

The Important News of the Week for the Saturday Subscribers

Editorial

is to make money on a pig by live weight. I think the writer of that letter could feed pigs a little cheaper if he tried—he might feed them on imagination.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor for your valuable space,

JOSEPH NOONAN.

WEDNESDAY

The entire system, it such it can be called, of Canadian defence is framed with a supreme disregard for the Maritime Provinces. Here are twenty sea ports open to attack by any power with which Britain may chance to be at war, and not one of these ports excepting Halifax has a single modern gun mounted in its defence. What has Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton or Vancouver Island to fear by way of armed invasion overland? Yet these sections are compelled to contribute to the six millions which the land forces cost, and not a dollar is expended to prepare against attack from sea. Peace, then it must be admitted that our defenceless ports invite attack. St. John, Charlottetown, Sydney and a dozen lesser Maritime ports would be wholly at the mercy of any hostile gunboat which might come along.

It would seem that Canada needs a navy as much as it needs an army. Our ports on the Atlantic, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Great Lakes and the Pacific are exposed to attacks by the marauding cruisers of any and all of the naval powers. Of invasion by land we need have no fear, except from the United States, and long-continued friendly relations have removed that fear. Why then do we spend over six millions this year on land forces and not a dollar on warships? Surely in this matter our ways are not equal. Our next neighbor will soon have the second most powerful navy in the world, and is relatively as powerful by sea as by land. We depend wholly on the British navy for defence by sea, yet we contribute nothing toward its maintenance and it might easily happen that in the hour of our direst need the British fleet might be as far away as the British army. Common sense would dictate that of Canada it should be put on armor and provide defenses it should be against attack both by sea and land.

PORK AND PORK RAISING.

Mr. Editor—A letter appeared in the press lately, finding fault with the farmers for the poor quality of the pork raised in Charlottetown some time ago—60 p. c. of it would be class No. 1. I have been requested to state my opinion on that letter and am sorry that the task did not fall into the hands of one gifted with more literary ability. However, here are my views on the matter:

1st.—Is the man who grows the pork entirely to blame for its poor condition? I do not think so.

2nd.—What has the farmer to deal with in the autumn? Simply this: Pork is usually worth 8 cents a pound in the early part of the season. To get this price many farmers kill their pigs, knowing well that if they finish fattening their hogs they have to take a much lower price and waste the feed that the hogs would consume in order to make their pork the finished article.

3rd.—The pork grower has now to contend with a greater problem than ever, namely, that the pork has to be inspected for the purpose of seeing if it has been slaughtered with the heart and liver left, in, before it is allowed to enter the province of Quebec and Ontario.

Now, if the pork of P. E. Island is fit for the man of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to eat and to pack in the markets of the world, why must it be inspected before it can enter the above-mentioned Provinces? This act of inspection is not for the good of the pork grower. To my mind it is for the benefit of the whole pork buyers, and eventually will hurt the pork market in the cold season by causing expense and delay.

4th.—It is very difficult for the farmer to tell what kind of a pig to row to meet the demands of the market. Some years ago the Tamworth was claimed by the packers to be the only pig that would meet the demands of the market. They soon grew tired of that lanky species and bestowed their favor upon the Yorkshire. Last year the Berkshire was the one that was most in demand. In my opinion it should not matter what breed the pig is provided he is properly fattened.

5th.—The packers tell us to kill our hogs when the weight averages from 135 to 150 pounds. This seems to be in the thinned circle, but the farmer who fills that order would want a great many pigs to make much money. My rule is not to fatten my pigs until they are 5 1/2 months old during which time I just keep them growing and then I feed them well for six weeks or till they are seven months old.

6th.—Some time ago Albany produced a fine lot of lambs and the price was very small. The farmers formed a club. I was appointed to do the selling so I went to Summerside to see the big man there who did buy lambs. He told me that he did not care much for club lambs—he had heard he told his buyers to have nothing to do with lambs. He would not buy our lambs, so we had to dispose of them elsewhere. I hope the pork will soon be relieved of his inspection, in case it might share the same fate as the lambs. To-day there are very few sheep in Albany and to my mind the less the better as they only starve the rest of the stock. I have two cows that in the year will bring me more money than the 22 ewes that I used to keep.

7th.—That letter stated that farmers could grow good pork by giving a few turpins and manles with a little other feed and it showed how easy it

THURSDAY

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

If the statements made as to the old age pension system in the British Isles are true the Canadian Government did well to deal with the matter of pensions very cautiously. The British pension plan has not yet come into operation and will not till the new year but applications for the benefits are literally pouring in and some prospective abuses are already in sight. For instance there are a few cases, not a few in which it is alleged the would-be pensioners have taken measures to conceal their possessions, or have given their property to sons or daughters, in order to qualify themselves to receive pensions.

In such cases when the facts are discovered, no pensions will be given but it is alleged that the law as it now is opens a wide gate for fraud. Persons who are earning very nearly or quite the stipulated income of \$31. 10s. will be tempted to earn a little less and get on the pension list, and many who are now self-supporting may thus become chargeable upon the taxpayers. It is stated that in individual cases persons with as much as \$5,000 invested have made good their claims and been placed on the pension lists. In Ireland the number of applicants has run up to 183,000 although the official statistics show that but 153,000 are qualified.

The tendency of a pension list in any country has been always to expand and increase. This has been demonstrated in the United States in the matter of war pensions. The pensions payable on account of the war of the rebellion in 1865, just after the war closed amounted to \$8,500,000. They reached their maximum twenty-eight years later in 1893 when the total was over \$158,000,000. Last year, although the great majority of the original pensioners were dead the pension disbursements were still \$138,000,000.

The British old-age pension bill will impose an enormous burden on the country at the outset, and it may be a greater burden later. It remains to be seen what relief it will give to the poor rates, and how far the predictions of its opponents are true, that it will lessen the productive power of the people by transferring a portion of the wage-earning class to the dependant class. It does not follow that a scheme which seems to work fairly well in New Zealand will operate so well in the Old Country where so many of the people are existing close to the border line of poverty. What makes the venture seem more rash is the almost impossibility of repealing a pension act when once it has been put in operation.

SENDING LIQUOR INTO SCOTLAND.

The Scott Act as recently amended contains a clause which makes it a punishable offence to ship or transport intoxicants from outside points into districts where the Scott Act is in force. Recently a large shipment of this sort intended for sale in York County, N. B. and brought over the Intercolonial Railway was seized at Fredericton. Now we are told the Department of Justice at Ottawa has ruled that the amendment to the Scott Act referred to "does not apply to the crown," meaning that the Government Railways are free to carry such shipments anywhere.

If this is found to be sound law which we doubt, it will have the effect of largely defeating the amendment in question. It is in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia alone that the Scott Act is now in force, and there the Intercolonial Railway and its branches where the Act has been adopted and retained. If the Government Railway is free to carry liquors into the prohibited districts, it will have a privilege which other railways and carriers do not have, which would be a strange and unfair discrimination and one which the Government ought to be the last to insist upon.

The point is of interest to the people of our own Province, because our only railway is owned by the Government and in winter the only steamers plying between the Island and the mainland are also on the Government property. We have our own prohibition law, and therefore the prohibition to that Act has no application so far as this Province is concerned. But we hope for federal legislation at the coming session which will place the Island on a par with the prohibited districts on the mainland. The point is that this would be of little avail if Government Railways and steamers are to be held free to carry intoxicants into prohibited districts.

"Ottawa city which is situated in Carleton county has in turn supported both parties, but the county has held steadfastly to the Conservative faith". The dropping out of a line of type from the above sentence made The Guardian say in effect yesterday that Ottawa had been always Conservative. Thus far the error was servative. It ought to be added mechanical. It ought not to be added that Mr. Borden was not elected by acclamation in Carleton. He was opposed, and his opponent's election expenses seem to have been much larger than Mr. Borden's.

PROVINCIAL

TUESDAY

Donald Gillis of Garfield entered into his eternal rest on the 27 ult. His wife predeceased him only a few weeks. He leaves to mourn three sons, John at home, Angus in Washington and Donald in California. Mr. Gillis was an upright, conscientious man, highly respected in the community in which he lived.

The first annual meeting of the Hartney Hall Company was held last week. The Secretary's books showed a neat balance of \$15 on hand after all indebtedness was paid off. The following trustees were then appointed:—Pres., William Horton; Vice-President, Mathias Acorn, Treas., Javiland Horton, James Myers; Sec'y Adlow Jenkins.

James D. MacCormack, formerly of St. George's, and for many years a resident of San Francisco, but now located in Alaska, was married in Seattle a few days ago to Miss May Birdsal of San Francisco, a daughter of the late Captain Birdsal of the San Francisco Police Department, and sister of Sergeant Charles Birdsal—Oakland Maple Leaf.

Nelson McQuarrie of Everett, Mass., formerly of Hampton, has entered into politics, according to a clipping from a recent Boston paper. He is now a member of the City Council of Everett, having been recently elected to that worthy position with a good vote. Mr. McQuarrie's many friends in this Province will read with pleasure of his success in the home of his adoption.

A sad occurrence took place at a home in this city, Sunday, when a father who was intoxicated tried to roast his five year old son in the oven and because he did not succeed, threw the child against the wall, cutting the little fellow who immediately ran into the street bleeding. The police were notified and on going to the house found the mother in a sad condition. The man is a native of Moncton, and has resided in the city or some months.

The S. S. Stanley arrived in this port yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock from the Summerside Tormentine route. She had no passengers or cargo having discharged her last cargo from Summerside at Tormentine. She came here direct from Tormentine and leaves this port for Pictou this morning at 7.30. The Minto will arrive in this port from Pictou about 10.30 a. m. They will continue this daily service on the Charlottetown Pictou route.

The annual meeting of the Charlottetown Driving Park and provincial Exhibition Association was held last evening. The Association had a very successful year. The president moved the adoption of the year's report which was seconded by Hon. F. L. Hazard. The following shareholders spoke on the motion, J. James Paton, Charles Curtis, F. H. Bees, Alexander Horn, F. H. Horne and Hon. George E. Hughes. A ballot was taken and the following were elected directors for the ensuing year—Hon. R. R. Fitzgerald, Hon. John Richards, Hon. George E. Hughes, J. J. Davis, R. E. Longworth, A. B. Ings and F. R. Heartz. The directors report and annual statement will appear tomorrow.

On Saturday last about thirty fishermen, many from the City, responded to the kind invitation of J. H. W. Judson to a "shoot" at his residence in Alexandria. The weather was all that could be desired and a pleasant and profitable afternoon. Even those who did not make a possible and thus failed to carry away a "goose" wore a smile of satisfaction. After the conclusion of the matches a table laden with good things was spread by the ladies who had profited by ocular demonstration that the delicacies were appreciated. Supper over Mrs. Austin Judson favored the party with choice selections on the piano and her sister, Miss Gay sang sweetly a few of her favorite gems. Choruses, speeches, anecdotes, etc. followed in quick succession. Three cheers and a tiger were most enthusiastically given to Mr. Judson—known by fishermen from the Atlantic to the Pacific as the promoter of this and numerous previous "shoots"—on his range. His reply was—"Come again boys, come soon, and be sure to come often."

The Stanley has again left Summerside and in about the same manner as in other years. She left at Summerside about 7 o'clock with a full cargo arriving at Tormentine at 1.20. About eleven o'clock, Mr. Campbell, the agent here, received the following telegram:—"Tormentine Dec. 21st. To agent, Stanley arrived 9.30, will sail 1 o'clock and sails for Pictou tomorrow, signed Harper Allen, agent. Also the following:—Charlottetown, Dec. 21st. To Alexandria Campbell. Have ordered Stanley to come to Charlottetown from Tormentine today. Navigation steamers laid up, signed. A. Lord Upon receipt of Mr. Lord's telegram Capt. Read at once called up Mr. Lord and also Premier Hazard with the result that the Stanley was ordered to return to Summerside and load for Pictou. Orders to this effect were also sent to Capt. Brown that the Stanley but he had left Tormentine for Charlottetown before the order was received having left Tormentine about 12.15.

—James Kennedy of Kensington bought recently from Joseph Noonan of Albany 15 carcasses of pork, the finished article, each averaging 240 pounds, which beats Mr. Noonan's former record of seven month-old pigs of 20 pounds per pig.

—At a meeting of the W. C. T. U., Summerside, held yesterday, it was announced that the total proceeds of the tea and apron fair held last week amounted to \$245. This amount included the proceeds of the sale of goods previous to the fair. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the donation of a plot of land on Fitzroy St. which is a pleasing site for a new W. C. T. U. hall, donated by Mrs. R. T. Holman.

A musical and dramatic entertainment was held in St. Dunstan's College Hall last evening. The big hall was well filled, many from the City being present. The program was a collection of choice selections which were well rendered and much appreciated. Much credit is due Miss R. Rattray for the success of the entertainment and the way in which it was carried out. The college closed yesterday for the Xmas holidays and the students leave today for their respective homes.

Yesterday morning Edward J. Perry, agent, was arrested for the alleged assaulting of his wife and occasioning bodily harm to her on Sunday. He came up before the Police Court yesterday and was remanded till this morning. The alleged forgery case of Seymour Gregory came up and was remanded till next Monday. Thomas Malone was convicted of a first offence against the Prohibition Act and was fined one hundred dollars and costs. Two other prohibition cases were adjourned till Thursday on a technicality.

—The death occurred at Brandon, Manitoba, on the evening inst., of William Lyle, formerly of Summerside. Deceased was about 44 years of age, and left Summerside for the west about two years ago, he was working in the woods with five of his sons when he suddenly became ill of appendicitis, living only a couple of days after contracting the disease. He is survived by a widow, residing in Summerside, also six sons five of whom are in the west the other one in Summerside, and two daughters living with their mother. The remains were entered at Brandon.

WEDNESDAY

Messrs. Moulton and McMillan, mechanical engineers, of Ottawa, are spending several days in Montague establishing observation stations in the vicinity.

The following are the Montague market prices, oats per bush, forty cents; potatoes twenty-six cents, butter twenty-two to twenty-four, hay six to eight dollars, turkey twelve cents per pound, geese and ducks ten cents per pound, chickens eight cents per lb., and eggs twenty cents per doz.

—Following are the Alberton market prices. Butter twenty to twenty-two cents, potatoes eighteen cents per bush, eggs twenty cents per dozen, fowl six cents per pound, ducks and Turkeys ten cents per pound, pork seven and one quarter cents per pound, and beef by the quarter, three and a half cents.

Organist, L. U. Fowler; Sr. Woodward, Rufus Bagnall; Jr. Woodward, Edward Hooper; Sr. Beadle, P. C. Brown; Jr. Beadle, A. B. Farrow; Trustees, B. Lowther and G. W. Myers; Finance Com. Thos. Moysie and J. J. Frizzle. The installation will take place on Jan. 9th, when it is expected that the High Chief Ranger will be present.

—Produce was moving in large quantities in Summerside yesterday. Dealers were paying forty cents for white oats, forty-one cents for black oats, eight to nine dollars a ton for hay, twenty-two to twenty-three and ten cents for butter, twenty-five cents per dozen for eggs, six to eight cents for poultry, eight to ten cents per pound for chickens, fourteen cents per pound for turkey and ten cents for geese per pound.

A very interesting event took place at the home of James McCork, Glenoe, on the night of the 15th inst., the occasion being the ninety-second anniversary of his birth. Despite the inclemency of the weather, quite a number of relatives, friends and neighbours were present. After partaking of a bountiful supper the guests indulged in games, singing, etc. Mr. McCork, for all he is ninety two, with the exception of his impaired sight, is hale and hearty and is likely to live for some years to come. Exam.

—At a largely attended meeting of the new court room at Bedeque on Saturday evening last, the following officers were elected for 1909 Court Debenham Schurman; Chief Ranger, H. Howatt; Past Chief, E. H. Man; Rec. Secy., G. A. Bowness; John Davidson; Physician, Treasurer, J. M. D.; Orator, F. W. Davidson; Farmers' Institutes through this Province and bring it up at one of their meetings and consider whether or not it is too stringent and exacting. Copies of it can be obtained from A. McGill, Chief Analyst, Island Revenue Department, Ottawa.

The Provincial Department of Agriculture has just received a copy of a bill respecting an agriculture fertilizer, which was introduced at last session of the federal Parliament. The chief provision of the Act is that every brand of fertilizer offered for sale each year must be registered for that particular year, in order that it may be identified. In the past a guaranteed analysis had to be submitted on each package, but on account of the difficulty of identification this province could hardly ever be enforced. This however, is intended to be provided against in the present bill. The manufacturer's of fertilizer and their agents have been sending deputations to the Department complaining that the Act is too stringent and exacting. This bill however, is framed for the protection of farmers, but there is no intention to place unnecessary hindrance in the way of the trade.

The following is the Directors' report of the Charlottetown Driving Park and Provincial Exhibition Association given at the annual meeting Monday night.

The Directors in submitting their annual report congratulate the shareholders on the success of the eighth annual Provincial Exhibition held on their grounds in September last.

The Exhibition itself was fully equal to any open to the Maritime Provinces only, heretofore held here, and in its educative aspects surpassing all preceding ones; clearly evidenced by the fact that almost every class and section of the prize list was filled, and cattle and agricultural products exhibited of a higher type than was possible a few years ago.

It has been the aim of your Directors ever to encourage improved breeding and advanced methods in agriculture, and it is with the greatest satisfaction that your Board observe that there are always exhibitors able to compete in new and advanced classes. In some classes of Live Stock where a few years ago many of the sections were only partially filled they are now well filled; and all the prizes offered taken. Particularly is this noticeable in the Swine classes. Within the last few years breeding of pure bred Swine has greatly advanced here and your Directors have been glad to give to this valuable industry every helpful assistance, and feel assured that such assistance has been appreciated, and is being well utilized by our exhibitors at the Winter Fair at Amherst in their almost clean sweep of the prize money offered there in the Swine classes, and in capturing last year and this the Silver Cup given as the Grand Championship for the best pen of three Swine.

The Directors notice with pleasure that each year the exhibitors at our Central and Provincial Fair from the adjoining counties are more numerous.

Our buildings and grounds are second to none in the Maritime Provinces. This year your Directors had to incur a large expense in re-shingling the roof of the Main Exhibition Building. This was necessary to preserve from injury the valuable exhibit shown therein.

Every year a much larger amount of the prize money, offered, is captured than in former years, and though your Directors in preparing their prize list last spring, kept that in mind they did not quite succeed in making the Government Grant cover the amount of prize money actually paid out together with the expenses paid the judges.

This year the Exhibition Circuit began at Halifax, then at St. John and lastly here, but the two first being held early, we had the advantage of beautiful warm weather.

As our farmers exhibit largely and successfully in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick our time must necessarily be fixed to suit theirs.

There were three days horse racing during Exhibition week, and your Directors are pleased to note a marked improvement especially amongst island horses.

In October last on the request of the leading merchants of Charlottetown and on their financial guarantee your Board held two days horse racing. The result shows as will be seen by the Secretary's report that the net profits from these races were ninety-four cents. These races were only held on the request and for the benefit of the merchants of this city, and as a Board we doubted their advisability, but we did not feel like declining assistance to those, who all ways so willingly assisted us.

Your Directors are glad to report that, owing to the continued good warm weather throughout the entire Exhibition, notwithstanding the large amount expended on permanent repairs, there is, as will be seen by their financial statement a balance to credit out of which your Directors propose paying dividends of 2 1/2 p. c. for the year 1907 (when there was none) and 2 1/2 p. c. for this year to the shareholders leaving the amount in reserve at the last annual meeting intact.

Your Board cannot close their report without recording their high appreciation of the services of their late President the Hon. F. L. Hazard, who on becoming Premier of the Province felt himself compelled to resign his Directorship in this Association.

For many years the burden of the work of this Corporation was upon his shoulders, and Exhibitors, shareholders and his Brother Directors must all feel they owe him much for work zealously, efficiently and courteously performed.

John Richards, now the Hon. John Richards was on Mr. Hazard's retiring appointed a Director in his place and Mr. Justice Fitzgerald appointed President.

The Secretary's report is submitted herewith and shows a small credit balance.

TELEGRAPHIC

MONTREAL, Dec. 22—(Special)—Yesterday was nomination day in five constituencies for seats in the provincial Legislature, the vacancies being caused by members resigning because of illegal acts, or being appointed to office.

In St. Mary's, Montreal, Alderman Seguin, Liberal was elected by acclamation.

Contests will take place in the other constituencies, polling next Tuesday.

ST. JOHN, Dec. 22—(Special)—In the equity court the action taken by Albert Pugsley against George Fowler and Rufus Pope for the recovery of one thirtieth share of the profits of the famous western land deal came up.

Pugsley testified regarding the proposition submitted by Fowler where by Pugsley became interested to the extent of two hundred dollars.

Later Fowler demanded additional amounts which Pugsley declined to pay.

Since the land deal went through Pugsley had several times endeavored to obtain a settlement, but nothing was done.

The case continues tomorrow.

OTTAWA, Dec. 22—(Special)—In the Marine enquiry today it was established clearly that neither Boudreau nor any other Marine Department official received the 3,000 dollars paid by Jas. Holliday. Evidence showed the cheques were paid by the bank and were not used for any purpose.

Judge Cassels intimated that the charge against Boudreau was withdrawn.

R. R. Fitzgerald, President.
John J. Davies.
Geo. E. Hughes.
Robt. E. Longworth.
A. Ernest Ings.
Frank R. Heartz.
John Richards, Directors.
C. R. Smallwood,
Sec'y Treasurer.

AMHERST, Dec. 22—(Special)—The hoisting cage in Springhill Mine accidentally reversed yesterday.

Melvin Weatherly, aged 21, married, who was coming out of the mine had his skull crushed against the upper beam just as he was stepping from the cage, dying instantly.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 22—(Special)—Following the secret investigation arranged by the voters' League with private detectives, seven members of the Common Council and two prominent bankers were arrested, causing a great sensation.

Further arrests are expected immediately.

The charges are that the bankers dishonestly paid money to the Council men who voted to transfer the city's account to their bank and the Council men bribed their colleagues to support the scheme.

The indictments say conspiracy, corrupt solicitation and bribery. All were released on large bail.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22—(Special)—Patrick Sullivan, ice-wagon driver, found a ten thousand dollar bill in the bottom of an old tomato can he picked up in an alley in the residential part of the town.

The Illinois National Bank examined the bill and it appeared to be genuine gold certificate.

The bill was taken to the sub-treasury at St. Louis for further examination.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—(Special)—More than a thousand persons were made homeless and hundreds of thousands of property destroyed in a fire which burned a block of apartment houses between Second and Third Avenues, Brooklyn.

Twenty persons were overcome by smoke but rescued by the firemen.

The occupants of the blazing buildings were driven half clad into the how swept streets and a score of them were dragged unconscious from the apartments by policemen.

One policeman, clasping in his arms the tiny form of a little boy, was carried fainting from a hallway. Reviving, he returned to the work of rescue.

Womer and children, dazed with fright, knelt in the icy street and prayed hysterically.

The fire gained great headway before the water was turned on, as the engines were hampered in the rush to be scene by the slippery streets.

Three times the firemen were forced to turn streams on the elevated railroad from which vantage point they were handling the hose.

Practically the whole block was destroyed before the flames were controlled.

OTTAWA, Dec. 22—(Special)—At the marine enquiry today Mr. Watson put in a statement showing that a last three years the department's dealing with the Canadian Log Signal Company totalled five hundred and twenty nine thousand five hundred and nineteen dollars.

Auditor general Fraser said the government never bought the goods which Col. Gourdeau certified as entitled to come in free.

He was told by a shipper that they went to Gourdeau's own house.

W. W. Stumbles of the department, denied that the records had been stolen during the enquiry by the officials affected.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(Special)—The famous contempt case of the Bucks Stove Co. against President Goovers, Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison of the American Federation was decided by the Supreme Court adversely to the Federation officials.

Gompers was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, Mitchell nine months and Morrison six months.

The case grew out of an alleged boycott of the Company's products and putting the company on the "unfair list."

The original action was a test case wherein it was sought to enjoin the labor unions from using the "unfair lists" in their fight against firms and individuals.

Justice Gould issued an injunction forbidding the publication of the company's name on the lists.

Gompers in an editorial made known his intention not to obey the court's order, contending that the injunction as issued was in derogation of the rights of labor and an abuse of the injunctive power of the courts.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison subsequently were cited for contempt.

HALIFAX, Dec. 23—(Special)—In the case of King vs. Gains, decided in the Supreme Court, judgement went on a preliminary point and does not affect the merits of the case.

It is important as affecting the right of social clubs to sell intoxicating liquors to bona fide members.

Without deciding this the court dismissed the appeal, saying the written case was not properly stated.

Gains was steward of an incorporated club known as the Criterion, was fined by a magistrate and appealed to the full bench.

Counsel for the club says the decision will be appealed to Ottawa.

The decision affects a dozen clubs in Halifax who are all supplying liquor to members.

MONCTON, N. B., Dec. 23—The seven year old daughter of John Weir was burned to death at her home on Telegraph Street.

Her mother had gone out for a few minutes, leaving three children. Shortly after one of the children ran from the house crying, and Jack Jonah rushed into the house to find Leone with her clothes on fire.

Wrapping the child in blankets, he carried her from the house, smothering the flames, but not before she received burns which caused death two or three hours later.

The child put paraffine in the stove and her clothes caught from the flames.

RECEIPTS.

Government Grant	\$ 4,000.00
Civic Grant	500.00
Exhibition Gate Receipts	3,286.42
Grand Stand Receipts	2,495.25
Race Gate Receipts	551.75
Exhibition Entries	342.52
Race Entries	685.00
Licences	241.00
Training Tickets	18.00
Department of Militia	50.00
Net of Grounds	338.25
Interest of Deposit	105.50
Net Proceeds from Merchants' Races	.94
Total	\$12,275.93

EXPENDITURE.

Exhibition Prizes and Judges	\$ 4,209.79
Race Prizes and Judges	1,988.66
Watchmen, Police, &c	338.25
Keepers Pay	264.88
Advertising	179.25
Printing, Stationery &c.	267.75
Postage, Telegrams, &c.	131.25
Hay and Straw	1,049.41
Repairs	42.10
Membership Fee and Auditor	50.00
Band	200.00
Electric Light	33.75
Horse Hire	232.67
Insurance, Taxes and Water	703.67
Attractions	750.00
Secretary's Salary, Help, Rent, Fuel, &c	206.20
Miscellaneous	1,240.00
Proposed Dividend of 2 1/2 p. c. for 1907 and 2 1/2 p. c. for 1908	68.37
Total	\$12,275.93

The Union Commercial College closed for Xmas holidays yesterday afternoon at 3 p. m. His Honor Lieut. Governor McKinnon was present and presented the diplomas and prizes.

J. F. Nash, Editor of the Patriot, and Dr. F. F. Kelly delivered addresses to the students. The following are the diploma and prize winners:

Most improvement in Penmanship, Commercial Department, Nathan Campbell, Georgetown.

Most improvement in Penmanship, Shorthand Department, Hilda Harper City.

Honorable mention in Com. Department, Gracie Gay, Margaret Dougan, Felix Morrison, Ethel Baron, Eliza McInnis.

Honorable mention in Shorthand Department Lizzie Gibson, Margaret Power, Sara McLeod, Katie W. Murphy.

These recommended for certificates by Zanerian Art College, Columbus, Ohio, Hazel Stewart, Hilda Harper, Gracie Gay, Margaret Dougan, Lizzie Gibson, Felix Morrison.

Prizes for Spelling. First prize for spelling highest aggregate in spelling, Miss Lizzie Gibson. Miss Grant ties, Miss Gibson in the average.

Special prize for neatness in work, Mary Flynn.

Special prize for typewriting, Stella Grant.

Honorable mention, Regis McDonald, Ida Robertson.

Principal: Moran and Vice Prin. Pruner were presented with beautiful addresses, to which they fittingly replied. The work on both sides was very creditable to exhibitors and teachers.