

GOOD THINGS COMING TO THEATRES OF ST. JOHN

IMPERIAL TONIGHT AND ON CHRISTMAS DAY

The Imperial will tonight catch the crowds who were attracted from seeing the great Conan Doyle story, "The Firm of Girdlestone," because of yesterday's terrible gale and rainstorm. It will also afford the followers of the "Beatrice Fairfax" story the opportunity to see the wonderful third chapter, entitled "The Jealous Wife," or "The Black Hand Plot." It is a fine programme and should not be missed. The Imperial being so handy to the shopping district catches hundreds of Santa Clauses on their way to and from the stores.

On Christmas Day, with the doors open at 1 o'clock, the big Imperial will put on a wonderful holiday programme. None other than Dr. Deaman Thompson immortal, "The Old Homestead" is to be the five-act feature. This is a famous play production with Crichton Hale, the famous Fable serial hero (The Laughing Mask) as the prodigal son. No play ever produced in America was as popular as this sweet rural story, and with a famous Players cast will be sure to make a tremendous hit on Monday and Tuesday. The remainder of the programme will consist of a new chimpanzee comedy, "From Jungle to Trouble," in which Napoleon the Great and Sally, his mate, will play the leading roles. It is great fun to see these big trained monkeys, dressed in human clothes, putting on their laughable sketch. The usual war budget contained in Father's British Gazette will also be shown.

TONIGHT AND CHRISTMAS DAY AT OPERA HOUSE

Tonight at the Opera House, the Jack Western Musical Comedy Company offer the last two performances of the merry musical play, "Tom Walker's Troubles," and the 14th chapter of the gripping serial photo drama, Liberty.

For Christmas Day, the Western Musical Comedy Company has prepared a splendid holiday programme, in its original musical comedy, "The King of Patsburg," a new play to St. John, and in which Mr. Western has plenty of opportunity for laugh producing. There are twelve musical and dancing numbers scattered through the play, all new and up to date. Preceding the musical play, the favorite motion picture star, J. Warren Kerrigan, will be seen in a striking photo drama, "The Fight on the Dam."

As a special added feature for the holiday week, the company offers "Pit and Letner's Pony, Dog and Monkey Circus," at all performances. There is a trained pony in this act that is said to be the smallest trained pony in the world. Here is a feature with a strong appeal to the children and the grown-ups as well.

Christmas Day there will be two performances in the afternoon at 2:15 and 8:45—two in the evening at 7:15 and 8:45. No seats reserved except in the boxes.

BIG GEM PROGRAMME TONIGHT AND HOLIDAY, OLD TIME FAVORITES

There was a new pleasure experienced by the Gem management today when their new vaudeville acts arrived and it was found that former favorite entertainers in St. John were in the number. With the Harry Morse Trio is one of the best Frouty Company, that played so successfully in the Opera House some years ago, while Francis Moore created a furore in St. John as "the man of a thousand songs." It means a great bill for tonight, Monday and Tuesday, along with the Fox picture, "The Sims of Men." On Monday afternoon two shows, 2 and 8:30; evening hours Monday, 7 and 8:30; tonight, 7:15 and 8:45.

MABEL NORMAN AND ROSCOE ARBUCKLE

"That Little Band of Gold," a two-part Keystone comedy, featuring Mabel Norman and Roscoe Arbuckle, is the special feature being shown at the Star Theatre today. This is but one of the week-end attractions.

GIVEN SILK UMBRELLAS. Miss C. Ward, of the Inland Revenue Department, was this morning made the recipient of a beautiful silver hand silk umbrella, by members of the staff. The presentation was made by the district inspector, John McDonald, Jr.

NOTICES OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS, 50c.

DEATHS

MCCARTIN—At Woodstock, N. B., on Dec. 21, Elizabeth, wife of Daniel McCartin, formerly of St. John, leaving her husband and one daughter to mourn. Funeral notice later.

MCSHANE—On December 21, 1916, Mary, wife of William J. McShane, leaving besides her husband, one son, one daughter, two brothers and one sister to mourn. (Boston papers please copy).

SABEAN—At the General Public Hospital on Dec. 22, Goldie, aged one year and two weeks, youngest child of Pte. Watson and Mrs. Sabean. Burial tomorrow, Sunday, afternoon, at 2 o'clock from 26 Marsh street.

MCCARTHY—At his parents' residence, 42 Pond street, John McCarthy, aged two years and ten months, only son of Peter and Margaret McCarthy, leaving his parents and four sisters to mourn. Funeral took place this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

IN MEMORIAM

CONNELL—In loving memory of William John Connell, who departed this life December 23, 1915. Softly at night the stars Are gleaming upon a silent grave, Where thou sleepest, Dearest Husband, One who loved but could not save.

SIMPSON—In loving memory of our dear mother, Mrs. Julia Annett Simpson, wife of John Simpson, who departed this life on Dec. 25, 1910. Gone, but not forgotten. Daughter, MRS. E. D. FREEMAN

PERSONALS

Friends of Chas. Colwell of 18 Chapel street, will be pleased to hear he is improving after his recent illness.

Miss Mona McGrath arrived last evening from Halifax to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. McGrath.

Mrs. Lindsay Parker of Brooklyn, N. Y., arrived in the city on the late train last night.

R. Lawrence Weldon, of McGill University, is spending Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Trueman, 185 Princess street.

Rev. Michael O'Brien, formerly of the cathedral staff, but now pastor at Northam, has been in the city for the last two days at the Bishop's palace. He will leave today for Northam.

W. C. Mahony of West Medford, Mass., is in the city on business, and will return to his home on the Boston train this evening. Mr. Mahony is a New Brunswick man who has made a success in the business and social world of the United States.

Word was received today that Master Nielson Hopper of this city, who is at Chicago High School, Chicago, U. S., is suffering from inflammatory rheumatism. His many young friends in St. John will be sorry to hear this news.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. McIntyre and daughter of West Somerville, Mass., arrived in the city last evening to spend Christmas with relatives.

Miss Annie L. Baisley came from Montreal yesterday to spend the holidays at home here.

Mrs. Allan Magee, of Montreal, and children, arrived in the city yesterday to spend some weeks with Mrs. Magee's mother, Mrs. George F. Smith, Union street. Mrs. Magee's husband is on military duty overseas.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Belyea and little son, left yesterday to spend Christmas in Montreal with Mr. Belyea's sister, Mrs. Johnson.

Dr. Stanley Bridges, senior house surgeon at Worcester City Hospital, is in St. John for the Christmas holiday visiting his parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. S. Bridges, Wentworth street.

Lieut. Stuart McLeod, Army Service Corps, who has been at Quebec taking a military course, and Lieut. Charles Inches, who has been taking a course in heavy artillery, also in Quebec, are coming home for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. W. Shives Fisher and her son, Capt. Donald Fisher, are expected to arrive in St. John from England tomorrow.

Mr. R. Douglas Leavitt, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, St. John, has been transferred to Toronto. He left for Toronto yesterday and will spend Christmas with his mother and sister now residing in that city.

Mrs. Rupert Rive, of Moncton, was a visitor at Mrs. Powell's residence this week.

Mr. W. Macneil, of Toronto, is expected to arrive in St. John in time to spend Christmas with his brother, Mr. Fred C. Macneil, Germain street.

Judge Armstrong and Miss Armstrong left yesterday for Halifax, and will be the guests of Lieut.-Colonel Beverly and Mrs. Armstrong during the holidays.

Miss Lillie Raymond is in St. John this week from Boston and will spend Christmas with Miss Catherine McAvity, Orange street.

Mrs. Atwater Smith, of Somerville, New Jersey, will be the guest of her father, Mr. Edwin Peters, during the festive season.

Mr. A. B. Hannay and three children, of Ottawa, will arrive in St. John next week to spend New Year's day and the week following with Mrs. Hannay's mother, Mrs. William Rennie, Sewell street.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimball and Miss Lydie Kimball left this week for Montreal to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Doda.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barbour will arrive from Boston this week to remain until after Christmas with Mr. Barbour's mother, Mrs. George Barbour, Hasen street.

Capt. Alban Sturdee and Mrs. Sturdee will be in St. John for Christmas at Lieut.-Colonel Sturdee's residence, Germain street.

Mrs. Robert Moore, wife of Rev. Robert Moore, rector of St. George's church, Toronto, is in the city to spend Christmas with her son, Mr. Holland Moore, of the British North America Bank staff, and is at 15 Wellington Row until after New Year's day.

The Misses Katherine and Annette Holly, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Holly, have returned home for the holidays from Edgely Hill Academy.

Miss Rosemond McAvity was in Ottawa last week visiting her aunt, Mrs. G. Herbert Flood.

Mr. Henry F. Morrissey, C. E., Ottawa, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Morrissey, Hasen street.

LOCAL NEWS

Quick buyers at Barker's toy department can make money tonight.

If you want cut prices on Christmas groceries, confectionery, toys, dolls, games, books today, call at the Two Barkers, Ltd., 100 Princess street.

Queen's Rink Christmas Day. Children free in morning. Band concert afternoon and evening. Good time guaranteed.

Christmas services for the sailors in port will be held in the Seamen's Institute at 8:15 Sunday evening. Citizens cordially invited.

PHONE M. 178. For an assorted case of Blue Ribbon scented beverages. Besides the popular fruit flavors, this assortment includes the celebrated City Club ginger ale. 12-24

Baby sleigh wanted for nine-months old baby. Must be cheap for cash. Apply 394 Queen street (between Germain and Charlotte). 12-25

Great bargains in fancy handkerchiefs, neckwear, waists, sweaters, tea aprons, arrived in the city last evening. Union and Sydney streets. 12-24

CHRISTMAS AT THE STAR. See special announcement on movie page. Theatre open from 10:30 until 10 p.m.

OUR SPECIAL XMAS NUMBER. Ten K. gold eyeglass chain for \$1.25, very useful to those who wear glasses.—K. W. Epstein & Co., 193 Union street. See our adv. on page 7. 12-24

CONFECTIONERY. Barley foys only 16c lb.; chocolates worth 50c lb. for 30c lb.; 5 lb. box for \$1.25; oranges, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c; three large grapefruit for 25c.—The Two Barkers, Ltd. 12-24

You can buy a good strong well made suit for your boy for \$4 at Turner's, out of the high rent district, 440 Main. 12-24

SPECIAL SALE OF DOLLS FOR BALANCE OF THE WEEK AT CHAS. MAGNUSON & CO.'S, DOCK STREET. Prices 25c to \$2.99 for regular 25c to \$3.50 dolls. 12-24

GIFTS TO CHILDREN'S AID. The Children's Aid Society acknowledges gratefully a gift of \$21.25 from the office staff and members of the St. John Railway Company; also \$5 from Mrs. B. Morton Smith; also \$5 from B. Y. P. U. of Laddow street Baptist church. 12-24

Couldn't Stump Kenny. An Irish waiter named Kenny was noted for his wit and ready answers. A party of gentlemen who were staying at the hotel heard of Kenny's wit, and one of them made a bet that he would say something that Kenny couldn't answer at once.

A bottle of champagne was ordered, and the one who had made the bet took hold of the bottle and commenced to open it. The cork came with a bang and flew into Kenny's mouth.

"Ah," he said, "that is not the way to cork!" Kenny took the cork out of his mouth and replied: "No, but it's the way to 'kill-Kenny.'"—N. Y. Morning Telegram.

Times reporter. "We had to raise to 50 and then to 60, and early this fall to 70; and with dinner at 70 cents we make less profit than we made at 45 back in 1909. The only way to make any profit out of the restaurant business under present conditions, is to draw big crowds so that you can serve and buy in quantities. And even that leaves a margin that is coming dangerously down toward nothing."

"No, the wine doesn't cost much more. The ordinary table d'hote wine comes from California, and while its price has gone up a bit, the increase is only about five cents a gallon. Of course, that's five cents a gallon; but it isn't anything like the increase in other things."

"Sardines, for instance—they used to cost \$12.50 a hundred boxes, before the war. Today they cost from \$22 to \$23. Not much chance of a profit on hors d'oeuvres at that rate. It isn't very long since chicken was eighteen cents a pound wholesale; now it is around twenty-eight and twenty-nine, and has been higher for occasional short periods."

"Bread costs the same as ever, but the bakers give us smaller loaves. A loaf that used to make eight portions now is enough for only six."

"Spaghetti—yes, there the price is almost double. It used to cost \$1.05 a case before the war, now it is \$2. As for spaghetti from Italy, very little of that comes in now. If you order a dozen cases you may get one, and you have to be lucky to get that. The table d'hote trade uses American spaghetti, but with the demand for wheat as great as ever, and the production falling off, the price of that naturally goes up."

"And good spaghetti in America is not to be found everywhere. We cook our own here, and sell it just as it is done in America. Between 5 and 9 p.m. we turn out eight or nine batches—every half hour fresh spaghetti. That is the only way it can be done in America. The climate here makes it impossible to keep spaghetti; it breaks up into little pieces. The same is true in Northern Italy; only in the hot, dry regions of the southern part of the peninsula can spaghetti be dried satisfactorily, so as to keep for shipment."

If you serve your spaghetti fresh here in New York, and have a cook who knows what a sauce ought to be, you are all right, but even so, there is the high price of wheat."

"Cheese was one of the staples of the table d'hote that was imported, but it is getting pretty nearly impossible to get any Parmesan or Gorgonzola any more. Parmesan used to cost from 26 to 33 cents a pound; now it is a dollar. Another reason why table d'hote prices are going up is the scarcity of help. Immigration has almost stopped, especially from Italy; and here in this country men can get such wages at munitions factories that every other business suffers. We used to be able to get competent men for \$16 or \$18 a month and meals, but now we have to pay \$40 and give them a place to sleep in the bargain. As a rule, the restaurant help available now isn't as efficient as it was two years ago, and that, too, is a long time before you can fill the place."

"So it isn't any wonder that we have had to raise our prices, or that we are running close to the margin of profit. At that, the table d'hote is still the most economical form of eating in New York. If you don't believe it, give your wife \$5 and see what kind of a Sunday dinner she can buy with it."

ONE IS SOLD; OTHER IS TO BE RAISED

The wrecked schooner Laura Melanson, lost on the west side of Musquash Harbor on last Saturday, was sold yesterday by Captain A. J. Mulcahy, in the interests of the underwriters, to William Dean of Musquash, for \$80.

An endeavor will be made to raise the sunken schooner Jennie A. Stubbs, which is under ten feet of water at low tide in Bliss Harbor. Captain Mulcahy said today that he is making arrangements to get the necessary apparatus to raise the schooner. He said the chances of raising her are good.

If in doubt as what to buy for Christmas either for a Lady or Gentleman, drop into THE ROYAL PHARMACY

47 King Street We will be pleased to show you our stock of High-Class Goods at right prices

Your Broken Glass

can be duplicated, here accurately and promptly. Prescription is not necessary. Our new factory for grinding lenses has brought our Optical Service to the height of efficiency.

D. BOYANER

TWO STORES: 38 Dock Street, 151 Charlotte Street.

THE BEST QUALITY AT A REASONABLE PRICE

The Ideal Gift For Father

A Howard Watch means more to a man than any other gift you could choose for him. Every man knows the Howard Watch and its reputation of being one of the finest practical time-pieces in the world.

LOCAL NEWS

DEATH OF CHILD. Mr. and Mrs. Peter McCarthy of 42 Pond street, have the sympathy of friends in the death of their son, John, aged two years and ten months.

IN PORT HARBOR. The schooner Winnigami, Captain Larabee, is in for harbor. She is en route from Economy, N. S., to New York with a cargo of laths.

BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES. The birth of twenty infants, ten of each sex, and eight marriages were reported to the registrar, John B. Jones, during the week.

IS GRATEFUL. William Shaw of the 112th battalion, which is in England, has received a box from the ladies of Grand Bay and expresses much thanks for their kindness.

ONE RECRUIT. One recruit was secured at the recruiting office this morning, William Howard of St. Martins for the naval service.

FISHING OPERATIONS. Fishing operations along the Miramichi river commenced about December first. When the Miramichi fishing is at its height, about 1,000 men are employed. The largest shipments from the North Shore are made to New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago.

The market for fish at present is good and excellent prices are prevalent. The fishermen this month are meeting with fair success.

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUNICIPAL HOME

On Christmas Day the inmates of the Saint John Municipal Home will be given their usual turkey dinner, and on the following day, from 2 to 5 p.m., all persons interested in the work of the home, particularly those who are connected with the several organizations conducted on the same lines of efforts, are invited to visit the institution and witness the distribution of presents to the children from the Christmas tree and the usual programme carried out by the school children.

Large Stock of Candy For This Christmas Season Gilbert's Grocery

TO ALL GOOD PEOPLE EVERYWHERE GREETING MAY THE SPIRIT OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL REST UPON YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES... MAY CHRISTMAS MORNING USHER IN GREAT JOY AND MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING YOU ABUNDANT PROSPERITY. THE IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

WE extend Hearty Christmas Greetings to our numerous Customers and Friends. J. MARCUS

WANTED—General Girl to go to Boston; good pay. Apply 158 Union St. Please leave your order at once for our best Christmas Fruit Cake, Plum Puddings, Mince Pies, Special Cakes, Finesse Cooked Ham, etc. Woman's Exchange Tea and Lunch Room. Make a Christmas Gift of a Ticket to our Library. We have the latest books. You save money by renting our books at 2 cents a day. You only read them once. Yearly tickets, \$5. 12-25.

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ORANGES 25c. to 60c. a Dozen BANANAS 25c. 30c. and 35c. GRAPE FRUIT 10c., 3 for 25c. 15c., 2 for 25c.

PATRIOTIC CAUSES

Realized \$45. The drawing for a beautiful night dress yoke, made and presented to "The Field Comforts' Circle," by Mrs. Frederick Brown, took place in their rooms, in the Curling Rink, West St. John, on Dec. 12. Commissioner Wigmore conducted the drawing, and ticket 261, held by Mrs. Samuel Ferguson, proved the winner. The sum of \$45 was realized from the sale of tickets. The cost of printing the same was kindly donated by Mrs. W. B. Woods of the city.

Auntie was coming to tea. You know what that means. The best tea service brought out, the best electro spoons, the daintiest tablecloth and a hurried rush to the confectioners for the daintiest cakes. Also the children carefully washed, arrayed in best frocks, with strict instructions as to behavior and deportment, on which subject aunties are always very strong.

All went well until the end of the meal when auntie became aware that little Maisie had been staring very hard at her for some time.

"Why are you looking so closely at me, darling?" she inquired.

"Looking for dust," was the reply.

"Just, darling?"

"Yes, and I can't see any. Daddy said you'd been on the shelf for years, but you don't seem at all dusty anywhere."

And there was silence until auntie had gone, when a small voice was uplifted in pain.

All Hands need SNAP. The soft hands of the woman who does her own work—the toil roughened hands of the laborer—the tiny grimy hands of boys and girls—the soiled hands of every one, young and old alike—all need SNAP. Get a can for your hands—15c. a tin—at all dealers.