

Six Hundred Masons Join In Drope Reception—Urban Trustees Elect Officers

London Masons Welcome Grand Master of Ontario At Striking Ceremonies

W. J. Drope of Grimsby Greeted By 600 Blue Lodge Members.

WOMEN ATTEND

Wife and Daughter of Visiting Official Share in Honors.

With all the ceremony befitting such an occasion Masons of London gathered with their ladies in the Masonic Temple last night to tender an official welcome to Most Worshipful Brother W. J. Drope, M.A., grand master of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in Ontario. There were upwards of 600 Blue Lodge Masons and their friends present, taking the main auditorium of the temple to capacity. Every two years a similar ceremony is held in this city, and last night's official reception surpassed all previous in point of attendance.



W. J. DROPE, of Grimsby, grand master of Ontario Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, who was officially welcomed to London last night by 600 members of the order. A similar ceremony is held every two years.

Included in the official greeting to the ruling head of the craft in this province were felicitations of the Forest City brethren to Mrs. Drope and Miss Drope, wife and daughter respectively of the grand master. In presenting the address of welcome to M. W. Bro. Drope, the Masons of London also tendered a beautiful nest of tables of walnut, inlaid with boxwood, as a tangible expression of the esteem in which their master is held. Rt. Wor. Bro. W. H. Line made the presentation.

M. W. Bro. Drope, who has but recently recovered from a serious illness, and whose condition is still one of poor health, replied suitably, his remarks being short, due to his indisposition. The remarks of the distinguished visitor were received chiefly to the ladies present, and ran in a vein of humor. The grand master pointed out that it is a base slander for those who wish to declare that no member of the fair sex can be made a Mason because the woman cannot keep a secret. He averred that always in the presence of ladies more man must be jubilant and as Masonry is devoted to the more serious side of life, woman must stay at home. Apparently the explanation was accepted, the ladies present heartily applauding this statement.

Continuing, the grand master addressed the brethren of the craft present, telling them that he would not devote his remarks to Masonry, as they were well aware of the merits of the great fraternity of which they were members.

Likes London and People.

"I like London, and I like London Masons," said Bro. Drope. "I like your wide streets, your parks and your beautiful trees. I like your beautiful approach to the University of Western Ontario, and I like your river Thames."

The latter statement drew some laughter, and the speaker continued, referring to the C. N. R. station, which he declared also appealed to him. "It is many years since I first visited London," he said "and your C. N. R. station was there at that time. I see by the newspapers that your mayor is getting busy to procure a new station for you. If he is successful, I would urge that the present C. N. R. station be allowed to stand as a memorial to civilization."

The grand master concluded his remarks by thanking his brethren for the address of welcome and beautiful gift, on behalf of himself and family. Prior to the presentation, the members of the craft at the reception gathered in the blue room, while their ladies were seated in the gallery. Each Mason present wore regalia, and marched to the main auditorium, where ten London Blue Lodges tendered honors to their grand master.

Ballroom Decorated.

The ballroom was decorated in blue.

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SUBURBAN HEIGHTS—WHERE'S THE WIFE.



AT THE THEATRES

THE MAJESTIC

"Irene"

The tuneful musical comedy "Irene" with Miss Peggy Coudray in the title role, has proved a more than usually popular attraction at the Majestic theatre this week. The Majestic Players have added to their cast a chorus composed of local talent for the week.

"Irene" brings back again the melodies which made the play so popular. "Alice Blue Gown" and "Irene" lose none of their sweetness when sung by Miss Coudray.

The story brings up the age-old argument of heredity versus environment. Irene, New York, is a shop girl, attractive, and alive to her surroundings. She has visions of a happier life beyond the tenements.

Her chance comes when Madame Lucy, an English modiste, requires a girl of poise to wear exclusive gowns. Irene and a couple of her friends, on the pretext of a party, take to the streets and bear up under the strain with less agony than the climbers.

It is a pretty plot, thoroughly wholesome and refreshing. The music is catchy, the humorous passages there is none of the coarsest which goes into the making of Edward Clenden plays.

Edward Clenden plays opposite Miss Coudray. The lines provided for William Naughton, who plays most of the laughs, the effeminate male is always able to extract smiles without much trouble. Mr. Naughton's acting gained the desired effect.

LOEW'S THEATRE

"The Rag Man"

With each succeeding revelation of the genius of Jackie Coogan, the conviction is strengthened that there can be but one Jackie Coogan in the world. Young as he is, he is in his acting art a master.

This was demonstrated yesterday at Loew's Theatre when Jackie appeared in his latest picture, "The Rag Man." This photoplay contains many examples of the humor that is to be extracted from life. Jackie is not exactly a comedian—he is more than that, for comedians are too frequently limited to the exhibition of tricks and mannerisms without true humor.

But Jackie's comedy is appealing because it is invested with character and a human quality that is not taught in any school of acting.

The story relates the adventures of little Tim Kelly after he has lost his home in a New York orphan asylum fire. Tim Kelly is registered among those that perished in the flames. Tim is well satisfied to be considered a "dead one," for he finds himself a home and a job with old Max Ginsburg, who begins by befriending the boy and ends by being befriended by him.

Such a plot scheme obviously gives every opportunity for comedy touches, which are given weight and depth by episodes appealing to the heart of the most stolid. Jackie Coogan's role recalls the one he had in "The Kid" with Charlie Chaplin. "The Rag Man" is also sure to make an immediate hit with all of the juvenile screen star followers. For this reason a special performance for children of the city for Saturday morning is being arranged by the management of Loew's.

It cannot be said that the bill of vaudeville was exceptionally well received yesterday, although it is excellent in its type. A conjurer's performance in which many tricks are performed, proved the most popular. The magician stunts are truly mystifying. Two other acts are of the singing and dancing variety, with a side issue of a humorous patter. The dancing is extraordinarily good, the patter mediocre and the singing poor. "Topics of the Day" and a Lloyd Hamilton comedy, "Hooked," complete the program of entertainment, which

CAPITOL THEATRE

"Blazing Barriers."

A colorful portrayal of life in the wilderness of Quebec is given in the film "Broken Barriers," showing at the Capitol theatre the last three days of this week. Scenes are laid around some of the prettiest parts of the old French-Canadian province, and some good views of the citadel at Quebec City are shown.

"Broken Barriers" comes from the pen of James Oliver Curwood, and has been produced by the Pine Tree corporation. Lew Cody, Sheldon Lewis, Peter Griffin and Marjorie Court take strong parts.

Gripping action is given in the Curwood-type photoplay. Shooting parties in the north, fighting through a tremendously realistic forest fire are only a few of these incidents.

Leo Tolan offered a good turn in the comedy film of the Marmalade company, with plenty of new stunts crammed into a single-reel. Pathe offerings included American travel and a human jungle Coogan's role recalls the one he had in "The Kid" with Charlie Chaplin.

SEWER BUILDING WILL SOON BEGIN

Approval By Council Expected To Be Given at Next Meeting.

Thanks to the indorsement of Hale street ratepayers, a new \$50,000 sewer project will be gone on with in London East at an early date.

In order to ratify the proposal of the works department a public meeting was held at Pottersburg school last night. W. P. Near, city engineer, and others spoke at some length. There was little objection to the project, though there were a few who did not favor the expenditure at this time.

Plans and specifications were clearly defined. The sewer will take care of a large amount of drainage and sanitary sewage in the far east, and will be one of the largest single jobs in some years. It is next in importance to the South London sewer, now being completed. When the Hale street system is completed some of the strain will be taken from the central trunk system.

Mr. Near asked that indorsement be given so that work could be gone on with to provide relief work. If the work is started before the first of April a percentage of the cost can be secured from the provincial government, and the mayor is hopeful of getting a slice from the federal department as well.

Last night's vote resulted in a split of 70 to 10 in favor of construction of the sewer. Work will be gone on with as soon as a city by-law is formally passed.

PASSENGER TRAIN KILLS FOXBORO RAILROAD MAN

Canadian Press Despatch. Kingston, Feb. 26.—John Blakeley, an employee of the Canadian National Railway, whose home is in Foxboro, Ont., was instantly killed this morning in Nanapan, when he was struck by a westbound passenger train. He was walking along the rails directly in front of Nanapan station, and stepped from the eastbound track directly in front of the passenger train on the westbound route. He was struck on the head and killed. An inquest was commenced this afternoon.

KINGSTON EDITOR HEADS TRUSTEES

Joseph Elliott Is New President—S. F. Lawrason Honored Also.

CONVENTION ENDS

Trustee S. Fred Lawrason of the London board of education was yesterday afternoon elected vice-president of the Urban School Trustees' association for the ensuing year. His election took place at the closing session of the association's sixth annual convention, which met at the Tecumseh house here during the past three days.

Joseph G. Elliott, Kingston, editor of "The British Whig," was elected president, in succession to A. M. Cunningham, Hamilton, the retiring president.

Two splendid addresses were delivered during the afternoon, the one on "The Under-Privileged Child," by Lieut.-Col. J. Edgar Davey, M.B. D. S.O., chief medical school officer, health and physical education section, Ontario Educational association and the other on "Commercial Education," by W. H. Fletcher, M.A., Toronto commercial high school.

The Future Problem.

"The problem of the future," declared Col. Davey in his address, "is the correction of defects in the child of pre-school age. To correct those defects will require the help of the mothers, and in fact, the solution of the problem of the future rest very largely upon the measure of co-operation to be secured between the home and the school."

Col. Davey emphasized the great work being done by competent school nurses, but also pointed out the fact that the nurses could not do all that should be done, and they need the advice and assistance of a qualified physician.

"Knowing that there are one thousand and one factors combining to give every possible variation from a standard," Colonel Davey insisted, "the situation continues to exist through no fault of the department of education. For many years there has been a constant action made in the regulations by the department to permit boards of education to take care of almost any type of under-privileged child, and not only has the work been done, but it has been encouraged by liberal government grants toward the additional expenditure in such work."

The Under-Privileged.

Underprivileged children are divided into three classes by Col. Davey, including the mentally abnormal, the physically handicapped and the morally twisted. For these respective classes the regulations provide for auxiliary classes, and classes in sight-saving, reading, arithmetic, penmanship, nutrition, clinics, sanatoria and open air schools, teachers in hospitals and itinerant teachers, psychiatric and disciplinary classes.

On behalf of the Hamilton technical institute, Dr. H. S. Burns, Hamilton, presented Mr. Elliott with a gavel similar to that presented to President Cunningham earlier in the convention.

In accepting the office of vice-president and expressing his appreciation of the honor, Mr. Elliott said himself in his appointment by the association. Mr. Lawrason stated that, prior to the time he had become a member of the association, he had no idea of either the bigness of the task or the exceedingly interesting nature of the work.

Other members of the executive elected were: Mrs. W. A. Collett, Chatham; Arthur McGie, Belleville; C. S. Cameron, Weston; O. W. Muir, Niagara Falls; P. B. Edmunds, Toronto, and A. M. Cunningham, Hamilton.

The association's convention next year will be held in the city of Belleville, some time in February.

YUKON CONSERVATIVE TO OPEN CLUBROOMS

Capt. George Black, Member From Arctic, to Speak Here Tonight.

When the new London Conservative club rooms, over the Assembly pool rooms on Richmond street, are opened tonight, Capt. George Black, federal member for the Yukon Territory, will be one of the sponsors for the latest True Blue development in this city. Capt. Black, who will deliver an address at this ceremony, is one of the best known members of the House at Ottawa. He is a man from one of the farthest flung parts of the empire, and his attitude on all things political and social is always interesting and virile.

Dr. Cameron Wilson, president of the London Conservative association, will assist Chris Hawkins, president of the Conservative club, in the opening ceremonies. Later there will be a progressive euchre and refreshments, with suitable prizes. George Nightingale, secretary of the club, will be present in the chair from 7:15, and will be ready to receive applications for membership.

SEAFOORTH COLLEGIATE CONCERT DRAWS CROWD

Special to The Advertiser. Seafoorth, Feb. 26.—A very successful concert, under the auspices of the Seafoorth collegiate institute, was held in Cardno's Opera House on Tuesday night before a large and appreciative audience. The program consisted of dances, calisthenics by the girls of the school and gymnastics by the boys. The Marshall Clark Company also gave selections on a great variety of instruments. An important item of the program was the presentation of medals to all the winners of championships and prizes and the presentation of 21 high school graduation diplomas. The proceeds will be devoted to the purchase of good pictures for class-room decoration.

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JACKIE COOGAN AT LOEW'S ON SATURDAY MORNING.

THORNTON WIRES STATION HELD UP

Wenige Either Misunderstood or Misquoted, Says Head of C. N. R.

Likelihood of a hold-up in C. N. R. station construction plans in London is expressed following the receipt here of a telegram from Sir Henry Thornton, head of the National Railways. According to statement credited to Sir Henry there has been an indefinite hoist in building plans as funds are not available for early construction.

This situation sets back the optimism of Mayor Wenige, following his return from the east on Wednesday.

The mayor interpreted a conference with Sir Henry as meaning that construction of the new C.N.R. depot was being planned for an early date. The mayor declared on his return that two C.N.R. engineers would be in the city yesterday to go over plans for final approval. He admitted last night that he had not seen the railway representatives yet.

A wire from Sir Henry reads: "I think Mayor Wenige must have been either misunderstood or misquoted, as I told him I could promise nothing, but that I recognized the necessity and importance of co-operating with the city of London with the view to providing better station and transportation facilities. This is a condition which has improved itself upon me from the first. I explained to his worship that it was largely a matter of finance and that no money for such a project could be found this year. He suggested the desirability of co-operation with the city to study the situation and prepare a scheme for submission to both sides, which, when adopted, would serve as a basis for construction for the project if and when decided upon."

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