

Staff Changes On C. N. R.

(Special To The Guardian) MONCTON, Dec. 27.—Important staff changes affecting the personnel of the operating department of the Atlantic region of the Canadian National Railways were announced today by Mr. W. U. Appleton, general manager.

RICE POINT SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CLOSING

On the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 21st upwards of twenty interested parents and visitors assembled at Rice Point School, the event being the annual Xmas tree and semi-annual examination.

A thorough examination of all classes was conducted by the teachers, and once more the pupils by their prompt and accurate answers vindicated the high opinion held by all the parents of Miss Smallwood's skill in the science of pedagogy.

The examination was followed by a well-rendered programme in which the pupils exhibited much talent for this particular phase of school work.

At the close of the programme, Santa appeared and distributed among the pupils and teacher, many useful and valuable gifts from the heavily laden tree which prettily ornamented a conspicuous place in the classroom.

Miss Smallwood then treated all present to fruit and candy after which complimentary remarks were made by several on the excellent showing made by the pupils and the pleasant entertainment which they had provided.

After singing the national anthem all returned home well pleased with the afternoon spent with the pupils and teacher of Rice Point School.

Following is the programme: Chorus, Merry Xmas, by the School; Welcome Recitation, Jean Harlow; Recitation by Georgetta MacNeill; Christmas Doings by 4 boys; Dialogue, Hiring a Servant by seven pupils; Recitation by Sadie MacDougall; Recitation by Freddie Taylor; Drill by 5 girls; Recitation by Angus MacEachern; Mouth Organ selection, Let Taylor; Drill, Very Little Ones Are We, by three pupils; Dialogue, "A Matrimonial Advertisement" by pupils; Recitation, Marjorie Taylor; Chorus, Kris Kringle by the school.

Canada's Rain and Snowfall

According to official reports the heaviest rain fall east of Manitoba has been at Cap Rouge, Quebec, where over a period of 14 years it has averaged 42.21 inches per year.

AN ATTIC SALTSHAKER

By W. ORTON TROWSON

A LITTLE Canadian girl visiting the United States for the first time was taken for a walk by her aunt and uncle living in Philadelphia (relates Charles E. Carpenter in "Dollars and Sense").

EXCLAIMED the "kiddy": "What's that, Uncle Dan?" "That's a negro woman, dear."

"But what makes her so black?" "God made her that way, dear!"

"But are her feet and arms all black the same as her face?" "Yes, dear!"

"Is she black all over—everywhere?" "Yes, dear!"

The child took a long, deep breath and looking up seriously and admiringly into Uncle Dan's face said:

"Uncle Dan you are certainly wonderful. You know everything."

BARRIE wrote "Peter Pan" with four boisterous little boys tumbling all over him, records Hamlyn Garland in "Back Trailers from the Middle Border".

AFTER Schumann-Heink had sung to Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle and as she was enjoying a sumptuous supper at the Castle, including schnitzel—"which I love," she confesses enthusiastically—an attendant informed her that the Duke of Connaught (the Queen's son) wished to see her in an adjoining room.

"So, of course, I went," she reminisces in "Schumann-Heink: The Last of the Titans". "But I went with such a face! I did not want to leave my good schnitzel and green peas."

THE DUKE evidently saw something was amiss. "You are very cross with me," he said.

"No," replied the diva, "I am not exactly cross, but I am afraid, Your Highness, that they will take away my good schnitzel in the other room."

THAT broke the ice between them. The Duke gave an order and a plateful of everything was brought the singer. "It was piled high and every one looked horrified," she recalls, amusedly.

"Here," said the Duke, "I will hold your plate while you eat your beloved schnitzel."

And he did.

AT THE end of the interview Schumann-Heink hurried back to the other room.

"But alas!" says she, "my schnitzel was gone, just as I knew it would be. But I didn't really care then—I had lost all appetite for it anyway, after my hearing plateful served by the Duke of Connaught."

AND WHILE on the subject of food, this story is also told by Schumann-Heink with Marcella Sembrich as the heroine:

It was in the days when both singers were at the Dresden Royal Opera. Schumann-Heink was a novice then and making a great struggle to gain recognition, but Sembrich was already a popular favorite at the opera and a beautiful singer.

THEY lived in the same house at Dresden, and one night, after the opera, "the Heink" (as everyone in the musical world seems to call her) plucked up courage to knock on Sembrich's door, to tell her how wonderfully she had sung that night.

"Come-in! Come-in!" called a clear, brisk voice.

"And in I went, all excitement, all enthusiasm!" recalls Schumann-Heink. "But instead of finding the beautiful Sembrich resting, pale and exhausted from her triumphs, as I had romantically pictured her, there she sat at the table with her big, heaping dish of macaroni in front of her, eating heartily!"

MADAME doesn't remember the details of their talk but she does remember that as she looked at Sembrich who was right on eating—and that great plate of macaroni, she said to herself:

"Ach, I wonder if I shall ever become a great enough singer to afford macaroni like that—and whenever I want it!"

NO ONE seems to know where all the dogs that are in Sing Sing come from (says Warden Lewis E. Lawes in "Life and Death in Sing Sing"). It seems as if every homeless dog within miles must sense the fact that he will find a safe refuge within the walls. Certain it is that no dog is ever turned away. The local dog-catcher came to the prison one day to take away all unlicensed dogs, but in the few minutes it took him to get inside every dog had mysteriously disappeared.

Sing a song of Sing Sing, Prison full of sighs, Scores of little doggies Booked for the skies, When the gates were opened The doggies all had flown! Wasn't that a cunning trick To think up off alone?

AN ACTOR who seldom went to church was persuaded by a friend to make an exception in favor of Jan.

a really soul-stirring preacher. (Walter Sichel tells the story in "The Sands of Time"). After the service, his friend inquired what he thought of it and especially of the large congregation.

"Not much of the congregation," was the retort, "for it seemed to me mostly paper."

"Paper," of course is the stage slang for free tickets.

THEN there is Walter Sichel's story of the eighteenth century beau who, to attract attention, entered a coffee-house, paraded in full view a bundle of unpaid bills and, kissing them, exclaimed:

"God, how that woman loved me!"

THE wife of the famous Dr. Butler, of Trinity College, Cambridge, once had to call her housekeeper's attention to the enormous number of chickens ordered for a dinner she had given to some notables (vouches Sichel.)

"I can't help it mum," the housekeeper retorted. "The 'haristocracy don't like legs."

JOSEPH CONRAD always declared that he had no facility at all for writing and that he had to force every word out of himself. It was a mystery to him how anybody could write easily. In his later years Conrad considered three hundred and fifty words a day a fair average output.

IT WAS only in the last five years of his life that he took to dictating to his secretary as a regular habit, and that was due to the physical disability of gout in his wrist.

"He would sit in his big arm-chair facing the window in his study," he reminisces his intimate friend and literary executor, Richard Curle in "The Last Twelve Years of Joseph Conrad," and dictate slowly, with long pauses."

CONRAD did an enormous amount of rewriting. Page after page of his typescript (says Curle) has the appearance of original manuscript, just as page after page of his proof sheets resembles a battlefield. He minded very little what form his books took in serialization. In fact, some of his most severe rewrites were actually done when the book had already appeared in print.

FOR forty years De Wolf Popper—now celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his first appearance on the stage—has been pitching to "Casey at the Bat." No matter where or what he may be playing, he must before the evening is out, come before the curtain and "strike out" the immortal Casey. In the lobby of a Peoria, Illinois, hotel, Charles Hopper in "Once a Clown Always a Clown," was accosted by a confederate young man.

"Excuse me, Mr. Hopper," he said, "but I am going to see you tonight, and I just wondered if you are going to recite Casey."

Hopper told him that it would be an evening to be remembered if he did not.

"Good," exclaimed the young man. "I would just like my young lady friend to hear how someone else recites it."

ONCE when William Jennings Bryan was making an important speech, he was drawn to the man in the audience who apparently was held spellbound by the flow of oratory. Finally Bryan found himself addressing this one man oblivious to the rest of the audience—relates Mrs. Daniel Chester French in "Memories of a Sculptor's Wife."

LATER in the evening the man, watching his chance, seized Bryan's hand.

"I've watched you every minute," he said breathlessly. "I've never taken my eyes off your face."

Mr. Bryan felt a thrill go through him. Here was something really worth while.

"Yes," continued the man, "I'm a dentist and I've never before in my whole professional life seen a speaker who, when he laughed, showed both rows of teeth all the way round."

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Zion Church Xmas Concert

The annual Christmas concert and Christmas Tree held in Zion Church schoolroom Thursday night, was very largely attended, and the programme was rendered by the children in an admirable manner, reflecting much credit on their teachers and the youthful performers.

Rev. M. Scott Fulton presided in his usual genial manner.

At the close of the entertainment, Santa Claus appeared, and treated the children with fruit and candy.

There was a large and gaily decorated Christmas Tree. A brief address was made by Mr. A. A. MacDonald, superintendent, congratulating the children on the excellent order which was kept.

The programme was as follows: Welcome Speech—By Allie MacLeod.

Opening Chorus—Christmas Carol, by the School.

Recitation by Annibell Duncan, Lillian Clark, Mary Stevenson, Emma Louise Nash, Margaret Douglas, Frances Auld, Dorothy MacPherson, Helen Dingwell, Joyce Fraser, Elsworth Wheatley, Rena Gay, Vivian Partridge, Margaret Young, Thelma Larter, Marion Gay, May Bell MacDougall, Rose White, Verna Stewart, Muriel Smith, Mary Diamond.

Chorus by the Little Tots, by the members of the O. G. I. T. and by the School.

Exercises by eight girls—Margaret Smith, Eleanor Auer, Catherine Murdoch, Doris Collier, Mary Auld-Doris MacDonald, Ida Jay, Helen Murchison.

Reading by Stella Jay, Solos by Bernice Wood, Thelma Dingwell, Doris MacDonald, Mary Van, Hope Dingwell.

Dialogue by Miss Hooper's class, Christmas Paries by Stella Jay, Irene MacDonald, Helen Roper.

Malpeque

The services in Princeton United Church on Sunday Dec. 23rd had its old time Christmas ring. In the morning the congregation had the privilege of listening to Rev. George Fringle of the far West, who spoke in the interest of the Marine Mission there.

His own particular branch of the work "The Sky Pilot Mission"—was described by Mr. Fringle in such a way that it is believed that it will live in the hearts of his hearers.

As Prince Edward Islanders are especially interested in Mr. Fringle, whose mother was an Island maiden—Miss Mary Cowan of Murray Harbor South—and whose brother Dr. John Pringle is well known throughout the Maritime Provinces.

In the evening the service was conducted by Mr. Russell Woodside, student at Pine Hill College and one of our Darnley boys. The music was decidedly of a Christian nature. Mrs. J. A. Campbell presiding at the organ. The following is the musical programme for the morning and evening services.

Morning:— Prelude—"March of the Magi," Dubois.

Offertory—"Christmas Carol," Nevin.

Anthem—"Ring Out The Bells For Christmas," McPhail.

Postlude—"Triumphal March," Dudley Buck.

Organ Recital of Carols, 645 p. m. "Carol, Sweetest Carol," Perkins.

"The First Noel," Burnett. "Cradled All Lowly," Gounod. "The Heavenly Stranger," Gabriel.

Anthem—"There's a Song in the Air." Offertory—"Song of Hope," Schubert.

Anthem—"Fear Not, I Bring You Good Tidings," Ferris. "Holy Night," Franz Gruber—Mr. Charles Lowe, soloist.

Postlude—"March from Tannhauser,"—Wagner.

The semi-annual examination of Baltic district was held in the school room on the evening of Dec. 20th, when a large number of ratepayers and visitors were present.

The school was beautifully decorated for the occasion, also a large tree heavily laden stood in the corner, adding very much to the Christmas appearance of the room.

Mr. James Donald, capably acted as chairman and called for the different numbers on the following programme: Exercise, Christmas Morn, by senior girls; chorus, Welcome by school; dialogue, Two Letters, by Clara McDonald and Anna Burns; recitation, Joke on Pa, by Jack McDonald; chorus, Christmas Joys, by school; reading, Wishes, Ronald Delaney; drill, Canada our Homeland, by twelve pupils; dialogue, Merry Christmas, by junior classes; duet, Flag Song, Jean Simpson; recitation, "Margaret Bailey," ed. recitation, Present for Aunt Jane, by Elsworth Bernard; dialogue, Scene on a R.R. Car; recitation, Envy, by Edgar Matthews; chorus, What's the Meaning, by pupils; valedictory by Rena MacGillivray.

A number of prizes were given to the pupils for deportment and general proficiency. The teacher generously treated the pupils and visitors with candy, Santa also appeared and stripped the tree. On behalf of the pupils Miss Marion Simpson read the address and Mrs. Margaret Cousins presented the teacher Miss Mable Mill with a beautiful handbag and other gifts and the teacher suitably acknowledged them. The following is the address:—

Dear Miss Mill: We, your pupils of Baltic School, enter into the Christmas festivities once more, as is the custom in this country and we could not let Christmas pass without reviewing the year's work of our school in our minds. We realize we have caused you mental strain and worry on account of our childish ways, for we have not studied as we should. Nevertheless you have never ceased in your patience and perseverance with us. You have helped and explained our many problems which we have had to encounter, you have tried to instruct our minds with a view to the future of our lives. In time to come our thoughts will ever go out to pleasant recollections of the happy days dealing with the problems and joys in school. We wish at this time to show in a small way an appreciation of your services among us. Please accept this small token, not for its value, but for the esteem in which you are held. May you have health and strength to carry on the noble work of instructing the children, educating the mind for goodness and truth wherever you lot is cast.

Signed on behalf of the Baltic pupils, Mrs. Bernard, Messrs Hartwell Crozier and James Donald, each one by turn commending the teachers and the pupils on the fine progress made in the school during the half year.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Woodside and Miss Thelma Woodside left on Monday evening to spend the holiday with friends in Linkletter. All join in wishing them a pleasant time.—M

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—Colonel John Thompson has been reappointed as Chairman of the Board of Pension Commissioners. Official announcement by Hon. J. H. King, Minister of Health and Pensions. The ten-year term of Colonel Thompson recently expired.

Reading by Stella Jay, Solos by Bernice Wood, Thelma Dingwell, Doris MacDonald, Mary Van, Hope Dingwell.

Dialogue by Miss Hooper's class, Christmas Paries by Stella Jay, Irene MacDonald, Helen Roper.

Health Services of Canadian Medical Association

MONEY FOR HEALTH At this season of the year, in many centres, the budgets of the various municipal and county services are being considered, health services together with the others.

The public money which is devoted to health work represents an investment in disease prevention and health promotion. It is a well-established fact that the proper expenditure of certain sums of money will bring about a reduction in the amount of illness and the number of deaths.

There is, of course, a limit to the expenditure and that limit is set by the knowledge which we possess. We can deal successfully with many diseases because we know enough about them to combat them successfully. With regard to others, we are not as yet able to do so because we have not the knowledge which would enable us to conquer them.

When the question of health expenditure is considered, every citizen should realize clearly that if reasonably sufficient funds are provided, he is actually, through his taxes, buying community health insurance for his own protection and for that of his family, his friends and his fellow-citizens. If a reasonable amount of money is not spent on health work, then the reverse occurs, and each person—adult and child—will be needlessly exposed to the dangers of preventable diseases. The burden and expense of disease does not fall evenly. Someone may feel that he has saved a dollar or two and escaped sickness, but some individual, some family, will have that burden and expense. The community may have to pay out far more in the care of orphaned or in hospital bills, than the health department costs. One epidemic costs many times the upkeep of an adequate health department.

Money should not be wasted; it should be properly spent. Every citizen and county should have sufficient money for health work, and should see to it that it is properly spent.

Questions concerning health, addressed to the Canadian Medical Association, 184 College Street, Toronto, will be answered personally by letter.

MIDNIGHT MASS AT KELLY'S CROSS

It was an occasion of rejoicing for the people of Kelly's Cross to have one of her sons, Rev. Francis L. Campbell celebrate his first Xmas Mass in St. Joseph's Church there.

Midnight Christmas Eve, Father Campbell is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Westmoreland and a graduate of St. Dunstan's University at Edmonton on Dec. 9th and arrived in this Province on 16th inst. in company with Bishop O'Leary who had been on a visit to his brother Archbishop O'Leary. Father Campbell was assisted in the celebration of the High Mass by Revs. McMan, P.P. as Deacon and Subdeacon respectively. The sermon for the occasion, one of the most eloquent and impressive sermons, on the dignity of the Catholic Priesthood, preached in this parish, which is Father Smith's native place, was delivered to an immense congregation by Rev. Lawrence Smith.

At the conclusion of the Mass, an address was read to Father Campbell by Mr. A. Smith and presentation of well-filled purses and Luck outfit made by J. A. E. Bradley. The address follows:

To Rev. Francis Leo Campbell, Rev. and dear Father: While it is characteristic of every community to rejoice in the success of her young men, in none of her members does a parish take such a deep and sympathetic interest or more heartily rejoice at their success than those of us who, by their exemplary lives, learning and piety, prepare themselves to worthily enter the Holy Ministry. It is, therefore, with feelings of unfeigned pleasure, that we, the people of St. Joseph's offer you our warm congratulations on your ordination to the Holy Priesthood at Edmonton on Dec. 9th, 1928.

With glad and joyous sentiments, in unison with the thoughts and aspirations of this glorious Feast, we tender you, Rev. and dear friend, our best wishes and congratulations on this happy occasion, the celebration of your first Solemn High Mass.

Although you are not a native of this parish, we gladly and proudly claim you as one of our own. During your tender and adolescent years at Westmoreland School and later at Kelly's Cross School, your many amiable and many traits of character betokened to your friends a career of future goodness and greatness.

We were, therefore, not surprised, that, after a few years in the teaching profession, you heard the call from God to leave father and mother, brother and sisters, to swell the grand army of valiant missionaries in our great Canadian West.

Your little native province Rev. Father, is justly proud of its many distinguished sons, who, besides those who are laboring so successfully in our own diocese, are in other dioceses every year making history—especially in what was a few years ago known as the "Great Lone Land." This territory is now the home of thousands of immigrants, from nearly every country in Europe, who on account of the wide expanse of its area, are without the consolations of the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. In this fertile field for your priestly ministrations where inevitable sacrifices must be made, we learn that your lot shall be cast; but you are confident that, equipped with a strong faith, added to the inestimable value of the sentimentality and a virile pen, which you are intended to convey.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN HARNESS RACING RULES BEDEQUE AND VICINITY

Classification Table Altered By Joint Rules Committee and Down East Horsemen Will Now Await The More Interest Than Ever The Panacea Which W. H. Gocher, Secretary of the National Trotting Association, Will Prescribe at Pressure Isle Meeting on January 3rd for Maine and New Brunswick Circuit's Difficulties.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Dec. 27.—Important changes have been made in the rules of harness racing, according to official reports from National Trotting Association reaching the Maine and New Brunswick Circuit headquarters here.

The changes were made at a meeting of the Joint Rules Committee held at Chicago, which through the offices of The Trotting Horse Club of America, representatives of the Maine and New Brunswick Circuit Stewards and other tracks where the racing is for moderate purses; their requests were for a classification table which would change the eligibility of horses more rapidly than the table in use in 1928 did, whereas the new table makes it possible for horses to win more than they did before without passing into a faster class. However, W. H. Gocher, Secretary of the National Trotting Association, has made it known he has a solution for the problems of the Maine and New Brunswick Circuit Stewards which he will unveil at the annual meeting of the Circuit at Presque Isle on January 3rd and the announcement of the new classification table arouses more interest than ever in what he will have to suggest when he reaches Aroostook's Potato Belt to meet the Down East racing moguls. The chances are he has some special conditions up his sleeve which will meet the situation and make everybody happy.

The report of the Joint Rules Committee shows that the following changes were made in the eligibility rules:—

In determining the eligibility of horses to compete in public races, winraces made prior to 1927 shall be accepted as a basis except for horses which have been reclassified by their earnings and the new performers since 1926.

For the purpose of classification the following table was adopted:—

Horse stays in 2.24 class until he has won \$500.

Horse stays in 2.22 class until he has won \$1,000.

Horse stays in 2.20 class until he has won \$1,500.

Horse stays in 2.18 class until he has won \$2,000.

Horse stays in 2.16 class until he has won \$3,000.

Horse stays in 2.15 class until he has won \$4,000.

Horse stays in 2.14 class until he has won \$5,500.

Horse stays in 2.13 class until he has won \$7,000.

Horse stays in 2.12 class until he has won \$8,500.

Horse stays in 2.11 class until he has won \$10,000.

Horse stays in 2.10 class until he has won \$12,000.

Horse stays in 2.09 class until he has won \$16,000.

Horse stays in 2.08 class until he has won \$20,000.

Horse stays in 2.07 class until he has won \$25,000.

Horse stays in 2.06 class until he has won \$30,000.

Horse stays in 2.05 class until he has won \$35,000.

Horse stays in 2.04 class until he has won \$40,000.

Horse stays in 2.03 class until he has won \$45,000.

Horse stays in 2.02 class until he has won \$50,000.

Free for fall.

Under the amended rules classification is based on the gross earnings of a horse. A horse at the beginning of each year shall start in a class to which he is eligible at the end of the preceding year, with his allowance added, and shall be charged with his earnings to that date.

For 1929 and ensuing years, the most favorable classification shall govern the eligibility of a horse.

The eligibility certificate used by one association racing under uniform rules shall be recognized by the other associations, but each horse must have one from the association under which he is racing.

In 1929 a horse shall be allowed, whether raced or not, if eligible to the 2.16 class or slower one division and below that; point two divisions for each calendar year in which he failed to advance one division, providing the allowance

you could wield with effect on the side of right, not so very long ago, in the Public Forum of our Island press, you will do honor to your parents, to your Bishop, and to the Church in whose vineyard you will labor.

And now, Rev. and dear friend, let us assure you, this glorious Christmas Anniversary, has for us a significance of added glory, joy, and felicitations, not only for your immediate relatives, but for every member of this community, and while tendering to you our good wishes and assurance of our prayers for your success and a long and fruitful life in the Lord's vineyard, we would request, if possible, that you offer up the Adorable Sacrifice of the Altar.

Please accept the accompanying Christmas gifts (we shall call them) one from the parishioners in general, and one from the Catholic Young Men's Society, not for their value in dollars and cents, but for their value in the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. In this fertile field for your priestly ministrations where inevitable sacrifices must be made, we learn that your lot shall be cast; but you are confident that, equipped with a strong faith, added to the inestimable value of the sentimentality and a virile pen, which you are intended to convey.

does not exceed six divisions. After 1929 no further allowance will be made.

The following was added to the three heat rule:—A member may provide in its published conditions that, in event the same horse wins the first and second heats, he shall be declared the winner of the race and shall not compete the third heat; also that the money award shall be on the old placing system, according to the standing of the horses at the conclusion of the race. When a horse is awarded the race without contesting the third heat, in awarding the remainder of the purse, the horse winning the third heat shall be regarded as having finished second in that heat (first place having been conceded to the horse awarded the race); the horse finishing second in that heat shall be awarded the purse also.

The following was also added to the postponement rule:—In a three heat race, one third of the purse, after deducting 10 per cent, shall be paid for each heat contested; also the 10 per cent to the winner, and the entrance for the heat or heats not contested shall be returned, except when one horse has won two heats and the conditions provide that a horse winning the first and second heats shall be awarded the race without contesting the third heat; in that event, the full amount of purse shall be paid as provided in the published conditions. If the conditions provide that a part of the purse shall be raced for each heat, the money reserved for the third heat shall be awarded in accordance with the standing of the horses in the summary.

The following amendment was also adopted in order to secure uniform construction of rules:—For the purpose of securing uniform construction of these rules, each association racing under these rules shall appoint a member of a committee hereby created for the purpose of reconsidering any differences of construction placed upon any rule, and the construction placed upon any rule by said committee will govern and the Trotting Horse Club of America shall appoint a member of said committee.

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