POOR DOCUMENT

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Clean coal. Prompt delivery. Reasonsble prices.

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49 SMYTHE ST., 14 CHARLOTTE ST.

LOCAL NEWS

Trimmed hats for $1.00. 75 Germain St., opposite Trinity Church.

Have McPartland, the Tailor, to tone up your overcoat. Cleaning, repairing, pressing. 72 Princess street. Clifton Block. 'Phone 1618-11.

To cure a headache in ten minutes use Kumfort Headache Powders, 10 cents.

CHEAP HARD COAL.

For self feeders and cooking ranges. A small lot which got mixed in vessel and will sell cheap to clear shed for other coal to arrive. Order quick. Best quality coal. 26 Britain street, George Dick, foot of Germain street. 'Phone, 1116.

Curtains done up for fall housecleaning with home-like care at Unvars. Tel. 58.

Only One "BROMO QUININE" that is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. Used the World over to Cure Cold in One Day. 25c.

There will be a band at the Victoria Rink both this afternoon and tonight. The cool weather has made the ice in splendid condition.

Sale of printed cottons will commence Saturday morning in M. R. A.'s Linen Room. Desirable prints for the coming spring wear at a surprisingly low price. Call early for best selections.

Fred Logan, the champion speed skater, left for Fredericton last evening, where he will participate in his first race of the season at the Arctic Rink there today. He will probably race Evans of this city and failing in this, skate another fast bunch from this city.

The new skating organization known as the Eastern Skating Association have secured the control of sport in these provinces. All skaters must be registered in the association and all big meets must receive their sanction. Otherwise the skaters who participate in any races will be suspended for the season.

The report has been published in the local press and elsewhere that the Pope had announced his intention of granting universal dispensation relieving Catholics this New Year's Day from the law of abstinence which applies to Friday. His Lordship the Bishop of St. John has, however, received no official instructions in the regard and has no authority to announce any dispensation so that, if any has been granted, which is doubtful, it has no effect in this diocese.

A meeting of the claims committee was held yesterday afternoon at City Hall, with Ald. Frink in the chair. Among the eight or nine claims disposed of was that of John Jackson in the matter of injuries alleged to have been received by him on being struck by a water wagon. His worship the mayor spent a portion of yesterday afternoon in destroying expired city bonds to the amount of nine thousand dollars.

The annual Sunday school festival of the Union street Congregational church was held last evening in the church and there was a large attendance. After supper the gifts were distributed from a tree and Rev. S. W. Anthony, the pastor, was agreeably surprised when C. E. MacMichael on behalf of the congregation presented him with a well filled purse.

Games and songs were indulged in and the evening closed with the singing of God Save the King.

What promises to be an interesting meeting will take place in this city on the evening of January 7 in the local government rooms on Church street, when prominent lumber merchants will interview members of the Hazen government regarding the preservation of the provincial forests from fire and other damages. It is expected that the lumbermen will ask for a grant from the government and other assistance in preserving the timber of the province.

An excellent programme was given at the Seamen's Institute last evening. H. C. Tilley, the president, sent his gramaphone and several selections were given which were greatly enjoyed by all present. Three cheers were given for Mr. Tilley and Mr. Kirkpatrick was instructed to convey to him their best wishes. Songs and recitations were given by a number of men from the Lake Manitoba, now in port, and Messrs. Schofield and Lamont delighted the gathering with excellent piano solos.

Superintendent Downie of the C. P. R., in conversation with a reporter of The Sun yesterday declared that the company intended to start work immediately at re-building the station at Bristol, which was destroyed by fire. The cause of the blaze was unknown, but the building was burned to the ground. Mr. Downie declares that traffic at the place will not be inconvenienced on account of the destruction of the station, as the railway intends to push operations forward with the greatest alacrity. The station was burned about two or three nights ago. As the new station is being erected the company intend to use one of their large passenger cars for a waiting room and a box car for freight purposes. It is expected that the new building will cost about $3,000.

JOLLY TIMES WITH OLD SANTA AT ST. STEPHENS

This Christmas Entertainment One of the Best of the Season

St. Stephen's Sunday school held a most enjoyable affair last evening. They presented that cantata "Jolly Time With Santa Claus."

The evening opened with a chorus by all the school in the singing of "Christmas Bells Are Gaily Ringing." Santa Claus and his band of six in costume appeared and there were solos by each. There was also a pretty fan drill by children in Japanese costumes and solos by "Grandfather Clock."

During the intermission, recitations and solos were given by the members of the primary department.

The second appearance of Santa Claus was with the other characters: Christmas Stocking, Candle, Candy, Trumpet and Tree of Gladness. After each of their songs Santa blew his trumpet and all the performers gathered on the platform. When all was silent "night" came slowly on and six little tots in white sang a lullaby. All were then presented with presents.

The entertainment was pronounced a great success by all those present. They declared it to be one of the best Christmas programmes they had ever heard. Much credit is due to Mrs. Dickie, who has spent much of her time in instructing them.

Today the entertainment will be repeated for the children of the Free Kindergarten. They too will be presented with presents from the tree.

REV. HUGH PEDLEY WILL BE SPEAKER

Arrangements for the "week of prayer" have been completed. Services will start on Monday next and all will be held in the Germain Street Baptist Church.

Monday night's meeting will be addressed by a number of laymen on the work accomplished under the auspices of the Laymen's Missionary Movement.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings addresses will be delivered by the Rev. Hugh Pedley, pastor of the Emmanuel Congregational Church of Montreal.

Friday evening the annual meeting of the local branch of the Canadian Bible Society will be held in Saint David's Church. A special musical programme will be given by the choir of the church, beginning at 7.30 o'clock. His Honor Chief Justice Barker will preside, and Rev. Dr. Flanders and Rev. R. A. Armstrong will be the speakers of the evening.

The Rev. Mr. Pedley is coming to St. John for the occasion by special invitation. His work in Winnipeg and Montreal has won for him a high place in the estimation of Canadians.

HERE'S ONE GIRL WHO WOULD LIKE TO WED

D. J. Cronan, of Boston, who recently expressed as his determination the seeking of a Canadian wife and who incidentally dropped a few minor pleasantries concerning the weakness of American women, is not likely to go unrewarded in the quest if he will only be a trifle more explicit in the matter of his address.

Maidens galore, finding that they measure up to the requirements set by the bean eater, have read with pleasurable anticipation the comment contained in the press of recent date. Dismay usually follows, however, with the subsequent search for a detailed address.

A Dalhousie candidate is evidently not to be undone by such a trifle, however, and the publication of the letter following will no doubt place her in the running for the hand of the perplexed Cronan:

Dalhousie, N. B., 29th Dec.

To the Editor of the Sun, St. John:

Dear Sir—Please send me address of Mr. D. J. Cronan, of Boston, referred to in "Sun" of this date, who seems to want a wife.

Address: Box 149, Dalhousie, N.B.

THEY MANAGED TO USE IT UP

CHATHAM, N.B., Dec. 31.—John P. Burchill, M.P.P. of Northumberland, was in town today. When asked as to his attitude in local politics he said that he would stand by the policy outlined in his telegram of acceptance of the nomination in November. He would use his own judgment in all matters and would offer no factious opposition to the government. He was an independent, in other words. Speaking of the government's financial statement just issued, Mr. Burchill said he had only glanced over this, but notwithstanding the fact that they had received more than any previous government they managed to use it up.

SAY GOOD-BYE TO OLD YEAR

Whistles Blow and Bells Ring

STREETS THRONGED

Watch Night Services Held in Several of the City Churches

The close of the year of 1908 was observed last night in many different ways. The watch night services in all the churches were very well attended and many of the citizens held private gatherings in their homes. As the hour of twelve approached the congregations in the various churches knelt in silent prayer, and at all other gatherings the laughter was hushed as the new year was ushered in. Two strokes of the fire bells gave the official announcement and the tooting of whistles, ringing of bells and blowing of horns, the music of bands gave the new year a hearty welcome.

On King square St. Mary's band played Auld Lang Syne as the old year departed, and the thousands of citizens who had gathered to watch the fun joined heartily in chorus, and when the first strains of God Save the King fell on their ears, with very few exceptions, the hats of the vast assemblage came off and their voices were raised as one in singing the national anthem.

The Carleton band gave a similar programme in the West End, after which they adjourned to their room in the City Hall, where a pleasant time was spent.

The congregations of Centenary, Queen square, Carmarthen street and St. David's churches held a united service in Centenary church. Rev. H. D. Marr was the principal speaker and took for his subject The Days We Have Left Behind. The address was very clear and forcible and was thoroughly appreciated by the large audience present. The music had been especially prepared for the occasion and consisted of an anthem, Oh for a Closer Walk With God, by Myles Soffer. In this anthem Mrs. Dr. Crockett had a solo. A solo by Guy Taylor, Lead Kingly Light, and a chant, Lord Thou Hast Been Our Dwellinig Place, completed the musical part of the programme.

In the Exmouth street Methodist church a very interesting watch night service was held. The speakers were S. Radcliffe, a student at Mount Allison, and the Rev. C. Comben. Special music was provided for this meeting.

In the Fairville Methodist church Rev. Mr. Townsend of the Fairville Presbyterian church delivered a very interesting address, taking for his subject What is Your Life?

In St. Luke's church the rector, Rev. R. P. McKim, and the curate, Rev. Mr. Purdie, held a very interesting watch service. Rev. Mr. McKim spoke of the outlook for the coming year and the special litany for this service was read. The choir furnished appropriate music.

In St. Matthew's Presbyterian church the Rev. J. J. McCaskill held a service at 8 o'clock, taking for his subject The Spirit that Quickeneth.

Rev. R. A. Armstrong held a service in Trinity at 11 o'clock. Special music was rendered by the choir. At the close of the service holy communion was celebrated.

Watch night services were also held in Zion and Portland street Methodist churches.

This morning at 11 o'clock the Presbyterians of the city will hold a united service in St. Andrew's church. The speaker will be Rev. James H. A. Anderson and the offering will be devoted to the Protestant Orphan Asylum. At the same hour the Germain street Baptist church will hold a social service, to which all are invited.

ALD. KELLEY TO BE SENT ON TOUR OF CANADIAN CITIES

Last night the directorships became vacant automatically upon the stroke of twelve, and today the departments are being conducted under temporary arrangements.

By virtue of a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Common Council the chairmen of the Boards of Public Works, of Water and Sewerage and of Public Safety are required to provide for the administration of their departments pending the obtaining of a city engineer. This has been done in each instance in the retaining of the old director's services.

Yesterday throughout the city the action of the mayor in advocating a board of control was freely discussed. Although opinion differs considerably in the matter the preponderating end is thought to approve of the scheme as laid down by his worship.

The reform committee in dealing with the matter will send the chairman, Ald. Kelley, it is understood, on a tour of inspection.

Ald. Kelley will visit, it is said, among other cities Toronto, Ottawa, and Boston and will report to the council the result of his investigations into the several forms of control administration.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—A disaffected Corsican named Benedetti fired several shots from a revolver this evening in the direction of the windows of the office of Premier Clemenceau, in the Ministry of the Interior. No one was hurt. The Corsican was arrested.

MILLIONAIRE'S CLUB HOSTS LAST EVENING

Give an Enjoyable Assembly At the Golf Club—About 85 Present

A most enjoyable assembly was given at the Golf Club last evening by the Millionaire Club, about 85 young people being present. The dance programme consisted of 17 numbers and 3 supper extras. Harrison's orchestra was in attendance and furnished excellent music. Refreshments were served at 12.30 o'clock, the catering being in charge of Mrs. Richardson. All present pronounced the affair a splendid success.

The chaperones were Mrs. William Vassie, Mrs. Fred Sayre and Mrs. Keltie Jones.

Those on the committee in charge included the following: J. Pollard Lewin, Fred Sayre, Douglas Reid, Hugh MacKay, Walter Emerson, Gandy Fowler, Stanley Emerson, T. McA. Stewart, Fred Crosby, Wm. Vassie, Harry Belyea and Mr. Thomas.

The programme of dances was very neatly gotten up. On the cover was a bag of gold with the "precious" falling out and the initials "M. C."

The rooms were prettily decorated with green and red. In the hall suspended from one of the corridors was large bell, which rang the old year out and the new year in at midnight.

HAD TO TURN THE HOSE ON THE CROWD

Unable to restrain its reckless spirits and unwilling to abide the least suggestion of coercion in the abandon of its holiday glorification, a laughing, swirling crowd of fun makers narrowly precipitated a small riot last night at the northwest corner of King square.

Began To Congregate

As early as ten o'clock the youth of the city began to congregate at the head of King street and by midnight the adjacent thoroughfares were thronged black with those intent upon being in at the death of the old year. The presence of the St. Mary's Band only succeeded in firing the ardor of the merrymakers who were steadily becoming more unmanageable as a body. The approach of a strong policeman intent upon preserving order was made to cap the climax of a demonstration that has had few parallels in the history of the city.

The unlucky bobby was Policeman Olive, who in the remembrance of the reception tendered him will hereafter no doubt be wont to taboo all reference being made to the birth of 1909

Believing that the limit of excessive boisterousness had been reached by the crowd and that the latitude permitted the celebrants had been taken advantage of, he attempted to restore quiet just as the band had reached the first bars of "Auld Lang Syne"

Psycological Moment

The psycological moment had not arrived. The crowd seemed good humoredly at first being disposed to treat the efforts of the cop in the light of a joke. The strong one drew his baton, however, and the melee followed. Successful only in the dropping of a few minor pleasantries Olive retreated across the street, finally taking refuge in the drug store of A. C. Smith and Co. Here he sent a hurry-up call to the central police station and in five minutes another of the city's guardians was receiving the attention of the local bloods. By this time the crowd was thoroughly alive to the possibilities of the occasion. Chunks of ice were resorted to and the peace makers fared ill indeed.

Subsequently Detective Marshall came to the rescue and in a moment of happy inspiration directed that a hose be coupled up to a hydrant and turned on the crowd. This was done, but without effect. The merry makers couped without the radius of the water's play and laughed at their tormentors.

Finally despairing of more excitement and holding up a few stray vabs the crowd slowly dispersed and the officers vanished to brood over their somewhat unhappy experiences.

SEVERAL CHANGES IN CITY SCHOOL STAFFS

The public schools of the city will re-open on Monday, January 4, after the Christmas holidays. There will be several changes in the teaching staff of the schools.

W. H. Parlee, principal of the Victoria school, has been granted six months leave of absence, and Samuel Worrel, of the High School staff, has been appointed interim principal of that school for six months.

Miss Briggs, of the Dufferin school, who holds a superior school certificate, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Worrell at the High School.

Miss Mabel Hodges, of Queenstown, Queens county, has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. Richardson as teacher in the colored school on Queen street. She will be assisted by Miss Edna Richardson, who has conducted the school since her father's death.

YEAR 1908 IN ST. JOHN CITY

Mayor Reviews Important Work

SAND POINT PROGRESS

Negotiations of the City With the Dominion Government

His worship the mayor, in conversation with The Sun last night, mentioned a number of the more important works undertaken by the city during the past year.

The following is the list:

The construction of a 700 foot wharf adjoining No 5 berth at Sand Point.

The reconstruction of the Sydney Market wharves, Lower Cove, and the letting of a contract for the rebuilding of Wiggins wharf, entailing a cost of $11,000.

Dredging at Marble Cove, with the improvement of the sewerage outlets in that district.

The opening up of negotiations with the Dominion government to the end that the city be relieved of the burden of further wharf construction at Sand Point.

The completion by the government of the dredging at the West Side, including the deepening of the channel by the dredge Fielding.

The preparation of a bill to be submitted at the next sitting of parliament to the end that the harbor be placed under commission.

The entering into negotiations with the Dominion government at the instance of the G. T. P., in the matter of opening up Courtenay Bay and the subsequent agreement reached between the Ottawa and Fredericton administration and the city in the construction of railway facilities.

Authority given the School Board to construct an annex to the Winter street school and to install a complete system of fire escapes.

The entering into a contract with the St. John Street Railway Co. in the matter of the maintenance of the streets traversed by its lines.

The preparation of plans for the reconstruction of the aboideau at Marsh bridge, at a cost of $21,000.

The remodelling of the interior of the East Side ferry building, including the installation of a heating system.

The extension of sewerage systems in Carleton and along Sydney street.

The installation of stand pipes for the refilling of the watering carts.

The acquisition by the city of a property at Green Head, embracing some 200 acres. ET

The wiping out of Blood Alley.

The settlement of the long standing claim of P. Mooney against the city.

The completion of the new direct pressure water system and its use extended for the benefit of all consumers.

The acquisition of a new ambulance.

The opening of a number of hills for coasting.

The arrangements made for codifying of the city by-laws.

The increased representation secured to the Board of Assessors.

The securing of an increased revenue through the revision of the license laws governing amusement places.

Seasickness Quickly Cured

"Mothersill's" quickly cures Sea and Train Sickness. Guaranteed perfectly harmless to the most delicate. Money refunded if not satisfactory.

For sale at Drug Stores and first-class Steamers, or Mothersill Remedy Co., Ltd., 201 State Street, Detroit.

For sale and recommended in St. John by A. Chipman Smith, G. A. Moore, Royal Pharmacy and G. A. Riecker.

MANY PRESENTATIONS AMONG FIRE LADDIES

The Happy Home Club met in No. 3 fire station last night and enjoyed a turkey dinner. President Fred Shaw, on behalf of the club presented Driver Wm. Donohue of No. 1 Salvage Corps with a handsome solid gold signet ring. To Charles Piercey, the acting superintendent of fire alarms, a pipe was given, and to drivers Joseph Davidson and Alex. Long mufflers were presented.

Driver Donohue was also presented with a cap by an admirer.

After full justice had been done to the excellent dinner served speeches were made by John Kerr, chief of the fire department; Capt. W. W. Frink and Lieut. Harry Ervin of the Salvage Corps.

The gathering broke up about midnight with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

TACTLESS GALLANTRY.

Lady of Uncertain Age (to old admirer)—Well, admiral, how do you think I'm looking?

Admiral (who last remembers her with grey hair)—My dear lady, at least thirty years younger!

ON EDGE.

"You are a pretty sharp boy, Tommy."

"Well, I'd ought to be. Pa takes me out in the woodshed and strops me three or four times a week."

AMUSEMENTS

SHOWS START AT 10 A.M. TODAY
GRAND BILL FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

NICKEL TO DAY

Earthquake Cities
Messina, Catania and Palermo which are now lying in ruins.

Dramagraph Company in
"THE TRAINER'S DAUGHTER"
A story of the race-track

Dangerous Animals — Handling poisonous snakes and lions in Bostock's Menagerie

The Electric Hotel — A most laughable trick-photo comedy. An extreme novelty.

Miss Edwards—"I Never Knew What Love Was Till I Met You"

DeWitt Cairns—"Lonely Lou." A Southern serenade; very catchy.

"MAGGIE, THE DOCK RAT"
ORCHESTRA

PRINCESS
— New Year's Day—Programme —
"The Heart of Oyama"
A Japanese Love Story—Hand Colored
OTHER PICTURES:
"THE VOICE OF THE HEART"—Drama
"POLITICAL SPEECHES"—Comedy
NEW SONGS;
"Lu Lu And Her La La La" — Mrs. Jas. Tufts.
"Annie Laurie Was To Be A Soldier's Bride" by Mr. W. Adams.
Matinee Today at 2 p.m. Sharp
Evening at 7 sharp

TODAY UNIQUE TODAY
CHRISTMAS CAROL ..... Dramatic
THE MINER'S DAUGHTER ..... Dramatic
CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME ..... Comedy
Vocalists: — MISS DOROTHY BREWER, Soprano; MR. WM. DICK, Tenor.

Next Week--Opera House--Next Week
The Cameraphone
IN COMEDY VAUDEVILLE SELECTIONS
Matinees Daily - - - - 5 & 10c Onl

REFORMS IN INDIA

Indian National Council Approves of Lord Morley's Plans.

MADRAS, Dec. 31—The Indian National Congress was opened in this city, with 2,000 delegates in attendance. Emphatic approval of the reform plans for India advanced by Lord Morley, the Indian Secretary, was expressed.

The session was entirely harmonious, and the meeting this year promises to clear the air and put a damper upon the activities of agitators, who recently have caused much anxiety.

At the last meeting of the Congress, just a year ago, opposition to the election of Dr. Ghoz as president, resulted in a free fight, and was the cause of the congress being indefinitely postponed. Referring to the Morley reforms, Dr. Ghoz declared that they had broken up a sinister cloud which had hung over India the last twelve months, and he said they would give India something like a constitutional government instead of the unpopular autocratic regime. Continuing, Dr. Ghoz criticized all repressive legislation. He said British suzerainty could not be shaken by "a few flasks of picric acid or a few pounds of gunpowder," and he hoped that the genuine co-operation of the Indians with the British Government would lead to the obtaining of colonial self-government.

WOMEN NOT FIT TO VOTE

Swinburne Opposed to Granting Them the Franchise.

LONDON, Dec. 31—Algernon Charles Swinburne, the poet, is opposed to a Parliamentary franchise for women.

"They have recently shown," according to the poet, "that they are quite unfitted for an exercise of the vote. Theoretically women should be entitled to vote. We all are children of the same mother, nature, and should be treated equally, but in practice I am afraid that the thing is wholly impossible."

Swinburne was never in better health. He walks two or three hours daily, and there is hardly a child he meets on his way that he does not stop to give pennies to and talk to.

BANK CLEARINGS SHOW A BIG TRADE INCREASE

The city's bank clearings for the week ending 31st December were announced yesterday at $1,223,953, as against $851,537 for the corresponding period of last year, an advance of $372,416.

R. B. Kessen, manager of the Bank of New Brunswick, in conversation with The Sun last night stated that no cause other than a growing St. John could be attributed to the increase

"The bank clearings," he said, "constitute a fairly accurate barometer of trade conditions and the showing of last week due to a healthy advance, can only prove a source of satisfaction to those interested to the welfare of the city. It means that St. John is not so bad after all."

"Say," queried the would-be humorist, "where is that place, Atoms, that so many people are blown to?"

"It's just the other side of Effigy, the place in which so many people are hanged," answered the solemn person.

OPERA HOUSE
Second and last week of
JERE McAULIFF
Matinees Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.
Matinee, $5,000 REWA
Tonight, THE FATAL C
Saturday night—Shipwrecked.
MATINEES—Friday, $5,000 Rew Saturday, How Baxter Butted In.
Night Prices, 15, 25, 35, 50. Wedne and Saturday Matinee, 10 and 20. Year's Day Matinee, 25 to all.

NOTICE—The annual general m ing of the shareholders of the St. Opera House Company will be hel the Opera House on Thursday, Ja ary 7, 1909, at 8.30 p. m.
A. O. SKINNER, President. A. E. McGINNI Secret

QUEENS RIN
Grand Opening Today
Band Afternoon and Evening
Fred. L. Tufts, Mgr.

Victoria Rink
3 Big Sessions Today
Band Afternoon and Evening
Ice in Fine Condition
R. J. ARMSTRONG, Manager.