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Our Soldiers and Sailors Entertained.

The smoking concert and sociable held at Grenfell Hall on Christmas Eve night was a decided success, being very largely attended. Amongst those present were Rt. Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, Hons. J. R. Bennett, R. Watson, W. C. Job, Sir Jos. Outerbridge, Capt. Outerbridge, Dr. Macpherson, R. B. Job, Esq. and several other prominent citizens. Lieut.-Col. Rendell presided, and delivered a brief address, after which an excellent programme was gone through, those contributing being Messrs. MacIn, Lunn, Jago, F. M. Ruggles, T. H. O'Neil, H. J. Cornick, J. Collier, H. W. Sterling, J. Ashworth, J. L. Slattery, Chas. Hutton, D. Connolly, A. Bailey, S. Luxon, J. O'Neil Farrell, W. H. Jones, G. A. Gill, H. Courtenay and M. McCarthy.

The selections were principally patriotic and were received with much enthusiasm and applause by the large number of soldiers and sailors present.

At 9 p.m. His Excellency the Governor accompanied by Capt. Abraham visited the hall and upon his arrival the whole gathering sang the National Anthem. His Excellency addressed those present in a happy manner, wishing them a Merry Christmas, and read a copy of the Christmas telegram sent to our soldiers and sailors, conveying the best wishes for a Happy Christmas from the people of Newfoundland. At 9.30 p.m. Monsieur P. Szor, the French Consul, arrived and was greeted with the Marseillaise.

A special feature of the evening's entertainment was a chorus sung by six masked ladies whose appearance was greeted with much applause.

At 10.30 p.m. refreshments were served by Mrs. White, Misses Madden, Hall, Long, Thomas and Jones, Mrs. Jones presiding. All present enjoyed themselves and with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and cheers for the King, Messrs. Sheard and Jones, of the Institute, Lt.-Col. Rendell and Mr. H. Gordon Christian, the director of the concert, the affair was brought to a close.

The Wholesale Funeral



They're burying the butchered dead, whose blood has stained a million acres; no dirge is sung, no prayer is said, there's no kindly undertaker. They plant the soldier where he died, forever lost to those who love him; unwashed, unshriven, starved, he lies, the red sod heaped above him. No clergyman beside him stands, no coroner, with inquest holden, no friend to fold the tortured hands, or smooth the tangled ringlets golden. "These soldiers dead pollute the air, they fill with germs the passing breezes," the sanitation sharps declare; "they're apt to breed some fell disease. Not all the drugs upon our shelves can cope with winds so microbe-laden; since dead men cannot plant themselves, we'll have to go and do some spadin'." They dig a grave of many versts, a trench where men are thrown like cattle, while bullets whine and shrapnel bursts, and man-destroying cannon rattle. They heap them in the shallow pit, the fallen heroes, stark and gory; oh, jingo hold, consider it—this is the stuff that men call glory!

At the City Hall.

The regular meeting of the Municipal Board was held on Thursday morning. The pay rolls were passed. An application was received from Mr. Sinyard, Hamilton Avenue, asking for a position in connection with the Engineering Department. He will be given a chance when opportunity affords. The Sanitary Supervisor reported that three of his men had misconducted themselves, each of whom he suspended. The direction of the Board was asked in the matter, but the Board referred the matter back to the Supervisor to act. The meeting then adjourned.

FORCED BACK AGAIN.—The schr. Calidoria, coal laden from Sydney to Harbor Grace, put into this port again Thursday evening, after a second fruitless attempt to reach her destination owing to heavy weather.



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nov21, s.t.u. t.h.t

Santa Claus.

Santa Claus is a fat old gentleman with cotton wool whiskers who comes in from the back hall on Christmas Eve with a pack on his back and gets put out by the fire department slightly later.

This, at least, is the Santa Claus which all children know and love. But he is only a rank imitation and when we get to be nine years old we know it and exclaim rudely, "Hello, Pop, where did you borrow that fur coat?"

The real Santa Claus, of course, is the industrious little man who comes down from the North Pole on Christmas Eve with a pack of toys and crawls into a million homes via the steam radiator after tying his reindeer to a trolley pole outside and who fills the stockings of all good little boys and girls in a hundred lands. More children know about Santa Claus than have ever heard of Napoleon or will ever hear of the winner of the present war; and for a man who never appears except by proxy and who represents merely an investment of a few thousand colored pictures he has produced a wonderful amount of happiness. He is a far better man than Colonel Bogie or Private Capital and almost as good as General Amnesty, who is unfortunately absent this year.

Scholars say that Santa Claus is a myth who is derived from the legend of a pagan saint and that good Christian boys and girls should not become too familiar with him. Therein we see the danger of studying too much often adds the mind. Santa Claus, the pagan saint, has just piloted a shipload of Christmas presents and warm clothing over to Belgium for the use of those children whose homes were destroyed by armies plentifully equipped with chaplains.

Santa Claus is a pleasant joke to grownups and we are often told that we should not permit our children to be deceived into believing in him. However, it does not seem quite as pathetic to see a little child painfully writing a letter to a Santa Claus made out of chiffons and thin air as it does to see a middle-aged child working fourteen hours a day in the firm belief that a million dollars is the chief end of man. Sometimes we think it would be better if the children believed in the divine right of money and the parents put their faith in the much maligned Mr. S. Claus.

Programme of Six Pictures.

Those who could not get to see the big programme presented at the Crescent Picture Palace yesterday will have a chance to-day as the same programme is being repeated, a big show of six pictures and not a tame one in the lot.

Mr. Farrell sings a novelty song with moonlight effects which is a splendid number and delighted everyone present yesterday.

Go to the Crescent and see this show to-day it is the last chance you'll have to see "The Actor's Christmas."

On Monday another fine programme will be presented the head liner will be a Salvation Army Rescue Story, "The Dream" with Bob Leonard the leading Rex actor playing principal.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DIS-TEMPER.

Margaret Ayer

Sings to Thousands at the Nickel Theatre.

Christmas Day at the Nickel Theatre was a day that will long be remembered. The weather being all that could be desired, hundreds were able to enjoy a walk and of course they had to take in the Nickel before going home. A good programme had been promised patrons and it was up to expectations. The comedy was a screacher.

Miss Margaret Ayer, the new soprano vocalist, made her first appearance and won hosts of friends. Her voice is very sweet and her rendition of the beautiful song, "Happy Days" delighted all. She was greeted with rounds of applause, and at the finish of her song there was another enthusiastic outburst of applause. Her songs are all gems, and a successful season is already assured her. Those who were unable to hear her yesterday should not fail to do so to-day.

Motion Pictures and Variety

At The Casino Theatre Last Evening.

The Casino management have every reason to feel pleased at the success attained by their excellent Xmas Festival Programme last evening. The Theatre was entirely filled by a most appreciative audience, who applauded the several items and gave evidence of being unanimously pleased with the entertainment.

Frankly and Hitt, in their original novelty change act, scored a distinct success. All the popular numbers were given and the applause was an unanimous verdict in favour of the artistes. "Mrs. Gotham," "The Shoreditch Handicap" and "The Midnight Sons" immediately caught on, and the people caught the swing of the melodies, and all were humming the choruses as they left the Theatre at the conclusion of the entertainment.

The moving pictures were well selected, and the Gaumont feature was a big film story of a very engrossing character. The show was varied and thoroughly entertaining and everyone has a good word to say about it on the street to-day. The whole programme will be repeated to-day and to-night, and on Monday "All a Mistake" will be staged.

THE TIME IS APPROACHING—Don't Leave It Too Late—If you intend to economize, and make last winter's overcoat do you this winter, have it sent to us to be renovated, a new velvet or cloth collar and generally repaired. Good work and prompt service our motto. SPURRELL BROS., 365 Water Street, or Phone 574 and we will call. DO IT NOW.—nov5, eod, tf

DURANGO DUE.—The Furness Liner Durango, 8 days out from Liverpool via Queenstown, is expected to arrive hourly.

NOTICE!

Business Change!

The partnership heretofore existing between Mr. R. W. Jeans and myself under the name of the "UNIVERSAL AGENCIES" has this day been dissolved by mutual consent.

All amounts due "The Universal Agencies" to this date are payable to me, and all amounts owed by "The Universal Agencies" to this date will be paid by me, provided accounts of same are rendered to me in writing not later than January 15th, 1915.

My business for the future will be conducted in my own name, and I will be responsible from this date only for accounts contracted in my own name.

I will retain many excellent agencies, notably, amongst others, those of the De Reszke Cigarettes, Canadian Casualty and Builder Insurance Co., Acadia Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Patterson's Candy, Peerless Carbon and Ribbon Manufg. Co., and the Thomas D. Murphy Calendar Co. I respectfully ask the trade for a continuance of the kind patronage accorded me in the past.

P. E. OUTERBRIDGE,
107 WATER STREET,
(Telephone 60.)
December 28th, 1914. dec28, eod, tf

XMAS, 1914.



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