

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 1908

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 8, 1908.

BOXING EXHIBITIONS.

From the rather indefinite report of the conference which took place yesterday between Mayor Bullock and a committee representing the St. John district of the Methodist church, it appears that at the present time at least there is little to be expected in the way of a settlement of the boxing exhibition matter in accordance with the views of the delegates. The mayor states that he will act according to law, and that so long as these bouts are permissible, he will use his own judgment in granting licenses. Aside from all questions of public morality it would be very injudicious on the part of the mayor to take on himself the right to refuse such licenses when requested, so long as the bouts are provided for under the civil by-laws. It is unfair on the part of the church to ask his worship to take any such stand, and his refusal to do so should not be counted against him even among those who are most earnestly opposed to boxing exhibitions. From the standpoint of public morality there may be much that can be said against boxing exhibitions, but it must be remembered that a very large number of the people of this city, as well as of other cities, are not all engaged in the work of reform, nor are living ordinary everyday lives, in which amusement forms a part. Their ideas of right and wrong do not always harmonize with those of more active church workers, but at the same time they may be, in every sense, just as good men. Indeed, going further, it is a fact that a good many of those who are foremost in certain lines of religious endeavor are enthusiastic spectators at the different boxing exhibitions held here, and at the last bout in Victoria rink there were quite a large number present whose names, if published, would greatly surprise the men now discussing the matter with the mayor. So long as boxing exhibitions are kept within reasonable bounds and remain purely athletic events calculated to display skill in this particular line, there can be no possible serious objection to them. If they degenerate and become prize fights in which highly trained human animals slug each other for the purpose of winning money their opportunities for bad are numerous. But we have not had in St. John, in recent years at any rate, such things as prize fights. The contests witnessed have been clean exhibitions of clever sparring. There have been blows struck, but boxes do not go in the ring for the purpose of receiving blows, and they expect to be occasionally struck. Their training is to fit them to avoid injury by such blows as may be landed. If the wish of the Methodist delegates were complied with by the mayor a great deal of pleasure would be lost to many citizens. The Star is not of the opinion that public feeling generally is opposed to these bouts, but if such is the case, and if the majority is strong, the law now governing such exhibitions may without difficulty be amended. But if the feeling is only sectional, Mayor Bullock has certainly no right to refuse such requests for licenses as may be made to him, if he has reason to believe that the events arranged are to be conducted in a proper manner.

BRITISHERS IN POLITICS.

A discussion has been going on in Ottawa having as its subject the position of the Englishman in Canadian politics. In connection with this it is noted that any British subject may become a member of the Canadian Senate, or House of Commons, subject to certain other minor conditions. In the Commons today there are six members who were born in England. Mr. Ralph Smith and Hon. Thos. Greenway being on the Liberal side, and Mr. E. A. Lancaster, Mr. A. C. Boyce, Mr. R. S. Lake, and Mr. R. D. Wilton on the Conservative side. There are three members who were born in Ireland. They are Mr. Matthew Carnegy, of Halifax, Mr. A. J. Adamson and Mr. S. J. Jackson, all of the three being Liberals. There are three native Scotchmen. Also all Liberals, namely Mr. George Smith, of Oxford, Mr. W. P. Telford, of North Grey and Mr. John Tolmie. The last mentioned speaks Gaelic fluently. In the Senate Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Ex-Premier, was born in England. Senator Bostock is a native of Surrey, Senator Coffey came from Limerick, Senator Kitchin from County Cork, Senator McMillen from County Monaghan, and Senator Sullivan first saw the light of day in Killarney. Sir George Drummond was born in Edinburgh, Senator Jaffrey originally came from Bannockburn, Senator Mackay hailed from Calthness, Senator W. J. McDonald from Inverness-shire, Senator Gibson from Peterhead and Senator Douglas from Roxburgh. In addition to all these Britishers there are in the House of Commons two Liberals and one Conservative who were born in the United

States. The Conservative member is Mr. G. H. Perley, of Argentia, who was born of Welsh parentage in Lebanon, New Hampshire. The Liberal members are Mr. B. B. Law, of Yarmouth, who was born in Douglas, Mass., and Mr. Adam Zimmerman, who is a native of Pennsylvania. Thus there are altogether in the Commons six Englishmen, three Scots and three Irishmen and in the Senate six Scotchmen, four Irishmen, and two Englishmen, a total of twenty-four Britishers. From the names mentioned above it will be seen that if the suggestion which has been made that only born Canadians should be qualified for Parliamentary duties is carried out, the Commons and Senate would lose some of their ablest men.

ON THE TRAIL OF

A BAND OF PRISONERS

Have Operated in New York

for Years

Evidence Connects Them With Several

Murders and Many

Robberies

NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—"I am on the trail of a band of professional poisoners, the members of which have, within the last few years, murdered a number of persons and have drugged and robbed many more," said Coroner George Schrady today at the conclusion of an inquest into the death of Jan Danice, a railroad employee of South Amboy, who was killed by poison last November.

The coroner's jury that heard evidence in the case, today held John J. Hermansky, Peter Hermansky, and Tilly Hermansky for the grand jury on a charge of homicide. Other arrests will follow.

At the inquest it was shown that Danice died just after leaving the apartments of Tilly Hermansky, where he had gone with a man known to the coroner as "Louis the Jew." Peter and Tilly Hermansky both testified that "Louis the Jew" poured a powder into beer that Danice drank. Danice died shortly afterward and was found that he had been robbed of \$34.

"I have in my possession information concerning the drugging of a young woman and two young men," said Coroner Schrady. "I am satisfied that I can connect one or more members of the gang with these crimes. I have also located the drug stores where they buy their poison and 'knockout drops'."

PROTECTION OF BATTLESHIPS.

"As soon as the airships begin attacking warships, what battleships will be built with decks sufficiently armored to protect them from such attack, while the battleships will be armed with guns capable of firing vertically or in any other direction. The idea that it would be possible to destroy a whole fleet by a flotilla of airships is pure imagination. At the same time one must remember that the attacks from airships will demolish those attacked, who at first will feel themselves from their mysterious foe in the clouds."

Major Gross proceeded to discuss the question whether the present development of aerial navigation justifies the theory that England, Germany and the United States are expressing the opinion that this is not the case. He said:—

"At present an airship has travelled continuously more than 200 miles, and no airship has proved that it can safely sail a strong wind. It will be a long time before airships can face any weather and travel with perfect security long distances, and they will not be used for overseas expeditions unless these conditions are guaranteed. At present airships could be effectively used for attacking a blockading fleet by sudden raids from the land. Airships will be used to warn on land before they are so used at sea."

Major Gross went on to say that the German Government would construct different types of airships, large and small, to be used for different purposes, as the navy consists of battleships, cruisers, and torpedo craft, each with its own functions. The Zepplin airship of 15,000 cubic metres would be useful for some purposes but useless for other work which would be better performed by the Parseval airship of 3,000 cubic metres or his own airship of 4,000 cubic metres.

Discussing the weight which airships would be able to carry Major Gross pointed out that the Zepplin type could bear the heaviest load, but it was great size, but it was comparatively less favorable in this respect than the non-rigid Parseval type. The Zepplin airship in its present size could only carry twelve persons apart from the crew required to navigate the vessel and tend the motors, these numbers, 4 Major Gross added:—"It is thus evident that it is absolutely impossible to transport large bodies of troops from Germany to England by air."

Weak Eyes!

Strong eyes are a blessing, but if your eyes are not strong, and you need assistance, you should go to D. BOYANER, the OPTICIAN, for GLASSES. He always uses the dark room method of examination with modern scientific instruments.

Store Open Till 9 p. m.

Thursday, September 3, 1908.

Infant's Hard Sole Boots

Are in great demand at this time and we are prepared to meet this demand for hard soles at a price one up.

INFANTS' PATENT BALMORAL, hard sole, size 1 to 3,35c.
INFANTS' CHOCOLATE BALMORAL, hard sole, size 1 to 3,75c.
INFANTS' CHOCOLATE BUTTON, hard sole, size 1 to 3,75c.
INFANTS' CHOCOLATE BUTTON, hard sole, size 2 to 5,90c.
INFANTS' CHOCOLATE BALMORAL, hard sole, size 2 to 5,90c.
INFANTS' DONGOLA BUTTON, hard sole, size 2 to 5,90c.
INFANTS' STIFF ANKLE BALMORAL, size 2 to 7,\$1.00.

BIG VALUES IN LITTLE SHOES

PERCY J. STEEL, FOOT FURNISHER, 519-521 Main St.

SUCCESSOR TO WM. YOUNG.

PROSPECTS OF THE AIRSHIP

AS A FACTOR IN WARFARE

Major Gross, the officer commanding the German military airship department, and the inventor of the semi-rigid aerial vessel which bears his name, has given the following statement regarding the practical uses of airships for purposes of war. Major Gross's exposition of the part airships may play in the wars of the future reveals the great importance which German military experts attach to the new weapon. At the same time, it serves to explode certain exaggerated theories freely expounded by alarmists since Count Zeppelin's vessel succeeded in flying over the Alps. Discussing the question as to whether airships can be employed for aggressive purposes in war, whether at sea, on land, or only for scouting work, Major Gross said:—"I am convinced that the airship will, for the present, be primarily used for scouting and observing the enemy's position or movements and only secondarily to attack the enemy by dropping explosives. It is true that the French have, from the very beginning, designed their airships with the intention of dropping explosives which served as targets. My own opinion is that in cases in which airships can aim at large objects, such as large bodies of troops, whole forts, and big battle-ships, no great difficulty will be experienced in hitting the object of attack. In the case of smaller targets, such as a single battery of artillery, it seems to me that the probability of hitting the target is considerably less, though I do not deny that airships can be manoeuvred in such a way as to remain stationary over any given point. Airships cannot at present carry explosives weighing more than about 6 cwt., so that the damage each aerial vessel can inflict is strictly limited. 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