

CIVIC COMMISSION

All the Commissioners, except Com. McGrath, attended last night's session, Chairman Gosling presiding.

Colonial Secretary wrote that the Government was prepared to guarantee a loan of \$70,000 at 6 per cent, to be used for water extension only. As soon as the Governor had signed minute in Council approving the same, a copy would be sent the bank.

H. W. Stirling complained of a charge for replacing water pipe, which he considered unfair, as he was not responsible for the breaking of the pipe. Engineer will report.

S. G. Collier wrote re condition of George St. in front of his shop, also of the filthy condition of west end of Brazil's Field and the matter was referred to the Engineer.

James Wilcox, Plymouth Road, asked what action the Council intended taking in connection with the flooding of his house through a sewer nearby.

The Council holds that Mr. Wilcox is alone responsible, having excavated below the level of the sewer.

E. M. White wanted permission to replace fence around property on Mundy Pond Road, and the Engineer will report.

The workers at the stone crusher applied for an increase of wages, and the matter was referred to the Road Committee.

The plans of proposed new building for Bank of Nova Scotia were approved subject to the Engineer. Permission to repair City Club Building was also given.

An application for the position of Park Constable by George Lambert was filed.

The Commissioners decided to commence work next week laying water pipes on Carter's Hill, Wickford St., James St. and Moore St.

It was reported that house at No. 5 and No. 7 Lime St. also one on Plank Road were uninhabitable and the Solicitor's opinion will be asked if Council has the legal right, the buildings will be removed.

A house on Duckworth St. formerly occupied by Mr. Goudie, will also be removed if Solicitor reports favorably.

The owners of a house on William's Lane will be notified to have proper sewerage installed and repairs made, otherwise it will be subject to the same action as mentioned re foreclosures.

Com. Morris' motion to ask the Government for an extension of time had no seconder, and was, therefore, dropped.

Commissioner Harris' motion re the Health Officer's duties came up for discussion and Commissioners Jackson, Withers, Ayres, Bradshaw and the Chairman spoke freely in favor of the resolution, which was adopted and a committee appointed on the motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Ayre.

After passing of pay rolls, etc., the meeting adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

OBITUARY

Mark E. Penney.

To-day we sorrowfully record the passing of our late friend, Mark E. Penney, which took place on the 18th inst. at Western Bay North. He was but 21 years of age and was a bright, promising young man. After he came home from the Labrador last Fall, he was attacked by consumption, and for the whole winter suffered from that disease. He always had a bright, cheery word when one went to see him, and in him Western Bay North Council has lost one of its best members. The Mail and Advocate extends its sincerest sympathy to the mourning parents.

Eliza Moores.

On Wednesday last, March 24th, the interment took place at Blackhead, Bay de Verde, of the remains of Eliza Moores. The death occurred at Boston and the body enclosed in a beautiful casket and embalmed was brought home for burial. The death of the young man was a sad blow to the aged mother, to whom, and all mourning friends, the Mail and Advocate begs to extend sincere sympathy.

GOWER ST. A.B.C.

The Gower Street Adult Bible Class is pleased to announce that on Sunday next the Rev. Dr. Curtis will address the members and their friends on the subject "Christianity and the War." A true true Britisher, a good speaker and a timely, as well as an interesting subject should be sufficient inducement for you to visit the Class. Service begins a quarter to three and lasts about an hour.

Oldest Anglican Church

The oldest church on the West Coast, and possibly the oldest in the Island, was destroyed in the burning of the Anglican chapel at Sandy Point last week. It was known as St. Stephen's church, and was built in 1813. It has an old history both of men and things.

LOCAL ITEMS

Holders of sweepstakes in the "Bonaventure" are sanguine—Well, 'tis pardonable.

The Kyle's and Sagona's express reached the city last night, bringing combined a very large mail matter.

About 80 men are now engaged at work in the O'Dwyer block, removing the old building preparatory to the erection of the new bank there.

It is expected that the Fogota which has been jammed in the ice the last couple of weeks off Greenspond, will get clear today.

The weather along the line of railway to-day is light and fine, with a N.W. wind. Temperature ranges from 25 to 34 above.

Reports from the West Coast say that plentiful catches of herring have been secured at Middle Arm, and North Arm.

The police are all a-resting just now, not one arrest being made yesterday or last night. May it long continue so.

Lloyds, so it is said, are offering three to one that the war will be over and finished before August next, a certainly optimistic outlook.

The examination in the C.L.B. Armory for non-com. honors, will take place next week, and the boys are showing keen interest by burning up their military vocabulary.

On Monday we will publish a report of the large number of seals killed by landmen for the past sixty years.

For these valuable statistics we are indebted to Mr. James Murphy.

Landmen at Cape John secured over 2,700 seals, and at Gull Island 1,300. Several other large lots have been taken, and not insignificant "bills" will be forthcoming.

A pleasing entertainment is to take place in Wood's restaurant to-night, when a number of Volunteers will hold a reunion there. May it be duplicated very soon "when Johnny comes marching home," is our wish.

The Marine and Fisheries Department received the following message from Oporto yesterday:—"Large fish, 32s a quintal; small, 27s to 28s. The Norwegian competition is very severe."

Now that the ice has moved off somewhat, several of our belated vessels may be looked for to-day. The berthing of this shipping will mean some work, and a hustle along the Water front—with, of course, a consequent circulation of a little necessary coin.

There are some 43 ice-bergs in sight of Cape Race, some of them very large. In the March of 1883 the Cape reported 78 icebergs, and most of them of enormous size. This has been the greatest number of bergs to be reported in company.

The O'Dwyer's block, which the new Bank of Nova Scotia building is to replace, was built just after the historic fire of '46. The solid work of the building, such as the masonry, foundation beams, etc., is making our present mechanics up to the fact that the old workmen could put up good jobs, results of which to-day remain firm and intact.

A very forceful sermon on the evils of drunkenness was preached by F. Cox at St. Patrick's Church last evening, to the congregation of men attending the mission there. Intemperance in its different phases was very strongly dwelt upon, and all who heard the sermon declare it to have been one of the ablest ever delivered on this question, locally.

The retreat closes to-morrow evening.

Reservists at Devonport

Royal Naval Reservist Michael Doran, writing from Devonport to friends in the city says, that some 80 of the Reservists who have left here are now engaged at the docks at Devonport. They are helping at the building of the new dreadnought "Warspite" which is expected to be in readiness some time next month.

Our Reservists—so Doran says—are considered good men over there, and duties which call for discriminate ability, are given to them to perform.

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READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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SHIPPING

S.S. Portia left Fortune at 10 a.m.

The Durango left for Liverpool yesterday.

S.S. Stephano leaves New York today for Halifax and this port.

S.S. Ethie left Placentia at 4.25 p.m. yesterday for Red Island route.

Sagona left Port aux Basques at 3.30 p.m. yesterday.

Barqt. Dorothy Baird, 53 days from Maccio to this port arrived this morning to Admes Baird, Ltd.

The S.S. Argyle leaves to-day for Placentia to resume her regular P.B. service.

S.S. Ronoke left Liverpool on Friday at 7 a.m. with 600 tons of cargo for this port.

Barqt. Dunure, 60 days from Bahia, is ballast, arrived to A. S. Rendell & Co. this morning.

The Furness liner Gracian is expected to leave Liverpool for St. John's about April 10th.

Steamers Bruce and Home were docked this morning, and a number of men given employment at the work to be done.

Bowings' schr. Nellie Louise, that has been detained for the last fortnight in North Hr., passed Cape Race at 10 a.m., and as the Cape reports wind W.N.W. and shore clear of ice, should get to port this evening.

The schr. Bessie McDonald made two attempts to get away yesterday, but had to seek our friendly port shelter again. The vessel has a cargo of general goods for S. Harris & Sons, Grand Bank.

PERSONALS

Mr. E. V. Wylie left by the Durango yesterday for England.

Rev. Fr. Cacciola of Bar-Haven, arrived into the city this a.m. and will remain a few days.

Mrs. J. M. Grant and son arrived into town by last night's express.

Mr. W. F. Coaker, M.H.A. and Mr. C. Bryant came to the city by last night's express.

Mr. Ed. Scanlan, of the A. A. T. Coy. had been unwell the last few days is again out and at work.

THE NICKEL

The big week-end show at the Nickel this afternoon and night is full of interest, and you are sure to enjoy it, as well.

Has the Nickel ever failed you yet? Never, and under the management of Mr. Kelly and his able assistants, it will still cater to all the desires of a good, clean, and clever show. Then there is the splendid cause to which the Nickel is so liberally subscribing—one of charity. Go up and see the programme and be one of the satisfied hundreds. This too will be the last chance you will get for the next several days, as the Nickel will be closed down next (Holy) week.

ABANDONED

The Chinese crew of the stranded Desola is still in St. John's, though three sailings have taken place since the unfortunate men were placed in the Seamen's Institute. They were not permitted to go in the last Stephano, it being claimed that the steamer was on that trip a "troop-ship"—though several individual passengers went by her. It was then thought that the Chinese would be sent to their homes by either the Durango or Tabasco, but those steamers have left—and so are the Celestials. The Seamen's Institute tells us (per 'phone) that the men are now set down to go by the next Stephano.

Now, considering this whole matter over, it has, to say the least of it, a disgraceful significance.

The whole Desola episode is a disgusting one.

The ship is now lying near the Municipal basin, a nuisance to all shipping entering the dock. She has apparently been abandoned, and nobody knows if she is to be removed, or when.

The crew have seemingly been appointed to share alike fate.

The terse question must be asked: Why was not the captain of the ship brought to task re the whole matter? He only would be thoroughly acquainted with the facts and figures relative to the whole enquiry.

What is going to be done with the Desola and what is going to be done about the Desola's crew? Is there anybody in authority to answer?

SEALING NEWS

Messages Received Last Night.

From Ss. Bonaventure, (Capt. Bob Bartlett) to A. J. Harvey & Co.—"Bonaventure has 12,000 young harps on board; have enough packed; ship has been jammed since March 17th."

From Terra Nova to Bowring Bros.—"Going through heavy sheet ice; making slow progress South West; Bonaventure 20 miles distant."

From Ss. Florizel—"Still jammed; nothing new to report."

From Ss. Eagle—"Ship still jammed; nothing new to report."

Messages to Marine and Fisheries Dept. to-day:—

Change Islands—Light N. N. W. with snow flurries; ice on land.

Fogo—Wind Western; moderate; raining; large patch seals 12 miles N. Twillingate, Long Point.

Seal Cove—Wind S.W.; weather stormy and snowing; bay still jammed with ice; no seals.

Bonavista—Steady North West wind, fine and clear; bay still full of heavy ice; a few old hoods shot yesterday.

La Seie—Wind N.E., dull and foggy; seals same position, 2 miles N. E. Cape; ice tight; 1600 landed yesterday; men hauling today; Cape and Gull Island hails for 10,000.

Of Educational Value

The Star of the Sea Society are to be congratulated on the excellence of their lecture course, which closed on Thursday night. Mr. Shortis having given the season's finishing address. The lectures were of great educational value, and were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

To Rev. Dr. Kitchen, Dr. V. P. Burke and to Messrs. Kent, Devine and Shortis, great thanks are due. What Pres. Jackson of the society, and his Executive, Messrs J. J. Lacey, E. P. Thompson and others, deserve high praise for having brought the lecture series to so happy a close.

We hope the 1916 list may be so successful.

AT REST

The funeral of the late Miss Allison Laurie took place yesterday, being largely attended. The casket containing the remains, was literally covered with floral offerings from friends and sympathizers. Interment was at the General Protestant cemetery, Riverhead, where all that was mortal of Allison Laurie was laid to rest in the family plot beside eight sisters and brothers and her late respected father. Rev. J. S. Sutherland, M.A., of St. Andrew's, conducted the burial service, and Mr. A. Carnell was undertaker in charge.

ENLISTED

Five more names last evening, making the roll call, 1449 strong. The names are:—

St. John's—Geo. Fowles, Robt. Uile, Topsail—John G. Neville, Horse Cove, Topsail—Thos. Druken, Kelligrews—John Hennessey.

A Patriotic Family

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Goodyear of Grand Falls have just reason to be proud of their children, four of them being attached to the troops abroad. Three sons are with the Newfoundland Regiment, two having gone in the first contingent and one with the second company. A daughter is being trained in Canada to the Red Cross Service and expects to leave for England shortly.

Mrs. Goodyear also has two nephews fighting for King and Country.

Magistrate's Court

(Before Judge Knight.)

Two citizens, charged with loose and disorderly conduct, were let go on their paying costs.

A female receiver of stolen property had to pay \$10.00 or go down for 30 days.

Kyle's Passengers

The Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques this forenoon with the following passengers on board:—L. A. Cormier, C.A. and Mrs. Jerrett, Oliver Leach, A. W. Marston, J. J. and Mrs. Aiken and Rev. W. C. Young. The express is due to-morrow afternoon.

VOLUNTEERS

There are now about 300 Volunteers under training, and like those who have gone before, are showing great progress and efficiency in drill, rifle shooting, etc.

As premonitory symptoms of a approaching storm, the Department of Marine and Fisheries have ordered the hoisting of No. 2 storm signal all round the coast.

Comparative Quiet Along Western Front

London, March 26.—Comparative tenacity along the whole Western front, such as has not prevailed for weeks leads to the belief in military quarters in London that both armies are awaiting the turn of events in the Carpathians, before attempting to strike a hard blow.

The British are still resting on their victory at Neuve Chapelle and the Germans, though they are reported to be massing troops for a fresh offensive, have undertaken nothing West comparable with their rush of last Fall.

The Lokai Anzeiger says:—"We have no intention of minimizing the loss of our brave allies have suffered. Przemysl was strong and a great fortress. It showed its strength in its proud defence. We mourn with our allies its loss and the loss of its commander and garrison who have won laurels whose glory captivity cannot destroy."

The Vossische Zeitung says the fort's fall releases the beleaguering army but while it is not known where it will be employed the Austrians undoubtedly are informed and will take the necessary steps.

"While we thoroughly agree with the view of the Austrian general staff that the fall of Przemysl can have no influence on the general situation," says the Kreuz Zeitung, "we nevertheless are honest enough to admit it is a painful blow dealt our cause on the right wing of our mutual thousand kilometre front."

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