

Vocational Schools to Close on February 15

Committee Decides to End Classes, Return Deposits, Sell Equipment and Refund Proceeds—Result of City's Action in Refusing to Vote Further Funds.

The vocational classes in St. John will close on February 15. All accounts in connection with them will be wound up, the equipment sold, all deposits returned to the scholars and any funds which remain will be divided between the city council and the provincial government, pro rata. A resolution to this effect was moved by Thomas Nagle, seconded by G. P. Hennessy and carried unanimously at a special meeting of the vocational committee held yesterday afternoon in the office of the school board with Dr. A. F. Emery, the chairman, presiding. Other members present were Alexander Wilson, A. Gordon Leavitt, secretary, and Major W. C. Lawson, director of vocational training. The resolution set forth that such action was taken by the committee because of the refusal of the common council of the city of St. John to vote the necessary funds to carry on vocational training.

Mr. Nagle, as chairman of the finance committee, recommended that a definite date be fixed for the closing of the schools in order that the onus for their discontinuance might be placed where it belonged—on the city council. He said that the committee had incurred obligations to the members of the staff appointed and would fulfill them but it should not run the risk of going into debt by carrying on the classes without funds. The action of the city commissioners in refusing to make the grant of \$25,000 for the carrying of vocational training next year as it had been recommended to do by the school board, was, he said, typical of the "parish politics" which had hampered the progress and growth of the city for many years. Concerning the two ladies who had appeared before the common council urging that the grant be not given, it was said by a member of the board, that one of them was not a resident of the city and was not a taxpayer and had endeavored, unsuccessfully, to be appointed a member of the vocational committee. Regarding the appointment of Major W. C. Lawson as director of vocational training, Mr. Nagle said he wished to contradict statements which appeared in

LIGNITE GAINS IN POPULARITY

Canadian Product is Gradually Replacing Use of American Anthracite.

Winnipeg, Feb. 2.—The coal-buying public of Manitoba has discovered that high grade Alberta lignite coal is cheaper, as clean and as easy to handle as American anthracite, declared a local coal dealer interviewed recently. Canadian coal has arrived and the man who insists that he can burn nothing but American anthracite in his furnace is becoming hard to find. One-eighth of the world's coal supply is said to be contained in Alberta's fields, yet it is estimated that at the beginning of 1917 not over seven per cent of the coal consumed in Winnipeg furnaces was the Canadian product. In 1917, when owing to labor and railroad conditions, it was impossible to obtain American coal in sufficient quantities the government decided to take action and formed a fuel administration, with the result that Alberta coal was introduced to Manitoba. Consumers had to purchase twice as much lignite as anthracite and had to have half their Alberta coal supply before receiving a quota of hard. Men grumbled on street corners. Afternoon teas became indignation meetings about that "filthy soft coal." However, as the result of the fuel controller's order everybody had to make a test of Canadian coal. It is estimated now that in the year 1920-21 fifty per cent of the domestic coal consumed in Winnipeg comes from the western mines and old prejudices against western coal are gradually being overcome. An approximate increase of 300 per cent in the sale of western steam coal with a decrease of nearly 100 per cent, in the consumption of American steam coal is recorded.

SMOKER AND ENTERTAINMENT BY M'AVITY'S A. A.

The Athletic Association of T. McAvity & Sons, Limited, held a smoker and entertainment last evening in the G. W. A. hall, which demonstrated the fact that the members of the association were proficient in a variety of things other than athletics. There were about 100 members present and they were entertained by vocal solos, instrumental selections, dances, boxing bouts and wrestling matches. Refreshments were served during an intermission in the entertainment.

H. L. Pratt, president of the association, was in the chair and the committee in charge of the entertainment took the following part: Cummings, chairman; Charles Noddin, Arthur Harris and P. J. Legge. This energetic committee, by the president on behalf of the association for the excellent evening's entertainment they had given. The first number on the programme was a banjo and mandolin duet by Frank Orr and C. Kane, which brought forth considerable applause. This was followed by an amusing monologue and song by Thomas Stack. The McEachern male quartette gave several songs, which were loudly applauded. After this came the boxing bout when H. Clinno and M. McLunkin provided four rounds of clean, fast boxing with so little to choose between them that the referee, George Lawson, concluded he would not give any decision. An accordion and banjo selection by C. Noddin and P. J. Legge, followed by a piano and mandolin duet by F. O'Hare and C. Kane. J. Stackhouse delighted the audience with a vocal solo and replied to several encores. Mr. Irvine was heard in an interesting reading and then came the intermission and refreshments. R. Johnson brought down the house with his clever work on the mouth organ, playing tunes on it without the aid of his hands and imitating several well known mouth organ artists. Charles Noddin showed the association what was meant by a "buck and wing" dance and he was followed by C. Kane in a clog dance. A violin and piano selection given by F. J. Allan and F. O'Hare concluded the musical part of the entertainment. Two wrestling matches, the first between W. Cowan and M. Corcoran, and the second between B. Wilson and C. Coleman brought the evening's entertainment to a close. The wrestling matches were each of fifteen minutes duration and no falls were obtained in either as the contestants were very evenly matched. B. Wilson refereed the first bout while Mr. Anderson was referee of the second one.

PARIS HAS CRIME WAVE.
Paris, Feb. 2.—Paris has had her annual crime wave and round up of Apaches. More than 700 have been arrested in two weeks.



"Health and Fry's"

QUEBEC MAN'S ESCAPADE

Imprisoned in Salt Mine in Mexico, Engineer Escapes.

New Westminster, Feb. 2.—A strange tale of imprisonment and slavery in a salt mine in Mexico was unfolded to the immigration officers at the international boundary a few days ago when they picked up Edwin G. Kehoe. His statements having been substantiated, Kehoe was admitted to Canada and given trans-

portation to New Westminster. Kehoe is a native of Quebec, and graduated at Edinburgh University as a civil engineer. In 1908 he took a position with a Mexican oil company and four years later was forced to take sides with one of the revolutionary parties then warring on the western slope. Captured, he was thrown in a vermin-infested prison and later in a salt mine. During that time he did not hear of the great war raging in Europe. Three months ago the opportunity to escape arrived. Hitting his guard on the head with a rock he scaled the 800-foot shaft and made his way across the American frontier, from whence he came north by foot and blind baggage.

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OLD CHURCH IS DESTROYED

Catholic Chapel Built by Priests and Brothers Burned With Valuable Contents.

Edmonton, Feb. 2.—Fire was responsible recently for the destruction of the

second oldest ecclesiastical institution in this part of the province when the forty-year-old Catholic church at St. Albert was destroyed. The church, which was the cathedral for many years, was one of the historical landmarks of the Edmonton district. It was built by the priests and reverend brothers entirely. Some of the finest paintings and carvings that could be seen anywhere were in this old church. For a long time it served the needs of the Catholic people of the whole district.

The paintings around the church and around the altar were particularly beautiful and the two angels, one each side of the high altar, are stated to equal anything in the churches of the old land; all were done by the Christian brothers who, coming from Brittany, France and Belgium, were, many of them, master craftsmen.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 2.—"Male flirts" have been warned to cease flirting or face arrest and prosecution.

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MUTT AND JEFF—JUST FOR THAT, JEFF'LL LOOK FOR ANOTHER MANAGER

By "BUD" FISHER

