

EDMONTON NEWS

LOCALS

The Merchants' Bank has opened a branch office at Okotoks, under the management of H. R. Minnis.

Lieutenant G. Mortimer of Ottawa, of the Ross rifle company, arrived in the city last night and is a guest at the Alberta hotel.

John Halstead, of Calgary, assistant general freight agent of C.P.R. western lines, is in the city today, a guest at the Windsor hotel.

C. Marker, of Calgary, superintendent of provincial creameries, is in the city today, a guest at the Windsor hotel.

Ed. F. Ryan, barrister, of Calgary, is visiting in Edmonton. Mr. Ryan was until recently in partnership with P. J. Nolan, but is now conducting business on his own account.

At the home of George Margorison, 878 Fifth street, Wednesday afternoon his two children, Gilbert and Dorothy, gave a very enjoyable birthday party to a number of their young friends.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bremner, of Seventh street, are in Cranbrook, B.C., where they have lost their second son Donald. The two brothers of the Bremner Electric Company are also in Cranbrook.

The health department are taking energetic steps to prevent the dumping of manure and garbage on outlying sections of the city. The department is offering rewards to persons reporting such infractions of the by-law.

L. J. Sennier who for the past two years has conducted general stores at the corner of Kinistino and McCauley and on Fraser flats, has disposed of his business here and is removing to Bruderheim. Mrs. Sennier and family will remain in the city.

A Christmas entertainment will be held in the Home Wood Presbyterian church, Clover Bar, on Thursday evening, December 21st. A good program being prepared and refreshments will be served during the evening.

At the office of the building inspector, Wednesday afternoon a permit for a \$1,200 residence on lot 3, block 14, R. L. 4, on Currie street, was issued.

The plant of the newspaper established at Athabasca Landing left the city yesterday. Athabasca Landing is being transferred to be called "The Northern News," published in the interest of the north-western Alberta districts. The first issue will appear on Wednesday, Jan. 7th.

Captain George Riddle and Captain C. D. A. Barber, who have charge of teams on the Athabasca, were called down from the north yesterday on the stage from Athabasca Landing. Barber and Miss Barber leave shortly for the Pacific coast, where they will spend the winter.

At a meeting of some of the residents of the west end of the city, on Saturday evening it was decided to take steps at once to secure a school to prepare for the children of an Anglican church in the west end. A committee was appointed to make a charge of the matter. This move was deemed advisable in view of the rapid growth of that part of the city and the consequent crowding of all Saints church. The new church will probably be erected early next spring.

The smoker held by the Sons of England last Monday night in the Pethian Hall proved a great success. About seventy-five members and their friends being present. The president of the society, E. D. LeRiche, occupied the chair. Mr. Mans officiated at the piano. The following gentlemen contributed songs: Messrs. W. B. Jones, Heathcote, F. Whiby, Mountfield, FitzGerald, S. R. Bond, Owen Jones, Ross, Wilkins, W. Murphy, and Messrs. Mountfield and Heathcote, speech by W. A. Linn, recitations by Messrs. J. Murphy and C. Ramsey. The famous Homeholders' Quartette was also in attendance and gave several very pleasing selections. The society has arranged for a series of three socials to be held during the winter months, at which all members and their friends will be made welcome.

THE NEW POLICE CHIEF. If the new police chief proves equal to his recommendations, Edmonton has secured an excellent man for the position. A. J. Lancy, the appointee, is a son of Ex-Chief of Police Lancy, of Montreal, and has been connected with police work from the cradle. He was formerly chief of the C.P.R. detective force in Montreal and up to the present was chief of the Canadian Detective Bureau, with headquarters in Montreal. He is highly recommended by Chief Carpenter, of the Montreal Detective Bureau; Percy Sherwood, chief of the Dominion Police, and Chief Davidson, of the Edmonton fire department.

WILLING WORKERS OFFICERS. The annual meeting of the Willing Workers Society of All Saints church was held in All Saints school room on Monday afternoon for the purpose of selecting officers for the ensuing year. Owing to the illness of the treasurer the financial report was not read. It will be presented at the next meeting of the society, to be held on the second Monday in January. The following were the officers elected for next year, most of whom were re-elected: President, Mrs. Braithwaite; first vice-president, Mrs. Jellett; second vice-president, Mrs. J. McDonald; secretary, Mrs. Shilley; treasurer, Mrs. J. D. Harrison.

Black Watch. The big black plug.

PERSONAL

Dr. Rouleau, of Calgary, returned yesterday after spending a few days in the city.

Dr. Couillard of Montreal arrived in the city a few days ago and expects to make his home in Edmonton.

S. Dunbar, of the staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Edmonton, left Thursday for Halifax, to which branch he has been transferred.

Alfred A. Jones leaves shortly on the C. P. R. on a trip to England.

W. S. Hefferman leaves on the C. P. R. on Saturday for Montreal.

DECLARATION DAY.

This morning at eleven o'clock Returning Officer C. Ross Palmer held a declaration court in the City Hall and announced the correct figures as published in the Bulletin yesterday afternoon.

The aldermanic candidates elected for two years are Wilfrid Garfield, J. E. Laurier, Dr. H. J. McInnis and J. H. McKinnley, and for one year A. B. Agar and D. H. Fraser. The mayor-elect, Alderman Lee, has a majority of 664, and the new school trustees are Walter Ramsay, Archdeacon Gray and W. H. Clark.

FULL SERVICE IN OPERATION.

Tuesday the two street car service was put into operation between Edmonton and Strathcona and the department is offering rewards to persons reporting such infractions of the by-law.

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ADDITION TO INCINERATOR.

It is probable that it will be necessary shortly to make an addition to the Decarie incinerator in the form of a forced draught, in order to assist in consuming the considerable amount of refuse in the machine. At the present time the manure received is in excess of the contract, and it is thought, with the mild weather of spring, that a forced draught will be a necessity. The motor now lying idle at the incinerator may be used to drive the fan, and an investigation is now being made to decide as to its utility.

WANTS LOTS ON G.T.P. RIGHT OF WAY.

Wednesday W. J. Hartley, who is the principal member of a new company being organized to establish a vinegar and pickle factory in the city, with his solicitor, J. K. McDonald, had a conference with the city commissioners with reference to acquiring land as a site for the factory. They wish to secure two lots, 2 and 6, in block 14, at a price of \$2,000, on a valuation of \$2,000, with revaluation in five years and an option to buy for one year. An agreement to this was made at a recent meeting of the council and for the meeting to be held on the 22nd the company will submit a written offer.

INFANTS' BODY FOUND.

Tuesday afternoon the body of an infant was found near the cemetery in the west end by E. A. Barry, 821 Victoria avenue, who was hunting rabbits in the underbrush. The body had not been buried deeply and was partly unburied by the crows, who had eaten all but the head and lower limbs. It had some clothing on and appeared as if it had lived. Mr. Barry notified the police and the remains were taken to Andrews undertaking rooms. An inquest was held on Wednesday by Dr. Forin and a verdict of death from exposure at the hands of unknown parties, was returned.

DISCLAIM RESPONSIBILITY.

Messrs. Peck and Francis the contractors for the waterworks extension in the city, have a team of J. H. McKinnley's, Windsor, Ontario, was killed some time ago, disclaim all responsibility for the six hundred dollars damages asked by the owner of the team. They have asked to pay damages in the hands of Robertson Dickson. The latter has written stating that their clients deny all liability to the city or to any other person in consequence of the accident so the city may take such action as it may be advised. The city solicitor is of the opinion that contractors Peck & Francis will have to pay the damages in view of a section of the streets bylaw, No. 193, in which all persons digging excavations at the streets are required to protect them sufficiently.

GOVERNMENT WANT DEED.

John Stokes, deputy minister of provincial public works has written the city commissioners asking that the deed be forwarded of the land granted by the city to the parliament buildings property. The land which lies near the present temporary offices is described as lots 1 to 16 inclusive, lot 21 and lots 117 to 126 inclusive all in block 6 H.B.B. and lots 1 and 2 and lots 85 and 86 in block 8 H.B.B. There is also a portion of Saskatchewan avenue and a part of street which the city has been asked to close.

SUTHERLAND-RALSTON.

A quiet wedding took place at the manse of the First Presbyterian church on Wednesday morning when Miss Agnes L. Ralston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Ralston, of Kitchico, was united in marriage to Mr. James A. Sutherland, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Sutherland, of Kitchico. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. McQueen in the presence of 416 sixteen guests.

The bride was attended by Miss Isabel Sutherland, sister of the groom, and Mr. James A. Sutherland, the groom's brother, acted as best man. The young couple will reside at Namato.

FOR OBSTRUCTION POLICE.

At the police court on Wednesday evening, before Magistrate Foster, Frederick Weipel, plaintiff, was charged with obstructing the fire and police on the ground that he was not charged of obstructing the fire and police. He was fined \$30 and costs. The policeman who was interfered with stated that he was called on the street about eight o'clock to the St. James' Hotel. He found a disturbance being created by a man named Ponceat. When he attempted to arrest him Weipel interfered and the policeman was called to the aid. Mr. Ponceat was called to the aid, and in the tussle Weipel pulled his feet on his face, inflicting a serious cut. Both men were eventually taken to the station, and the accused has since been under arrest. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$30 and costs. He was again fined \$30 and costs.

CITY HALL THREATENED.

It was only Wednesday afternoon that it became generally known around the City Hall that the building had been seriously threatened with destruction by fire a few nights previously. About nine o'clock on Friday evening some one came on foot down into the basement of the building found the wooden ceiling ablaze and the fire spreading up between the floor and along the walls. A still alarm was at once turned in and a stream of hose brought to the aid of the firemen, who soon extinguished the flames before they had got beyond control, various solutions are offered as to the cause of the fire. One is that it originated from electric wires, another that it was caused by overheated steam pipes. The police believe rather that the fire was set by the young lad Matthews who was being held for theft and who made his escape from the cells the same night. The theory of the police is that Matthews thought to raise commotion by the fire and make good his escape during the confusion.

SALVATION ARMY HOSPITAL.

An option for a site on the brow of the hill on McDougall avenue for a hospital, rescue home and shelter has been taken up by the Salvation Army, and the purchase made. Construction work will not commence until next spring, if then, but the intention is that the hospital, rescue home and shelter will be allied institution. Brigadier Burditt, of Winnipeg, has instructions from headquarters in Toronto, to make the purchase of the property. He also negotiated the purchase of a corner lot in Strathcona, upon which a Salvation Army barracks will be erected.

The army in Edmonton has been threatened from headquarters to obtain immediately temporary premises for rescue work. It is probable Edmonton will be made headquarters for the west of the Salvation Army work in Canada.

PRISONERS FOR PENITENTIARY.

Two prisoners for Edmonton penitentiary were brought in Thursday over the C.N.R. from Arcola Saskatchewan. They were Samuel Holloway, sentenced to two years for assault of a girl under fourteen years, and Jos. Chipman, sentenced to five years for rape. The prisoners were in charge of Constables Peck and Bliton, of Regina.

CORNER'S INQUEST.

The coroner's inquest Wednesday afternoon on the remains of the infant found on Tuesday afternoon at the north east of the Roman Catholic cemetery did not elicit the cause as the identity of the parents. The witnesses were Elmer Blake, who found the spot where the infant was discovered. The body appeared to have been buried some weeks and according to doctors was about two weeks old when buried. The remains were taken to the coroner's office and it was impossible to tell whether death had been from violence or from natural causes.

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THE WEST ENJOYING FRUITS OF PRODUCTION.

Farmers are feeling effects of good season—interest on loans, pay of new wheat. For some time past, and principal payments are fair—loan company satisfied.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—It is not to be doubted that the production of a huge grain crop in the west this season has had most favorable effect upon the country as a whole, but it is not so easy to show that the results to the individual have been similarly beneficial. The process of reaction from a year of confidence and financial distress has not yet completed its process, and until it ceases there will be many weak spots in the situation. At no time in the history of the country have the weak spots been entirely absent. There is necessarily a certain amount of conservatism and development in some quarters than in others, and uniform prosperity is not a condition which is desired by all. It may depend on themselves. It is a fact, however, that the individual who furnishes the danger in a time of hazardous speculation, as long as there is a decided tendency towards commercial stability and improved trade there is no reason to fear any of the outposts of the industrial system will feel the influence of better times before long, and when that stage is reached the whole fabric will have been immensely strengthened.

How the Farmer Feels.

The comforts of the farmer may be taken as a standard by which to judge the real conditions of life in the prairie provinces. There was a decided history of the west when the farmer was a sort of hermit, through necessity, of course, rather than choice. With the increase and extension of settlement this position has been ameliorated to some extent, and the sparse settlements recently for various points in new districts. An enormous influx of population, greater than this country has ever known, would be required to bring about conditions with respect to the farming population which would in any way similar to those prevailing in other parts of the Dominion. The success which has attended farming on a large scale, precludes the likelihood of small farms being used for grain-growing, and so long as the individual holdings are created by the population in each township is certain to be small.

To Establish a Home.

The ideal of the farmer is to make his own position secure from the attacks of a sudden depression. Every effort that he makes to secure a moderate amount of enjoyment in his own home. He realizes the fact that his own life is not so long as he would like to live, and he is anxious to do without them. But he insists on having a few of the things which mean comfort and convenience in the home. It is well enough to build a good house, and to have suitable premises for the care of stock or the protection of grain. But there is a higher sort of consideration. Materialism has its limits even on a western farm. If there is any material talent in the household a piano will be a necessary addition to the furniture. If the talent be of the kind that is not so common in the west, a demand for a piano-player or a gramophone. The organ is not so popular as in the early days. Some form of agricultural or entertainment must be provided, and any mechanical contrivances necessary to that end must be provided. Instances are known of farmers who are willing to spend money on a piano, but who are unwilling to spend money on a gramophone. The piano is a more permanent investment, and sometimes the sheriff and bailiffs also take an official interest in developments.

Activity in Piano Trade.

The piano business in the west has been decidedly active during the past three months showing that there is very little depression in agricultural circles. Some dealers say that the principal drawback is the inability to secure pianos as fast as they are required. Instances are known of farmers having taken instruments for cash, and the raising of the \$400 or \$500 for the purchase seems to have been a smaller matter for concern than the problem of transporting the instrument in safety to the farm. The situation in this respect is infinitely better than at any other time in the past couple of years, and there are indications that it will continue to improve for an indefinite period. Orders are accumulating and the volume of business appears to be growing at a rate which will mean activity for the eastern piano manufacturers for a long time to come.

The Private Schools.

Another test of the conditions of trade, as reflected in the position of the farmer, is to be found in the experience of the private educational institutions. The attendance at ladies' colleges and business colleges in the larger centres gives a clue to what is going on in the outlying districts. The farmer's lot, however, has comparatively little to do with this type of development. The consistency of these institutions is practically confined to the cities and towns, and it is from the population of these that the pupils are drawn. The schools are doing well now, and there are indications that they will continue to do so for some time to come.

STRAIGHT LOAN

ON IMPROVED FARM PROPERTY

APPLY TO

CREDIT FONCIER, F. C.

EDMONTON

G. H. GOWAN, LOCAL MANAGER

SCHOOL DEBENTURES PURCHASED

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SINKING FUND LOAN

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APPLY TO

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The piano business in the west has been decidedly active during the past three months showing that there is very little depression in agricultural circles. Some dealers say that the principal drawback is the inability to secure pianos as fast as they are required. Instances are known of farmers having taken instruments for cash, and the raising of the \$400 or \$500 for the purchase seems to have been a smaller matter for concern than the problem of transporting the instrument in safety to the farm. The situation in this respect is infinitely better than at any other time in the past couple of years, and there are indications that it will continue to improve for an indefinite period. Orders are accumulating and the volume of business appears to be growing at a rate which will mean activity for the eastern piano manufacturers for a long time to come.

The Private Schools.

Another test of the conditions of trade, as reflected in the position of the farmer, is to be found in the experience of the private educational institutions. The attendance at ladies' colleges and business colleges in the larger centres gives a clue to what is going on in the outlying districts. The farmer's lot, however, has comparatively little to do with this type of development. The consistency of these institutions is practically confined to the cities and towns, and it is from the population of these that the pupils are drawn. The schools are doing well now, and there are indications that they will continue to do so for some time to come.

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