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DITCHED THREE TIMES AND MERCURY BELOW ZERO

The Standard's Auto Party Had Trying Experience on First Lap.

ICE-COATED ROADS MADE SPEED PERILOUS

Reached Moncton at 1 O'clock Yesterday Afternoon —Given Great Reception at Every Stop—Many Inquiries.

Moncton, N. B., Jan. 1—Special—After one of the hardest trips imaginable the Maritime Singer Six with its party, under the auspices of the Standard, arrived here at one o'clock this afternoon.

After the party left St. John, they were help up at the Clairmont, where a party of Englishman from one of the steamers had been enjoying a New Year's supper. The stop was only for a few minutes, while hot coffee and sandwiches were served in the car and as the car speeded on its journey a hearty cheer was given.

When Sussex was reached the party was stopped on the main street by Mayor Lamb and a large delegation of automobile enthusiasts. A dainty dinner was served in the Maplehurst Hotel and Mayor Lamb made a brief address and entrusted the Standard representative with a letter of greetings to Mayor Bligh of Halifax, also a letter to the Nova Scotia Automobile Association.

Between Rothesay and Moncton, owing to snow and ice, two tires were punctured. There was a hard crust on the snow which made the going very difficult, and the car was ditched no less than three times and had to be shovelled out.

The trip to Moncton was a hard one on the occupants of the car.

Reception at Moncton

While in Moncton the party were entertained by the manager of the American Hotel and received a visit from Mayor Gross, who sent a letter of greetings to the mayor of Halifax.

At daylight this morning, when the party were at Five Point Crossing, the thermometer registered twenty-one below zero and the party felt keenly the biting cold. Breakfast was partaken of at Petitcodiac.

The car left Moncton at 3.30 on its way to Halifax and a large crowd of Moncton citizens turned out to see the departure. The bad condition of the roads will delay the party, but Amherst will probably be reached about three o'clock tomorrow morning.

Local Interest Keen.

That there is much local interest in the adventures of the party of automobilists who started on New Year's Eve from the City Hall bound to Halifax with greetings from Mayor Frink to Mayor Bligh, and from The Standard to the Halifax Herald and Evening Mail, was attested yesterday by the large number of enquiries made at this office. "Any word from the car?" was the question which came over The Standard's telephones at very frequent intervals during the afternoon and evening. The first message regarding the progress of the party was received from Newcombe's at Torryburn twenty minutes after they left City Hall. Then after yesterday's issue of The Standard had gone to press a representative of the Dunlop Tire Company telephoned this office that he had followed the car to Hampton and up to that time there had been no untoward incident and that the roads were good.

The next word received came in the form of a despatch from Mr. Ervin which is published above. Judging from it the party found trouble awaiting for them between Sussex and Moncton. The drop in the temperature yesterday caused their friends some uneasiness but as the automobilists are well provided with fur coats and other protection against cold there is no doubt that they will get through in good time. They will probably reach Halifax tonight and further news will be awaited with interest.

N'F'L'D HAS AN ELECTION SCANDAL

Seven Members of Peoples' Party Charged with Bribery —Petitions for their Unseating Have Been Filed.

St. John's, Nfld., Jan. 1.—Petitions designed to overturn the majority by which the Premier, Sir Edward Morris, will control the new legislature to be convened on January 14, have been filed by members of the opposition headed by Sir Robert Bond. The unseating of seven People's party members of the assembly, supporting the Premier, is sought through allegations of illegal election practices. The People's party has a majority of six in the legislature.

The Seamen's Institute of this city, founded by Dr. Frenfell, the Labrador missionary, is free from all debts, it was officially announced today. Additional contributions received from England and America yesterday enabled the institute to begin the New Year without any encumbrances. The institute, of which King George is patron, is devoted to improving the physical and spiritual welfare of the sailors of Newfoundland and Labrador.

NO CHANGE IN THE WATER SITUATION

Decided to Force Water Directly Into City Mains Instead of Trying to Fill High Level Reservoirs.

Montreal, Jan. 1—There has been no change in the water famine situation here in the past twenty-four hours. Hydraulic cement has been used in joining the end of the newly placed conduit and until this hardens, no attempt will be made to force water into it.

It has been decided to force water directly into the city mains instead of attempting to fill the high level reservoirs. The city engineers figure that the cement will be sufficiently hardened by Friday noon to permit the pumps to be started and announce that a supply of water will reach the famine district within an hour after this operation is begun. The city engineers are now optimistic that the situation is well in hand and anticipate no further delay in relieving conditions which have existed since Christmas Day.

LOST ON FIRST TRIP, CREW ARE RESCUED

Heaufort, N. C., Jan. 1—News was received here late today of the loss of the power house boat Lunari and rescue of her crew off Georgetown, S. C. The vessel, recently completed, and on her first trip south, with only the crew aboard, went on a bar in a northeast gale and was beaten to pieces. She was worth probably $40,000.

SEVEN FAMILIES BURNED OUT IN MONTREAL ON NEW YEAR'S

Forty Minutes Before First Drop of Water Reached the Blaze.

MOST SPECTACULAR SEEN IN YEARS.

Heroic Work of Firemen Saves Lives of Tenants — Man Jumps from Third Story — Loss Placed at $100,000.

Montreal, Jan. 1.—Seven families living in the two story apartments from No. 26 to No. 36 St. Louis Square, which is within the water famine district, were dispossessed this afternoon when a fire completely gutted three substantial residential structures. It was forty minutes after the firemen arrived on the scene before a line of hose nearly a mile long sent the first dribbling stream into the flames.

A second and third stream followed in the next in the next half-hour, entailing the use of about 15,000 feet of hose. In the meantime, firemen and volunteers shovelled snow from the surrounding streets and cast it through windows into the seething mass of flames.

Chief Tremblay had a supply of dynamite on hand but the heroic work of the firemen in cutting away inflammable material in the path of the flames made its use unnecessary.

Mrs. Ernest Cote was rescued from her home at No. 30 St. Louis Square by firemen who carried her to the street. She is suffering from shock, but her condition is not regarded as serious.

Joseph McKinnon, 23 years old, of Philadelphia, Pa., who was visiting at No. 32, jumped from the third floor to a gallery on the second floor. He was badly shaken up and is now in the hospital. His condition is not serious.

The fire loss will probbaly reach $100,000, only partially covered by insurance.

At one time it appeared as though the entire block bounded by St. Louis Square, Laval avenue, Sherbrooke St., and Bouvelard St. Denis was doomed, as the water pressure, at best, was very weak. It gave out entirely when the firemen had the conflagration well under control and the flames burnt forth with renewed vigor.

It was one of the most spectacular fires ever seen in Montreal. The burned structures faced upon an open square and fully 15,000 persons crowded into this open space and the surrounding streets watching the apparently fruitless efforts of the firemen to smother the flames which were shooting high into the air.

Many narrow escapes among the firemen were recorded but when the fire was finally under control, after a four hour fight, Ms. Cote and Mr. McKinnon were the only persons reported with injuries necessitating medical attention.

HALIFAX MAN IS DROWNED IN HARBOR

John K. Hubley, Seventy Years Old, Fell in and Was Too Chilled by Water to Reach Shore.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 1—John K. Hubley, proprietor of Hubley's Dye Works, was found drowned in the harbor today.

Mr. Hubley, who was seventy years of age, left his home with the intention of visiting some friends in Dartmouth. His intention was to take a boat at the North Ferry, and he prepared for the trip across the harbor, putting on a heavy overcoat.

Some railway men say a body floating in the harbor at the foot of Hanover street, and getting a boat they brought the body to shore, and used every means possible to resuscitate him, but without avail. It is thought that he made a mis-step and falling into the icy water, was so badly chilled that he could not again reach the landing. In falling afr got under his overcoat, and this kept him afloat until he was found. He leaves a widow and family.

SHOT THROUGH LUNG BOY WILL RECOVER.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Jan. 1.—Vernon Davey, thirteen-year-old boy belonging to St. Peter's, who accidentally shot himself with a 22-calibre rifle through the lungs, and who is now in P. E. I. hospital is improving.

Davey while returning from a shooting trip undertook to test the ice with the butt of his loaded rifle when crossing a pond.

Business Section of Town In West is Wiped Out

Calgary, Alta., Jan. 1.—Every business establishment in the town of Didsbury was destroyed by fire which was discovered about 3.30 o'clock this morning, and raging fiercely for three hours, swept the business section clean. Not a single business house remains. No residences were burned and much of the contents of the stores was saved. No one was injured.

The fire had its origin in the Bijou Theatre, a moving picture house. It had gained considerable headway when discovered and, despite the efforts of the volunteer fire department, with fairly good equipment fanned by a strong wind, spread rapidly among the buildings of the business section, most of which were frame structures.

Calgary was telegraphed and several of the motor machines were despatched. Leavnig here about four o'clock, they made the run of 40 miles in a little more than an hour, but arrived too late to be of material assistance.

The loss is estimated at $250,000 and it is thought that the insurance on the property destroyed will approximate about 75 per cent. of the total loss.

AMERICAN LINER BATTERED BY HEAVY SEAS

The New York Reaches Port After Stormy Trip — Quartermaster and One of Seamen Badly Injured.

New York, Jan. 1—Seas that washed one man from the bridge to the deck and swept two others aft from the bow of the vessel were met by the American liner New York on Christmas Eve after leaving Queenstown. When the New York came into port today, her quartermaster was laid up with a broken leg and an able able seaman was just recovering from an ugly scalp wound, the injuries being sustained as a big wave hurled them against a railing. The passengers made up a purse of fifty dollars for the disabled seamen. The liner fought heavy seas for two days. When she put in port today she tied up along side her sister ship, the Philadelphia, for the first time in ten years.

GRENADA WILL JOIN IN TRADE AGREEMENT

Realizes Benefits of West Indies Arrangement and Decides to Participate—Gazette Announces Decision.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 1.—A special edition of the Canada Gazette was issued today admitting the Island of Grenada in the West Indies to the Canada West Indies trade agreement. A similar proclamation appeared simultaneously in Grenada. When the agreement was concluded on April 9, 1912, several of the colonies with which Canada had been negotiating hesitated to come in. In the hope that they ultimately would see their way clear to do so, Canada stated that Jamaica, the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras and Grenada would be granted the privileges of the agreement for three years without return. Newfoundland was added to these as an expression of good will. After a year's experience of the benefits of the arrangement Grenada thus has decided to adhere to it and Canadian goods now will get preference in her market.

SUPPLY OF LIQUOR IS SEIZED AT CALAIS

Nine Ten Gallon Kegs of Joy Water Consigned to Milltown Parties Taken by Deputy Sheriff.

(Special to the Standard)

Calais, Me., Jan. 1—Nine barrels, containing a ten gallon keg of whiskey each, have been seized at the Eastern Steamship Corporation's freight shed by Deputy Sheriff Kelsey. It was consigned to parties in Milltown, N. B., and is said to have been shipped from St. John.

DUKE SHAKES HANDS WITH HUNDREDS

Governor General's New Year Levee a Brilliant Affair — Every Walk of Life is Represented.

Ottawa, Jan. 1.—An exceptionally large attendance was present today at the New Year's levee of His Royal Highness the Governor General, held in his offices in the East Block of the Parliament buildings. Wearing the brilliant uniform of a field marshal in the British army, the Duke received his callers in his private suite and shook hands with over eight hundred men of all walks of life during the hour of the reception.

Among those who paid their respects to His Royal Highness were Right Hon. R. L. Borden, the Premier; Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. W. T. White, Hon. T. W. Crothers, Hon. Robert Rogers, Hon. Martin Burrell, His Excellency Mgr. Stagni, papal delegate; Archbishop Hamilton, Archbishop Gauthier, Vicar-General Routhier.

His Royal Highness was attended by his staff, consisting of Col. Farquhar, military secretary; Mr. Arthur Sladen, private secretary; Captain H. C. Buller, Capt. the Hon. George Boscawen, A. D. C.; Captain A. Graham, A. D. C., and Sir Edward Worthington, M. D., A. D. C.

THE FEDERALS ARE BEATEN AT OJINAGA

Three Day Attack by Rebels Throws them Into Disorder —Flight Into States Last Hope for Safety.

Presidio, Texas, Jan. 1.—The northern division of the Mexican federal army at Ojinaga, Mexico, with its eleven generals, other officers, and about four thousand soldiers, after a merciless three-day's attack by General Ortega's six thousand rebels, tonight appeared to be on the verge of fleeing in disorder across the river into the United States.

With a line of struggling wounded at the border to indicate the extent of the carnage, the deserters already appearing in numbers, Major M. N. McNamee, commanding the border patrol, made every plan in anticipation of the flight.

Less than 500 cavalry men form the border patrol here. To this small body of American soldiers would fall the task of surrounding and disarming perhaps 4,000 Mexican soldiers, or 3,000 of them if 1,000 have been disabled or killed.

I expect at any time during the fight that the greater part of the federal army, possibly two or three thousand may be forced across the river. I have made dispositions to disarm and hold them if this takes place.

This was the message which Major McNamee sent out today. As careful an estimate as could be obtained of the wounded on both sides was 1,000. Most of these were left on the battlefield. The less disabled succeeded in reaching the river and were card for by the Red Cross on this side.

Scores of uninjured federal deserters, in defiance of the American patrol cross with their arms.

All these were disarmed and forced back to the Mexican side.

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RIGID INSPECTION OF ALL FOREIGN POTATOES

United States Sends Out Exacting Regulations Concerning Outside Product.

WARNING AGAINST SECOND-HAND SACKS

Provision Made for Lifting of Quarantine on Condition that Proof is Shown of Non-existence of Disease.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Regulations of the most exacting character, regulating the importation of foreign potatoes into the United States to guard against potato disease, were laid down by Secretary Houston of the department of agriculture today, in the form of official decision. Forms requiring importers to notify the department of all shipments from countries not at present under the absolute quarantine ban and the enforcement of a rigid inspection upon entry by the department's agents are contained in the order.

The regulations also provide for lifting, under certain conditions, the quarantine now enforced against most of the potato growing sections of the world. Upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence to the secretary of agriculture that a country is free from injurious potato diseases and insect pests, potatoes will be admitted from that country in accordance with the regulations governing the importations from countries not now quarantined against.

The countries now barred from importing potatoes are: Newfoundland, the Island of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Great Britain, including England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, the nations of Continental Europe, and the Dominion of Canada. Department officials are confident that some of these countries may, in the near future, be permitted to import potatoes, if they adhere strictly to the department's rules.

The deparment today warned American potato growers against the use of second-hand British or European sacks, unless they have been thoroughly sterilized. It appears, the order said, that there is a considerable trade in second-hand sacks between dealers located chiefly at the Atlantic ports of entry and potato growers of the eastern states.

In some instances entire shipments from the great potato districts of Maine to New York City, have been made in foreign, second-hand sacks. The germs of the diseases are undoubtedly carried in the sacks in which potatoes have been imported from Europe.

AGUILA OIL CO. LOSES CONTROL OF ITS WELLS

Taken Over by Mexican Government Because of Refusal to Supply Railway — Afraid of Rebel Threats.

Vera Cruz, Jan. 1—Mexican military authorities today assumed control over the property here of the Aguila Oil Company, because of the company's refusal, in the face of rebel threats, to supply the Mexican railway with oil.

The Aguila company recntly was warned by the Mexican rebels that its wells would be set on fire, if oil were furnished for traffic purposes, and, in consequence, the oil company declined to supply the railroad with fuel. The Mexican railroad, as a result of the action of the Aguila company, ran short of oil, and its officers appealed to the government for relief. The fedral authorities then took over the tanks and all deposits here of the oil concern. Soldiers now are in charge of the pumping plants.

FINE WEATHER, BIG FEATURES AT CAPITAL

Holiday Passed Quietly and Large Crowds Enjoyed Programme of Winter Sports—Good Horse Racing.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Jan. 1.—Fredericton gave 1914 a quiet but enthusiastic welcome with carol singers and a band of music parading streets at midnight last night.

The holiday proved an ideal winter day with the thermometer registering below zero mark, and winter sports were all enjoyed. Horsemen enjoyed their first matinee racing on Fredericton Driving Club's new ice track during the afternoon. There were two matched races on the programme. Dell Gunter, with Telephone G. won from John Caten's Slippery Bill, and Dr. G. C. McCoy, with Look Again, defeated H. J. Morgan's Ora Delmarch.

In an informal brush Narroway W, Sam Boyle's trotter, won honors by defeating both pacers, Look Again and Ora Delmarch.

At the Curling Rink the vice-presidents' rink won out in the second round of the Coleman cup match over President's Hatt's aggregation. The score of today's play was 78 to 54 in favor of vice-presidents and they had a lead of two points going into second round.

DIED FROM EFFECT OF AUTO ACCIDENT

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 1—Rupert Muntz a clerk for the Consumers' Gas Company, aged fifty, residing on Forest Hill Road, died today from injuries sustained in an automobile accident on Avenue Hill Thursday evening.

The owner and driver of the automobile, J. Mooney, was subsequently arrested on a charge of criminal negligence and later released on $5,000 bail.

TORONTO VOTES IN FAVOR OF BUYING STREET RAILWAY

Mayor Hocken Re-elected by Five Thousand Majority, and By-law to Purchase that Section of York Radial Line Within City Limits is Carried.

Toronto, Jan. 1.—H. G. Hocken was re-elected mayor of Toronto by a majority of about 5,000 over Frederick G. McBrien, his nearest competitor, and a safe majority over all the three competotirs together. McBrien's vote was larger than expected, and was due largely to the introduction of the proposed street railway purchase into the contest.

James Simpson headed the poll for the Board of Control.

The other three elected were J. C. McCarthy, T. L. Church and John O'Neill, three members of last year's board. Thomas Foster was the controller who was forced to make way for Simpson. Next to the vote for mayor and board of control, the greatest interest was taken in the question submitted to the electors as to whether the municipal franchise should be extended to married women.

The electors, by a vote of two to one, favored the extension of the franchise. A by-law to provide for the purchase of that part of the York Radial Railroad within the city limits was carried, but by-laws to provide for grants to new hospitals and $600,000 for new buildings at the Exhibition were defeated. The electors also expressed themselves in favor of the city going into the dead meat business, that is, to sell meat to retail dealers.

The aldermen elected were:

Ward 1—William D. Robbins, W. W. Hiltz, A. E. Wallen.
Ward 2—H. Holand, S. M. Wickett, C. A. Risk.
Ward 3—Alfred Maguire, F. S. Spence, Samuel McBride.
Ward 4—John Wanless, R. H. Cameron, L. M. Singer.
Ward 5—J. W. Meredith, R. H. Graham, John Dunn.
Ward 6—D. Spence, C. H. Maybee, W. Harland Smith.
Ward 7—Samuel Ryding, F. I. G. Whetter.

The following were elected to the board of education:

Ward 1—Dr. Gilmour Steele (2 years), J. W. Jackson, (one year.)
Ward 2—Dr. John Noble.
Ward 3—William Houston.
Ward 4—Miles Stokes.
Ward 5—W. O. McTaggart.
Ward 6—W. W. Hodgson.
Ward 7—James Ellis.

ESQUIMAULT TO HAVE A BIG SHIPBUILDING PLANT

Yarrow Concern, World Renowned British Builders, Will Establish Branch of Their Yard There— Destroyers and Torpedo Boats the Company's Specialty.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 1—A. F. Yarrow, head of the great shipbuilding firm bearing his name, and operating on the banks of the Clyde, Scotland, has bought out the British Columbia Marine Company and intends to establish a branch of his world famous works at Esquimault.

Grove said the fact that the location tiful government dry dock at Lang's and had been largely instrumental in The ng him to establish at Esquimalt early although that he believed that will re the point was the best on the coast for the purpose of ship-building combined with repair work.

Destroyers and torpedo boats are the specialties of the Yarrow concern in the old country and Mr. Yarrow says that should the government of Canada be desirous of building a navy at any time and receive an offer from him to construct vessels of the type mentioned at a reasonable cost, he does not believe that they will resort to Europe to have them built.