

FOUR

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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 8, 1903.

LUMBER AND BUILDINGS.

So far as can be ascertained there is not one new residence being built in St. John at the present time. These are, it is true, quite a number of houses to which additions are being made or other improvements being carried out, but the building inspector's sheet is blank in the column devoted to new dwellings. At the same time there is a very urgent demand for flats and houses, and in fact there are probably hundreds of families in the city anxious to secure better quarters than they now occupy, but who are unable to do so. The cause of the present state of affairs is undoubtedly the extremely high cost of building materials and labor. Houses now represent such heavy investments, and already rents are so high that persons with some capital do not believe real estate to be very profitable, at least in new buildings, but the older ones which were built when materials were low, are bringing in fairly large profits. The United States and British lumber markets are away off, and shippers from the Maritime Provinces are unable to carry on business satisfactorily. It might be supposed that the very quiet demand outside would have some effect on the local lumber market, but from inquiries made by the Star it seems that prices of materials here are just as high now as when the foreign markets were quite favorable. Contractors state that if local lumber dealers saw fit to sell boards and scantling at prices as low as are offered elsewhere, there would be a partial revival in the building industry which might result in appreciable improvement of general living conditions.

MODERN EDUCATION.

In a paragraph referring to the reopening of the public schools, the Montreal Standard briefly discusses the trend of later day education and puts forward a plea for specialization rather than the customary policy of stuffing children with knowledge which will be almost utterly valueless and which does more harm by crowding out information of worth than it does good in training the intellect. The Standard says: "After the long vacation, hundreds of thousands of school children, all over the Dominion, will be resuming their school work. There is still, in some quarters, a disposition to cling to the number rather than the quality of the lessons, and boys and girls at our public schools will be found bending under the burden of bulky school-books containing a dozen or a score of books, the majority of which will be of little service to them in after-life. The new idea, however, of fewer text-books, and more observational study, is at once humane and satisfactory in its results. This is the basic principle at the Macdonald College. In a commercial and industrial age, such as this, education should be shaped to ends which are immediate and pressing. Everyone who has passed through the graded stages of education leading up to the university studies to think, in looking back, of the superfluous lessons he studied, of the apparently useless lessons he pored over. The child who is crammed with educational superfluities in a day which stands for directness and the instant application of power and knowledge to projects and problems which press for solution, is fatally handicapped. The new idea, which is receiving universal recognition, is fewer text-books, and more practical knowledge applicable to the imperative needs of a mechanical and industrial age."

A MOVABLE HOLIDAY.

Yesterday—the first Monday in September—was observed throughout Canada as Labor Day. December 31st is Christmas Day the world over; January 1st is a fixed holiday; May 24th is always Victoria Day, Good Friday is always settled by the calendar, for though the date may vary, it can always be calculated years in advance. Canada's birthday is July 1st. Of all our public holidays, so-called, the only one which is never known for more than a few weeks ahead is Thanksgiving Day. Why this should be placed in a category separate from the others is not very clear, the only argument in support of the present system of appointing the day being the weather conditions and their effect on the harvest. Why not set apart, as an immovable event on day of the year to be always observed as Thanksgiving? By this plan the purpose of the day would be more fully appreciated, and its observance would become more real.

THE CAMPAIGN.

There is as yet no definite announcement of an election, yet every day witnesses nominations, in various parts of Canada. The majority of the candidates on both sides are now in the

field, and everywhere the campaign is being actively carried on. The majority of the government are being sprung by the government on short notice will not likely be heard this year, for even in the absence, as yet, of the selection of a date, the leaders of the government show by their activity that the contest will be held in the near future, and this is certainly sufficient to warrant the now general preparation.

Nurse (announcing the expected)—Professor, it's a little boy. Professor (cheerfully)—Well, ask him what he wants.

"Do you consider that Louise falls in love easily?" "Well, as a rule, she succumbs after about a hundred dollars' worth of theatre tickets."

She—Sir, I understand you said I had hard features. He (suavely)—I plead guilty to saying you had a marble brow, arched eyebrows, eyes like diamonds and lips like rubies.

"Dessert," said he, "I hope is pie." His manner made her smart. She was not cross, but her reply, "Was 'just a little tart.'"

"You say you acted like a perfect lady throughout?" "Sure, yer honor. When he tips his hat to me and me not knowin' him, I ups with a rock an' caves in his face."

"Mamma, may I go over with Freddie in his yard?" "No, my son; you and Freddie stay in our yard and play."

"But there's more fun in his yard, mamma, we've trampled down all of our flowers!"

He (in despair)—How shall I ever make an impression upon you? You have a heart of adamant. She (copy)—You might try a diamond.

ONLY ONE THUMB LEFT.

X-Ray Martyr Has to Use a Dummy Hand.

LONDON, Sept. 7.—Dr. Hall Edwards, of the Birmingham X-ray martyr, who, as the result of two operations for dermatitis, has now only one thumb left to take the place of a pair of hands, has had a wooden apparatus fixed to the stump of his right hand. Exposed to the solitary thumb, he is able to hold light articles.

"For instance," said the doctor, "I can now hold my cigarette, or when my food is cut up finely I can help myself with a spoon or a fork. But the most gratifying part of my general condition is the relief I get from pain. Before the last operation the only relief I had from the terrible gnawing was Mr. W. E. Rootes, a member of the society's executive committee, stated recently that £200 would be devoted by the society to prizes during the first year. "It is our ambition," he said, "to have a rat club in every parish of London and in every village in the country. The prizes, which would be given in the following way— "A national trophy for the club that has the best rat-killing year. "A county prize, either money or trophy, for the county in which most rats are exterminated by its clubs. "Fifty individual prizes of one guinea for club members who kill the greatest number of rats during a given time. "In addition, other people who are instrumental in the destruction of vermin would doubtless offer prizes. "The manner in which a rat club could get to work is perfectly simple. No one likes a vermin-infested place, and would readily give permission to members of clubs to set traps on their property. There are various means which could be adopted for destroying the rodents. Among them are traps, air-guns, ferrets, and terriers. "There is nothing more exciting than a rat hunt," continued Mr. Boelter. "If a trap is used the best bait is oil of rhodium, aniseed, or bread saturated with oil of caraway. Any of these will attract the rats readily, and then, as they come out, they can be shot, or killed by the terriers. A good stout stick, too, is a sure way of killing them."

LEWIS DEFENDS HIS TITLE.

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 7.—Harry Lewis, of Philadelphia, welterweight champion, found his title at no time in danger in a 12-round bout with Russell Russell in a 12-round bout with Russell Russell in the 10th and had him groggy but was unable to put him out.

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 room method of examination with modern scientific instruments.

ABE ATTELL FIGHTS DRAW WITH MORAN.

COLA ARENA, San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 7.—Abe Attell, the champion featherweight of America, and Owen Moran, England's prop, boxer in the same division, fought a draw battle at the Colma open air arena this afternoon in the presence of about 4,000 spectators. The battle lasted 23 rounds and at its conclusion Referee Jack Welch unhesitatingly grazed both lads by the hand, signifying that the fight was a draw. The decision seemed to please the crowd and there were cheers for each fighter as he wended his way from the ring. The fight, on the whole, was rather tame, but this was offset by the cleverness of both fighters. It was marked by Moran's aggressiveness and Attell's cleverness and blocking and his all-round work from a defense standpoint.

WIRELESS SYSTEM TO COVER PACIFIC

Company Plans Stations to Connect all the Important Islands With the Mainland.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 7.—An elaborate system of telegraph stations, connecting practically all important islands of the Middle and South Pacific with the continent of Australia, and thence by cable with the rest of the world, is now practically assured. In a report made public the other day, Julius D. Dreher, United States Consul at Tahiti, tells of the steps taken to organize a company for this purpose, as well as the general interest shown in the project.

It is proposed to include in this system the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Fiji, the New Zealand, the Solomon, Samoa, Cook, Society and Marquesa Islands, and the phosphate islands of Ocean, Phoenix and Makoto.

Negotiations have already proceeded so far that the success of the efforts seems to be almost assured. A large tract of available ocean cable office at Tahiti is at Auckland, 2,300 miles away, from which a steamship of the Union Line of New Zealand arrives at Paapeete once every twenty-eight days, and a direct communication by a steamship of the Oceanic Company with San Francisco, 3,658 miles distant, is had once in every thirty-six days. It will be understood how deeply interested the French colony of Tahiti and its dependencies are in the complete success of these negotiations. Other groups of islands are equally interested in the establishment of this system, which means so much to the inhabitants of these widely separated archipelagos.

The name of the proposed company is the Pacific Islands Radio-Telegraph Company. The proposed capital of £70,000 (\$350,000), the owners of the phosphate deposits on Ocean and Phoenix Islands have subscribed £10,000. In this radial system there will probably be ten or twelve circles, the largest having a radius of 1,250 miles, and requiring for each station an engine of sixty horse power.

MARRYING MARY.

The Rev. Thorley Throckmorton in the musical play "Marrying Mary," in which Florence Gear and a large company will be seen at the Opera House on Monday, Sept. 14th, represents in a satirical way a type of clergyman that is none too rare in many cities of wealth. Holding his position at the sufferance of the money

of his parish, he is apt to wink at their little indiscretions and view with more leniency than is right, for one of his cloth, the ecclesiastical of those who consider that they bring immunity from censure for wrong when they contribute liberally to their

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St. John Branch—Cor. King and German Streets. F. B. FRANCIS, Manager.

RAT CLUBS IN LONDON.

Plan to Form One in Every Parish of the City.

LONDON, Sept. 7.—The Society for the Destruction of Vermin is organizing a number of rat clubs in London. Its object being to exterminate the mischievous rodent and at the same time to afford exciting sport.

Mr. W. E. Rootes, a member of the society's executive committee, stated recently that £200 would be devoted by the society to prizes during the first year. "It is our ambition," he said, "to have a rat club in every parish of London and in every village in the country. The prizes, which would be given in the following way— "A national trophy for the club that has the best rat-killing year. "A county prize, either money or trophy, for the county in which most rats are exterminated by its clubs. "Fifty individual prizes of one guinea for club members who kill the greatest number of rats during a given time. "In addition, other people who are instrumental in the destruction of vermin would doubtless offer prizes. "The manner in which a rat club could get to work is perfectly simple. No one likes a vermin-infested place, and would readily give permission to members of clubs to set traps on their property. There are various means which could be adopted for destroying the rodents. Among them are traps, air-guns, ferrets, and terriers. "There is nothing more exciting than a rat hunt," continued Mr. Boelter. "If a trap is used the best bait is oil of rhodium, aniseed, or bread saturated with oil of caraway. Any of these will attract the rats readily, and then, as they come out, they can be shot, or killed by the terriers. A good stout stick, too, is a sure way of killing them."

FOUR PERSONS BURNED; INCENDIARISM FEARED

NEW YORK, Sept. 7.—Four persons, believed to have been members of a group of employes working overtime, were burned to death tonight in a fire, supposedly of incendiary origin, which destroyed a seven-story factory building on Water street. The bodies, buried beyond recognition, were found on the sixth floor of the building, some time after the fire had been extinguished. Three of the victims were men and the fourth a woman. Up to a late hour none had been identified. Search is being made for other bodies.

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Ladies' Brown Gaiters

Last year we were unable to supply the call we had for this article, so this year we have made up our minds to do so, and well and the Brown Gaiter we are offering today is a very big value giver.

SIX BUTTON GOLDEN BROWN GAITER \$1.25 EIGHT BUTTON LONG GOLDEN BROWN GAITER \$1.50 LEATHER HEEL AND UNDER STRAP REINFORCING. LADIES' BLACK GAITER, EIGHT BUTTONS, LEATHER STRENGTHENED HEEL AND UNDER STRAP, at 50 cents per pair. This Gaiter is very good value at 55 cents.

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DEATHS

MCKENZIE—Suddenly, in this city, on the 24th inst., Mary, beloved wife of James A. McKenzie, leaving a husband, one son and three daughters to mourn their loss.

REED—In this city, on the 6th inst., Margaret, oldest daughter of the late John and Mary Reed, leaving three sisters and one brother to mourn.

BOYKE—At Chatham, on the 7th inst., Connelly A. Boyke of this city, leaving four sons and three daughters to mourn their loss.

MURPHY—In this city, on Sept. 6th, Richard Murphy, in the 53rd year of his age. Funeral from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Robert Attkin, 25 Adelaide street, Wednesday morning at 8:30.

BARTLETT—In Manchester, N. H., on Saturday, the 4th inst., Florence Alida, aged 6 years and 6 months, only child of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Bartlett. Funeral from her parents' residence, Monday the 7th, Manchester, N. H.

Men's Fall Shoes

A Man, who buys Shoes here for the first time, generally has his eyes opened on the Shoe question. For instance, take our Men's Shoes at \$4.00 or \$4.50. He has learned that they are as good, if not better Shoes, than he has been paying \$5.00 and \$5.50 for, elsewhere.

Such splendid leathers as Gun Metal Calif. Vici Kid, Colt Skin, Valour Calif. etc. Lace, Button or Blucher cut. All the new lasts and toe shapes.

Our Shoes are distinctive in style, and look as different from the ordinary Shoes as you can well imagine. We're experts at fitting.

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"THE CRIMP AND THE CONSEQUENCE"

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

St. John Exhibition

will start on its career for 1908. The Exhibition Association has done its part in providing a Bigger, Brighter and Better show than ever before. GREATER ATTRACTIONS MORE LIVE STOCK FIREWORKS UNSURPASSED

It's Up To You now to do your part by coming to the show and bringing your friends. September 12 to September 19. A. O. SKINNER, President. R. H. ARNOLD, Manager.

ROTHESAY COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, Rothesay, N. B.

HEADMASTER REV. W. R. HIBBARD, M. A., Late Senior Mathematical Master at Trinity College School, Port Hope. Well known boarding school for boys. Preparation for the Universities, R. M. C., or for business. Manual Training. New Gymnasium ready for use in September. Five resident masters for an average attendance of 70 pupils. Situation unexcelled. The school is managed on what is known as the Home System i. e., the boarding houses are quite separate from the main school building, and each is in charge of two masters. Next term begins September 14th. For illustrated calendar and other information, apply to the Headmaster.

VENEZUELAN MINISTER NOW IN TRINIDAD

Communicating With Home Government Regarding the Situation—Just Out of Quarantine.

AUSTRALIA DECLARES HER FERVENT LOYALTY

Visit of American Fleet—Will Strengthen Ties to Great Britain.

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Sept. 8

Sir Vincent Corbett, the British minister to Caracas, who arrived here from Venezuela, Sept. 6th, to communicate with his home government concerning Venezuelan affairs, was released from quarantine yesterday. He will remain here for a few days pending an opportunity to return to Caracas. Sir Vincent declines to discuss the object of his visit here.

The average man's idea of a good sermon is one that goes over his head and hits one of his acquaintances.