EARLY CABLES.

REPORT OF ILL-HEALTH DENIED.

LONDON, Feb. 19.

There was no foundation for the report that Prime Minister MacDonald contemplates resigning the Foreign Secretaryship at an early date, and it is equally untrue that his health is not good, the Press Association states is authoritatively informed. The Premier had a slight cold ten days ago, but the present persistent reports regarding his illness and resignation are untrue, the statement concludes.

AUSTRIAN BANK CLERKS ON STRIKE.

VIENNA, Feb. 19.

A strike of Bank employees, which closed four of the largest institutions here yesterday, became effective today in all Banks throughout Austria, including the National Bank. Forty thousand employees are involved. The men are asking for higher wages.

REDUCING ARMAMENTS AUTOMATICALLY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.

Washington to-day has a new sensation in the disclosue that four of Uncle Sam's first line battleships are in such decrepit condition that it is considered unsafe to operate them at a speed of over 12 knots an hour.

TRADESMEN PROFITING.

LONDON, Feb. 19.

While British business men are grumbling at the stoppage of mails through the dockers' strike, housewives are concerned over the evidence manifest yesterday of the intention of tradesmen to raise food prices. The most notable increase was for meat, dealers in which issued through the Trade Associations explanatory statements purporting to show that the increase was unavoidable and saying they would forthwith submit their reasons to the Government.

SIGNING OF TREATY DELAYED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.

The signing of the Treaty worked out between the Washington and Ottawa Governments for the suppression of the illicit liquor traffic along the Canadian border, has been temporarily delayed in order that a minor change in the draft sent here by the Canadian authorities may be made. It is understood the Canadian Government, while assenting to the greater number of suggestions regarding measures desired by the United States for checking the border liquor traffic, has declined to enter into any arrangements by which ships operating between the two countries would be denied clearance papers if they carried liquor as part cargoes. It has been explained that such course would be in violation of Canadian laws.

BANK ROBBED.

MONTREAL, Feb. 19.

Beating Manager J. A. Roch over the head with the butts of their revolvers, then tying him with cords, gagging him and carrying him down the cellar stairs, two armed men robbed the Bordeaux Branch of Le Banque D'Hochelaga of $2,200 shortly after three o'clock this afternoon. Bordeaux is ten miles from here.

NO STATEMENT ON OIL SCANDAL.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.

Members of President Coolidge's Cabinet declared after to-day's meeting that the matter of the oil land lease disclosures had not been discussed at the session. Attorney General Daugherty left to-day's Cabinet meeting saying he had no statement to make.

OUTLAW STRIKE CALLED OFF.

SYDNEY, Feb. 19.

Thorburn local of the United Mine Workers has decided to call off the outlaw strike and return to work pending the coming referendum on the recently negotiated Montreal agreement. That is the information contained in despatches received today at U. M. W. District Headquarters in Cape Breton. Stellarton local is expected to follow suit. All Phalen men are back to work this morning with the exception of about 35 men for whom places will be made as rapidly as possible.

FIRE OF INCENDIARY ORIGIN.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.

Thirteen lives were snuffed out in a few minutes in a fire believed to have been of incendiary origin which early to-day swept from the basement to the roof of a five storey tenement in the heart of New York's lower East Side Ghetto. Seven of those killed were children. The blaze, fanned by a draft from the tenement's open front door, flared up the staircase blocking the escape of eight families who occupied the building, some in the two upper storeys. Awakened to find the flames at their bedsides they met death before they could even try to brave a dash through the roaring furnace with which they were confronted.

THREE YEARS' WAGE CONTRACT SIGNED.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 19.

The signing of the three year wage contract for the bituminous miners in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Western Pennsylvania by miners' and operators' representatives here to-day, laid the groundwork for peace in the industry, and, according to statements of John L. Lewis, President of the Miners, and Michael Gallagher, spokesman for the Operators, gave assurance of an adequate and continuous supply of coal for at least three years.

ROUNDING UP WILD HORSES.

CLINTON, B.C., Feb. 19.

The last great round-up of the wild horses of Cariboo will be staged this spring. Every cowboy in the district will take part. The animals will be sold at $5.00 a head and those not sold will be shot. There are literally thousands of wild horses overrunning rich grazing lands and the event of rounding up will be effective in removing a nuisance which is becoming every year more pronounced.

MCKENZIE NOT YET RELEASED.

MONTREAL, Feb. 19.

T. G. McKenzie, Canadian, who was kidnapped three weeks ago near Jimenz, Mexico, by a band of Revolutionaries, led by Hippota Villa, is still held captive for $200,000 ransom. Hon. F. B. McCurdy, McKenzie's brother-in-law, who is in Montreal from Texas, stating that a courier bearing a letter to Villa from De La Huerta, the Rebel leader, demanding the release of the prisoner, was despatched from El Paso a week ago, but owing to the rapid movements of the Rebels, has not yet succeeded in getting in touch with them.

Curtain 8.15 p.m. at St. Mary's Hall, Wednesday and Thursday. 30c. only.—feb20,1i

Prize Distribution

AT QUIDI VIDI.

Christ Church, Quidi Vidi, was the scene of an impressive service on Sunday last, at 6.30 p.m., when the little church was filled to its capacity, with a congregation gathered together to hear the Rev. G. O. Lightbourn's farewell address.

Conspicuous amongst the congregation, were the children, who were eager to hear the words of farewell, the Rev. Gentlemen had to say to them and to receive from him, the prizes for work well-done in their Sunday School. He expessed his great pleasure, at having the privilege of presenting their Sunday School prizes to them and told them that there was something higher than prize winning in the Sunday School to strive for and that was to strive to learn more and more about the Bible and the great truth which Jesus Christ came to teach. He asked them to do their utmost in the days to come, in endeavouring to learn their lessons and to learn more and more the spirit of the Christ Child, in order that they may become fit for the Masters use.

The prizes were then presented in the following order:

1st Class (Girls)—1st prize, Irene Pynn; 2nd prize, Mildred Pynn; 3rd prize, Mary Morris.

2nd Class (Girls)—1st prize, Mary G. Snow; 2nd prize, Rita Horwood; 3rd prize, Mary H. Snow.

3rd Class (Girls)—1st prize, Agnes Amminson; 2nd prize, Hannah Horwood; 3rd prize, Margart Morris.

1st Class (Boys)—1st prize, William Harris; 2nd prize, Weston Horwood; 3rd prize, Alexander Snow.

2nd Class (Boys)—1st prize, John Morris; 2nd prize, Chesley Snow; 3rd prize, Bertram Harris.

3rd Class (Boys)—1st prize, Maxwell Pynn; 2nd prize, Gerald Morris; 3rd prize, Arthur Amminson.

Specials.—Irene Pynn, highest number of marks; Mina Martin, oldest girl; Philip Snow, oldest boy; Cyril Martin, consolation prize; John Morris and Rita Horwood, for attendance.

P.S.—We take this opportunity of wishing the Rev. G. O. Lightbourn godspeed and every success in his new field of service and we would also like to thank, very heartily, those who so very kindly gave us donations of books for prizes. Their names are Mrs. Geo. H. Cook, Mrs. E. B. Lewis, Mrs. Geo. R. Cook, Mrs. E. Maidment and Miss Mullett.

McMurdo's Store News.

For The Toilet.

We have all the necessities and luxuries. The daily bath is beneficial when only good soap is used.

The condition of the teeth depends upon good dentifrice.

We can supply you with the best of

Toilet Articles

Bath Soaps, Bath Salts, Toilet Waters, Sponges, Tooth Brushes, Tooth Powder & Paste, Hair Brushes, Combs and Hand Mirrors. We have a large and complete stock.

Friday and Saturday

at our Candy Stall you will always find a delicious selection of Chocolates and Candies, fresh every week at special week end prices.

This Week End

we are featuring Moir's Fine Cocoanut Assorted Bon Bons; Chocolate Montevideos, Milk Chocolate Creams, Stuffed Dates, Whipped Creams, Creamed Butternuts. All fresh, delicious and wholesome.

And Our Week End Special

Butter Scotch Lumps . . . . . 40c. lb.
Italian Mixture . . . . . 32c. lb.
Chocolate Creams . . . . . 35c. lb.

MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR RHEUMATISM.

PEPYS BEHIND THE SCENES.

Feb. 19th.—In the street, met with Browne, the lawyer; he tells me of Mr. J. McGrath, he dead, and was at one time Secretary to President Roosevelt, and became a great man of business, to the pride of all Newfoundlanders, whom he did ever strive to assist. The despatches out of Amerika tell how Mr. Denby, the Navy Secretary, resigns up his office, and is because the people accuse him about the leasing of the Navy's oil lands, to the great disadvantage of the country. Many others now on trial for it, and it do seem how every country has its scandals, nor is Newfoundland the worst of them. I to the Enquiry, but Lord, how few are there now to hear it, so the Chamber well nigh empty. Mr. Turner nigh finished with, and some argument between Mr. Howley and Commissioner Walker about his cross-examination; Mr. Howley asking that he be allowed to question concerning certain allegations against Dr. Campbell, which he will disprove and the Commissioner will enquire into them. Home to dinner, but my wife in high ill-humor, having a falling out with our cook-mayde, and in great fear of losing her. Pretty to hear her talk of the girle's unreasonableness, seeing how these failings out are most often the fault of her own ill-temper, but fear to tell her so. Anon to the Supreme Court, where I have a mind to hear J. Winsor tried, and the charge against him that he did rescue some men from the watch. The trial mighty tiresome, being much argument by counsel and great quoting of legal authorities, enough to make my head swim, almost. So to the Curling Rink, the first time of my going this year, but I did not play, and think I forget how to throw a stone, from being away so long. Home, very weary, and to bed.

Rum Runners' Paradise

Newfoundland, a dry colony of the British Crown, is a rum runners' haven. No liquor may be sold there, but a law passed last August permits it to be stored in government bonded warehouses at a nominal fee and transshipped without formalities. A British steamer can land at St. John's place her stock of wet goods in the warehouses for a duty fee of 75 cents a gallon, or about $1.75 a case, and it can be withdrawn whenever desired, and in whatever quantity is desired, for smuggling into the United States or any portions of Canada.

The new law has almost put St. Pierre, in French Miquelon, off the map. St. John's is much more convenient and the liquor is much more safe.

Chopped celery is delicious cooked en casserole with cooked spaghetti, buttered breadcrumbs, grated cheese and white sauce.

Packed Houses Greet Majestic Zylos

ACCLAIMED BY ALL, THE BEST YET.

Evidently the people of St. John's are elated with the "Zylos" the musical team now scoring success after success at the Majestic Theatre as again last night, capacity houses greeted the talented performers and repeatedly encored the various items on the programme. Already thousands who attended on Monday and last evening are speaking highly of the Zylos whilst the artists themselves claim the big items of their repretoire are yet to be submitted. The song "You" was exceptionally pleasing and we hope to hear further renditions from this soleist: The expert manipulation of the musical table was indeed a treat whilst both claimed the entire approval of all present by their saxaphone offerings. The musical act from every aspect was a brilliant success deserving well the repeated applause and encores as recorded. The chief film picture "Boston Blackie" or The Story of the Water Cross is a drama of an unusual character. It deals principally with the brutal overbearing inhuman conduct of an American prison warden who applied a terrible torture to kill the spirit of an innocent inmate. The production a seven part Paramount full of action from start to finish. The News Reel is likewise very interesting one of the items is the now celebrated horse race between "Zev" "In Memorian" and "My Own." The comedy "The Artists" shows the antics of a clever comedian of the Chaplin type who is employed in a Parisian studio. The whole show is a treat seldom offered in movie houses. To-day it will be repeated at the matinee this afternoon and to-night. To those who have already seen it, their attention is drawn to the change of programme to-morrow when full particulars will be given in the advertising columns of this paper.

AT VALLEY NURSERIES. — The thermometer at the Valley Nurseries last night registered 52 degrees of frost, while this morning 12 degrees was recorded.

WILLIAM RUSSELL IN "BOSTON BLACKIE" WILLIAM FOX PRODUCTION.

MAJESTIC TO-DAY!

"THE ZYLOS"

A Famous Musical and Novelty Team Direct from New York by S.S. Silvia.
SEE THEM—HEAR THEM.

William Fox presents Wm. Russell, in

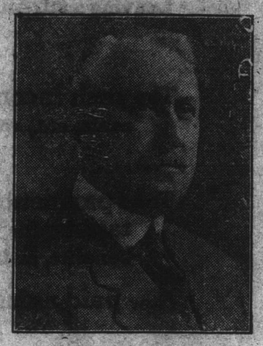
'BOSTON BLACKIE'

Drama of a man's Courage and a woman's Love.
Also,—A NEWS REEL and a Modern Comedy, entitled

"THE ARTIST"

Don't let the children miss the wonderful Musical Act at to-day's Matinee.

New Record Set By Sun Life of Canada.



MR. D. JOHNSTON,
Local Representative of Sun Life Assurance Co.

Evidence of widespread prosperityis afforded by the statement published by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada covering its transactions for the year 1923. This Company, which is international in its character, operating in over fifty countries, reports substantial advances in all departments, confirming its position as the leading Insurance Company, doing an ordinary life business exclusively, in the British Empire, and maintaining its high rank amongst the great financial institutions of the world.

Of particular public interest is the fact that no fewer than 318,443 policyholders are assured under ordinary contracts issued by the Company, while in addition 22,731 employees of a great diversity of industries are protected under Group Insurance policies. These figures, taken in conjunction with the impressive gains in business, demonstrate a growing sense of prudence and family responsibility on the part of the public, and indicate the universal confidence in which the Company is held.

The large increases in new business and total business in force are well supported by the striking advances in those figures indicative of the strength and resources of the Company. Throughout the fifty-three years of its active operation, the aggressive policy which has brought the Company to its present position, has been accompanied by wise and conservative management. It will be a matter of special gratification to the great army of participating policyholders that the yshare in the general prosperity of the Company in the form of increased dividends.

The business in force at December 31st last reached the tremendous total of $703,765,243, showing an increase for the year of $72,360,373. The new business written during the year amounted to $119,804,657, the policies actually issued and paid for being 35,975, for a total of $107,391,255. During the year the payments to policyholders and their beneficiaries in respect to Death Claims, Matured Endowments, Profits, etc., amounted to $22,145,979, bringing the total so paid since the organization of the Company to $151,916,489. This amount exceeds the total business in force with the Company fourteen years ago, and affords striking testimony to the degree in which its function is being fulfilled.

The Income, Assets and Surplus provide a great demonstration of strength. During the year the Assets passed the Two Hundred Million Dollar mark, and now stands at $209,257,313, an increase of $35,168,454 over the previous year. Cash income from all sources increased by $10,714,317 to the record figure of $46,965,639—a remarkable advance. The Company was fortunate in having a large amount of money available for investment and re-investment. During the year new securities purchased, excluding loans on the Company's policies, amounted to $84,027,336. The policy long pursued by the Company of selecting high-grade, long-term securities, has been again followed, and is reflected in the high interest rate earned on the mean invested funds, which was 6.30 per cent.

Profits paid or allotted to policyholders reached the amount of $4,417,068. After setting aside $3,500,000 for unforeseen contingencies, the net Surplus over all liabilities and capital stock advanced by $3,603,447 to $17,872,868.

The record is one in which the Directors of the Company express their own satisfaction—a sentiment which will be widely shared. It is interesting to note that the Company, in order to facilitate the constant quest for new business, and to maintain the high standard of service to which they have accustomed their policyholders, have established a number of new divisions during the past year, and have further developments of a similar character in contemplation.

Screen production of the Sign of the Rose Merits Superlative

Caustic Compliment by New York Critic Reviewing Geo. Beban's Picture.

George Beban's "The Sign of the Rose" merits all the superlatives misused in an endeavor to excite interest in less deserving photoplays.

This is the caustic compliment of a New York critic describing the special attraction at the Nickel Theatre beginning to-day. Equal commendation could scarcely be won by any but an extraordinary picture.

There is excellent reason for this. The production reflects the concentrated experience and artistry of the star, stage and screen veteran of a score of successes, and is magnificently played in a manner he has made peculiarly his own.

Yet "The Sign of the Rose" is in no sense a picture that strikes only the gentler chords. There are "big" screen aplenty and thrills—such as a fire on an ocean liner, staged with terrible realism; an automobile accident that shocks by reason of its fidelity to real life; and the quiet, tense scenes in the gorgeous flower shop. Of, their kind no better moments have been seen on the screen. They literally throb with suspense and nervous apprehension.

Our friends and parishioners are particularly requested to come, St. Mary's Hall, Wednesday and Thursday. 30c. only.
feb20,1i

MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR HEADACHE.

Minstrel Show at Crescent Big Success

WILL BE REPEATED TO-NIGHT WITH CHANGE OF PICTURES.

Last night's Minstrel Show at the Crescent Theatre was an unprecedented success. They crowded the theatre long before the programme started and many hundreds were obliged to go away unable to gain admittance. To give a discriptive synopsis of everything that took place would occupy considerable space in this paper, so we will say it all in a few words. The whole entertainment was worthy of high tribute for it was indeed a feast of merriment and melody.

The headliners were Dan Delmar and Charlie Wiseman, who held the huge audience in convulsions of laughter and were the recipients of many encores. Mr. Paddy Smith, Conversationalist is gifted with an originality which won for him a prolonged applause. Edward Peters and James Murphy as First Edition end men were also good, whilst the Beau Brummels of melody Messrs. Redmond, Michaels, Neville and Day treated the house to a selection of choice Southern airs which found ready response. "Spike Hennessey's Ghost," formed the second part of the programme. This is a laughable farce comedy which answers the purpose for which it is intended, namely to bring the laughs. Dan Delmar deserves much praise for his composition "In Dear Old Newfoundland," and last night's audience clearly showed their appreciation.

Priscilla Dean in Drifting

IRISH CONCERT TO-MORROW NIGHT.

There is scarcely a movie patron in the city to-day who does not know of the dynamic actress, Priscilla Dean, and it is generally admitted she is in a class to herself. To-night at the popular Star she will be seen in a Universal Jewel production De Luxe entitled "Drifting," which is a picture best suited for this Star. It is a story of a human soul drifting to——and one which abounds with excitement from beginning to end.

As will be seen from the ad., the colored artists will give an Irish concert to-morrow night at which all the popular and well known Irish selections will be rendered. Those will include Mr. Foster singing "That Tumble Down Shack," Mr. Hawkes "Mashusha," and Mr. Zabriskie "Where the River Shannon Flows." As will also be seen from the ad., the well known William Duncan is booked for Friday night, in a big production entitled "Playing Wild," and it goes without saying Duncan will sure deliver the goods. The management wishes to announce that Mr. Foster ("Charlie") will on Monday night sing his masterpiece, entitled, "The Bells of the Lighthouse," and it is going to be something worth going miles to hear.

The Queen's Messenger

TABLEAUX AND SKETCH FOR S. P. A.

The entertainment held in the Casino last night in aid of the S.P.A. was very successfully produced, and was greatly enjoyed by the capacity audience. It was in two parts, the first consisting of a number of tableaux vivants picturing scenes in the early part of the 19th century. These were most realistically presented, and the elaborate costumes considerably enhanced the beauty of each scene. Song and dances, excellently rendered, interspersed the tableaux. The second part of the entertainment was a one act play entitled: "The Queen's Messenger." This was very ably presented by Mrs. H. Outerbridge and Mr. H. Rendell. The entertainment will be repeated to-night when another large audience is expected to be present.

MINARD'S LINIMENT USED BY PHYSICIANS.

In the Realms of Sport

CURLIANA.

The Ladies' Curling Club competed for the Club Trophy at the Curling Rink yesterday morning, and after a keenly contested match, Mrs. F. V. Chesman was the victor, with 22 points. Mrs. A. W. Kennedy followed a close second, scoring 21.

BANKERS' LEAGUE.

The Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia were the contesting teams in last night's game. The Royal's won by a score of four goals to two.

MERCANTILE LEAGUE.

A. Harvey & Company's team defeated Jas. Baird Ltd., last night by a score of 10 goals to 1. Harvey's team is a well balanced one and their team work and their combination was a feature of the game. Harvey's will no doubt have to be reckoned with, and at present they look like the likely champs of the Mercantilers.

THIS AFTERNOON'S GAME.

This afternoon will see the last game in the regular league series when the lowly Terra Novas meet the Feildians. Should the Terras upset the dope—should we said—then it will mean another meeting between the Guards and Feildians—However, this is not the age of miracles and we don't look for anything like this happening. We underetand that the Terras will use the same line-up as was used against the St. Bon's. The Feildians will be greatly strengthened b yTommy Winter, who will play centre.

AFTER 9 YEARS.

It's a long time between championships—at least in Hockey circles at the Methodist College. It was in 1915 when "Taffy" Stick was Captain, that the boys last had a look in at the silverware. Since then they have been trying to build up a strong team, but just as their chances looked bright, their players would leave school to play their part in business affairs of the Colony.

We heartily congratulate the lads on going through to the Championship without suffering a defeat.

SUZANNE WON AGAIN.

NICE, France, Feb. 11.—Suzanne Lenglen gained her usual triumph in the Nice lawn tennis tournament, just concluded. The French star took the final in the woman's singles from Mrs. Shepherd-Brown, of England, 6-1, 6-0. In the mixed doubles Mme. Lenglen and M. Aeschliman had a walk-over against Mrs. Satterwaite and J. M. Hillyard.

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCCER TEAM FOR ENGLAND.

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Feb. 11.—The South African Football Association has decided to send a soccer team of twenty players to tour England next season. The South African footballers will play twenty-four matches in England.

MONDT GOT "PEEVED" AND "KAYOED" STECHER.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 12.—Joe "Toots" Mondt, Colorado cowboy wrestler scored a knockout here over Joe Stecher, former heavyweight wrestling champion. It was not a boxing bout, however, and the referee awarded the decision to Stecher.

Mondt had won the first fall in one hour and 24 minutes with an arm lock and the men were grappling for a second fall when Setcher tried for a flying scissors hold after about 24 minutes of rough work and appeared to have struck Mondt low. Angered, Mondt swung one to the jaw and floored his opponent. Stecher had to be carried to his corner. Referee Bates disqualified Mondt.

REFEREE LYNCHED IN ITALY, Home Team Fans at Lugano Were Infuriated by His Ruling.

London, Feb. 12.—A football referee was lynched at Lugano, Italy, according to a Central News despatch from Geneva, for giving a decision unfavorable to the Lugano team.

The despatch states that the crowd rushed onto the field, seized the referee and did him to death.

"Sandy," said a pompous Scotch laird to an old farmer, "you are getting very bent. Why don't you stand up straight like me?"

"Weel," answered Sandy, "d'ye see yon field o' corn?"

"I do," said the laird.

"Ye'll notice that the full heids hang doon an' the empty anes stand up."

The doctor gazed at his patient's eye.

"You say you've trouble with it," he said. "But, there's something more. In looking at it I see signs of liver trouble, of anaemia, and, I fear, of a chronic nervous affection."

"Look at the other eye," said the patient, "this is my glass one, you see."

"How on earth did young Robin get married?" asked the fat woman. "Why, I always thought he was so terribly shy."

"He is," said the acid faced woman. "He was probably too shy to say 'No.'"

Turkey has a Prohibition law and its president gets $450.00 a year. That's the place for Mr. Bryan to go and run for President.—Nashville Southern Lumberman.

Teachers are to have freedom of speech at Vassar, but it is not expected that they will say all that some of the students make them think.—New York Evening Post.

Health and Comfort in the Home.

Many a chill can be avoided by the wise use of heating with ever-ready gas stoves. An inset gas fire can easily be installed in any ordinary coal grate, and will provide the necessary warmth at any time.

Gas Fires make no work. There is no Coal to carry upstairs, and no ashes to be cleaned away. They are ideal for use in daintily appointed rooms. There is no smoke or dust. They also ventilate the room. Enquiries solicited.

ST. JOHN'S GAS LIGHT COMPANY.
'PHONE 81.

"Never the Twain Shall Meet."

A new novel by the creator of Cappy Ricks and author of "The Valley of the Giants." Peter B. Kyne has no superior as a story-teller and this is one of his best.

Price, $1.50.

GARRETT BYRNE,
Bookseller and Stationer.

MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR COUGHS