My turn was soon through, and amidst the loud robs, sighs and cheers of the audience I returned. Thus ended my first and I hope not the last appearance on the stage. SIDNEY ANDREWS.

IS YOUR FIRST NAME WILLIAM

Then You are in Line to Join the Illustrious Society of Bills
Excelsior Springs, Dec. 31—One hundred men and three women attended the third annual dinner of the Bill Club No. 1 of the World, held here last night. Bill S. Cowherd of Kansas City, the one an ex-congressman, and the other an ex-governor, were the guests of honor and the principal speakers of the "Bill of Speech." Bill Bryan, of Nebraska, who was counted as one of the big attractions, was not able to be present, nor were several of the honorary members, who include Bill Warner, Bill Stone, Bill Nelson, Bill Wallace, Bill Lynch, Bill Hearst and a score of other Bills. Judge Bill Fowler acted as toastmaster, Bill Stecks' orchestra furnished instrumental music and the Bill Quartette, composed of Bill De Haven, Bill Wallace and Bill Courtney sang songs glorifying the Bills. Any woman christened Willie, Wilma, Wilma or Wilmatite is eligible to membership in the club.

WOMAN WORKED HARD IN THE COAL MINES

Disguised her Sex Until She Gave Birth to a Son
Nanaimo, B.C., Dec. 31—Hindoo laborers at Union Bay are on strike. A motley looking crowd arrived from that place yesterday en route to Vancouver. When they first went to Union they were given employment about the wharves at \$1.25 a day. Since that they spoke for and obtained \$1.50 a day. Their leader, who speaks English, said this afternoon that \$1.50 was not enough money as they were doing \$2 worth of work, and wanted \$2 a day for it; being refused this they quit work and are now on route to Vancouver where they seem to think they will have no trouble in getting work again.

The leader denied that there were any women in the party or at Cumberland. However, it is learned that a Hindoo employed about the mines at Cumberland was confined and gave birth to a baby yesterday. Union residents are glad to see the last of the entire lot of Hindoos, as they are the dirtiest lot the residents have ever seen here.

JOBS OF LOW DEGREE FOR ARTISTS

Vaudeville Performers are Stretched all the Way Across Prairies
Winnipeg, Dec. 31—Stranded hundreds of miles away from homes and friends, forty vaudeville performers from various parts of America are now devising means of getting back although they have no money and heavy hotel bills. These artists were sent out to play one night stands in a number of towns between Winnipeg and the Pacific coast, a new troupe starting from here each Monday. The first company reached the Rockies, but the salaries failed to come Saturday. Another arrived at Regina and the third at Brandon. Labor and Ryerson are making artificial flowers for a living at Regina waiting a remittance from Chicago; Emily Waite, Queen of American song, is now singing hash in a ten cent restaurant, while the Musical Adams are doing odd jobs in Brandon. Among the performers are some of the best known vaudeville artists on the American stage, including the Sharrocks, Three Musical Lemmings, Tom Lancaster, Edith and L. Haney, the Seymour children, F. W. and M. Smith, Bessie and Dan Kelly, W. E. Laraine, Melrose C. Mendell, Jim Dalton, Lew Diamond and others. Jim Dalton says its the worst proposition he has ever been up against in his thirty years stage experience.

A PINCH IN MONEY AT FINISH

The Wires Report that there Was Constraint on Money Market
New York, Dec. 31—The last day of the year did not pass without a pinch in the money market, and a response to the call for adjustment. But more influence on the market was caused by the persistent rumors of financial embarrassment, growing out of stock market losses. Before the day was over it was made to be understood that arrangements had been concluded to avoid the threatened embarrassment. The relief to speculative sentiment was manifest and the tone of depression in the market largely disappeared. The recoveries which followed were more a matter of price readjustment than a response to any large transactions. There were some very wild fluctuations in reading, in the opening dealings. There was pronounced pressure also on the Hill stocks and to a less extent on St. Paul and Union Pacific. The wide declines in the Hill stocks since the new issues of stock were announced, have involved some severe speculative losses and the amount of those stocks held on margin proved much larger than was expected. The severe shrinkage in the market value placed big accounts in a precarious situation. The existence of a vulnerable point was suggested by the unexpected situation in the latter part of the week. A long delay in the passing of the stock exchange clearing house sheets today added to the anxiety and there was evident uneasiness and nervousness in the early trading. The sharp rallies in the market came without any official announcement of steps taken but was accepted as proclaiming a satisfactory settlement of difficulties. The gloomy and depressing weather was allowed its share of influence in the mood of the speculation. The tone of the market was not a cheer for the approach of the new year. The market had to take some share of selling that simply represented closing out of accounts for the year. St. Paul subscribers to new stock had to make a ten per cent. payment today and this added to the burden of the preparations for the enormous payments of the new year. The hope of a prompt relaxation in the money market after the turn of the year is clouded by some of the possible complications, both foreign and domestic instalments on subscriptions to new stock issues will make heavy demands from time to time on future money markets. The question of working towards ease in the money market, therefore remained somewhat obscure. Time money was again easier today and sterling exchange was strong, the more cheerful tone of the later stock market was maintained and the closing tone was strong and the best prices of the day. Bonds were heavy. Total sales par value \$172,200. United States bonds were unchanged on call.

WHEAT LANDS

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Rumor That Strathcona Quits

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