

The Carleton Sentinel.

VOL. 61. No. 53

WOODSTOCK, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1909.

WHOLE No. 3253

I Wish Everyone a Happy and prosperous year for 1910, and also wish to thank everyone for the kind patronage of the past year, 1909, and hope it will continue.

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What Are Moving Pictures?

EDISON SAYS THEY ARE THE GREATEST FOE THE SALOON EVER HAD.

Judge Forbes Says "If They Tend To Keep Men From The Rum Shops They Are Blessings."

What are moving pictures? They are the most amazing industrial mushroom of modern times.

This is a proper and true characterization of the moving picture theatre industry of today.

There are many thousands—each tremendously patronized, each presenting attractive, novel and inviting entertainments.

What does the moving picture theatre really represent?

It is more than a mere entertainment. It is the club of the workingman, his lyceum, in many instances his pulpit.

The fact that it is called the "Nickel" or that admission is only 10 cents, does not mean that the theatre and the entertainment need be cheap and undesirable—on the other hand the tri-weekly program, as evidenced by our own "Bijou" may be educational both from a world-knowledge and a moral standpoint.

Films from foreign lands, depicting in true light, the people across the seas, their trades, sports and customs, are brought before the eyes of the man, woman and child, who, by book study alone, would never realize, could never realize, only by actual seeing, the wonders of the world and its people.

Then, too, the little dramas of the home strike deep into the heart of the unthinking father and mother, making a lasting impression where countless lectures and talks would utterly fail. It is the actual seeing of things that more completely educate a man and it is thus the moving pictures educate and paint their moral sermons.

This is one explanation as to what moving pictures are.

Ten years ago there was not a moving picture theatre in America. Today there are thousands of them.

It is true that in some localities, pictures are shown that are of gruesome murders and tragedies, which the world does not need to see, but even these have their morals, and may be the means, sometimes in the life of a person who is addicted to drink and violent passions, to make them stop to think of the consequences they are being led to, if the fatal blow is struck. These scenes are, however, rapidly disappearing, and will in a short time be wiped out altogether.

In the large centres, such as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and other large cities in the United States and Canada, great strides have been made with moving pictures. Thousands of men and women have found employment. Actors and actresses of more than ordinary ability have forsaken the stage because of the more lucrative remuneration in the new field of work, that of playing before the moving picture operator.

Thomas A. Edison, the "Electric Wizard," believes that the moving picture theatres will do more towards abolishing the saloon than anything else and in substantiation of this, it seems already as if these theatres were beckoning to the saloon's former patrons with arguments too strong to be withstood.

Of course, the best possible advertisement moving picture shows can have is a clean, wholesome entertainment in a pleasant hall. People who go there, if impressed, tell their friends, the whole people are curious and one follows the other, who in turn, tell others.

The great majority has to be convinced, but at the Bijou here in Woodstock, generally, there is hardly standing room, every seat being filled and more seats are required. And by the clean pictures shown here the prejudices against the show has been overcome.

The hall is never totally dark as the ray of light thrown on the screen ahead gives just enough illumination to see by, and it is this screen that attracts the new comer, for people—shadows of people are moving about. Horses dash by—there is the motion in motion again on a tiny stage.

In rapid order comes the pictures. First a comic one where scores of people chase madly around after a baby carriage which has run away by itself. They fall down, scramble over each other, wave their arms, and, before you are aware you are shouting with laughter. Then there appears before the eyes another title, this time of a serious nature. Perhaps the scene shows a happy home, with the father playing with two little tots, while the fond mother stands close by. The scene then shifts to a shop where the father works. Lunch hour comes and one of the men produces a bottle of liquor. He offers it to the father who refuses. The workmen taunt him for being afraid to take a drink. To show them he is not, he tastes it. He likes it, and after work he goes to the saloon where the picture shows the men lined up before the bar. The father gets intoxicated and returns home. The scenes at the home are dramatically

enacted. Terribly real is the terror of the young wife, the sadness of the little ones, who wonder why the father does not play with them as usual.

The picture changes to years later. The father has become an habitual drunkard. Instead of the pretty home in the first picture it is now a scene of squalor. The faithful mother looks tired and ill—the little children are half clothed and half fed—the room is desolate and barren. But all the good in the father is not quite dead. There is a spark of good which is fanned into a flame by the awful shame of it and he resolves to make a new start—to start a new home. He succeeds and the picture finally disappears, leaving in the memory the happy home again, with the children having the merriest kind of a time with the father, while the good wife stands close by. The man who went in feels a bit queer. He had seen what he before had only heard talked of.

A man and woman appears and sings one of the latest songs with brilliantly colored slides illustrating the song as it progresses.

Then comes another picture—this perhaps may be of the far west with its rugged country, its cowboys, miners and western scenes. They are real scenes, too, and for the first time the onlooker wonders how it is all done—how these wonderful pictures so absolutely true to life are taken.

In turn come pictures of foreign lands. Street scenes with the people of different nationalities moving about just as the tourist sees them, are thrown on the canvases. One sees the people of Holland in their wooden shoes just as they have read about. Then you actually see the great mountains of Switzerland—see the climbers scaling the high peaks. The land of France, Germany, South Sea Islands, Japan, India, Spain, Portugal, Siberia, Scenes in Ireland, Scotland and England, King Edward, the Queen and Royal Family.

Perhaps some great royal celebration of pomp and grandeur has occurred a month or so ago. There it appears just as it was before your eyes in the moving picture theatre. There are the splendid platoons of soldiers—the people crowding and waving their hats. The crowd becomes excited gets more excited. A man or perhaps a woman is seen bowing right and left, smiling and acknowledging the reception of the people, and the onlooker thrills and somebody recognizes the person as our own King Edward or the Queen and starts the cheering. There they are before your eyes just as they were seen in the procession—just as they bow and smile—the real person.

The man has paid to cents to see all this in reality and it is no wonder when he goes out once again to the street he rehearses it all over in his mind, and that—he goes again.

The public at large are mistaken when they think there is a mint of money in such an enterprise. The expenses are very large. It is a business like any other, and it is the constant and ever increasing attendance which makes it pay, just as patronage in any other business would do.

The life of a moving picture man is not one of sunshine and sweet smelling roses.

Every show has musical accompaniments. The management usually hires a good pianist, with instructions to play music appropriate to the pictures; to make noises like horses trotting, like the swish of water, wind blowing, and to play shuddery music when the villain is pursuing the heroine.

Moving pictures were first used in connection with vaudeville shows, the cinematograph or biograph or kinetoscope, or vitascop (all very much the same) being invented in 1888-1889. Thomas A. Edison is said to be more closely affiliated with its success than any other inventor.

Discovery upon discovery followed, and pictures theatres began to spring up here and there, until now thousands are found all over the country in small and big centres alike.

We have endeavored to give our readers a clear understanding as to what the moving pictures are.

Judge Forbes of St John, during a meeting of the Y.M.C.A. with a committee representing the four groups of churches, in St John said, referring to moving pictures, when reference was made to the number of theatres in the city by a number of the delegates, that in one respect the churches should feel thankful for the moving picture houses as they tended to keep men from the rumshops and if they did that they certainly were blessings in disguise. Anything, he said, that kept men from frequenting the barrooms was a blessing and should be commended for the good it does.

We hope at an early date to explain to our readers just how each film is made of those pictures that seem so puzzling to the onlooker, such as trick pictures. For lack of space we will have to bring this article to a close.

Dr E S Kirkpatrick, Trade Commissioner, Cuba, arrived home on Saturday last. Dr Kirkpatrick expects to return in about two weeks and take his family with him.

General News Told in Short Paragraphs.

The Dominion House of Commons has passed a resolution in favor of taking further steps to fight tuberculosis.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, interviewed on his arrival in England, stated that he would like to see Canada have war vessels built by Britain at Canada's expense and then rent them to the mother land.

The cost of the Panama Canal is now estimated at \$375,201,000, and the report of 46,194 in hospital during the year gives a suggestive intimation of the magnitude of the work. The figures will grow, but there will be no weakening on the part of the Republic.

A mining expert says that Alaska has three times the placer area that California had. California produced \$1,400,000 in gold in 59 years and this expert says that Alaska will produce more than three times that amount in the same period.

The prohibition tide is slowly but resistlessly sweeping across Ontario, and before many years the probability is that all municipalities in which the rural vote predominates will have absolutely forbidden the sale of liquor within their borders.

Exports of cheese from Montreal up to the second week of November were 1,790,000 boxes, as against 1,695,000 a year previous. This fine increase is somewhat modified by the decline in exports of butter, which this season have only been 40,000 boxes, against 95,000 in 1908.

The New York Herald does not want Canada to have a navy, and says that the United States once protected Texas from Mexico, and we all know with what result.

The world's largest log raft, 910 feet long and holding 8,000,000 feet of timber, is nearly completed at Everett, Wash., after which an attempt will be made to tow the big cigar-shaped boom to Nagasaki, Japan. The big raft will draw 28 feet of water. It is being built in a cradle like a ship and is anchored near shore in shallow water. The framework resembles a skeleton of a ship, having a double keel with strong knee braces near the bilge. Two powerful ocean going tugs will undertake the task of guiding the great raft of logs across the Pacific.

The Laymen's Missionary Movement has this affected the Toronto churches: Four Methodist churches made the following advances: \$8,000 to \$16,000; \$7,000 to \$15,000; \$4,000 to \$13,000; \$3,000 to \$5,000. Four Anglican churches advanced as follows: \$7,000 to \$15,000; \$5,000 to \$15,000; \$1,000 to \$4,000; \$200 to \$1,000. Three Presbyterian congregations advanced from \$12,000 to \$15,000; from \$7,000 to \$11,000; from \$6,500 to \$12,500. Baptists advanced \$7,000 to \$17,000; \$6,000 to \$13,000; \$1,000 to \$5,000; \$200 to \$1,600.

The Stratford, Ont., Beacon mentions the fact that the value of the cheese and butter turned out in Ontario factories during 1908 was over \$15,000,000, and the figures for this year will, it is believed, be in advance of this amount.

The railway strike in the United States is assuming large proportions and causing an ominous outlook. It will be a serious matter for the whole nation if there is a general tie-up of traffic, which would precipitate a fuel famine. It is intolerable that the lives of millions of people should be imperilled by disputes between a few great corporations and their employees.

Calgary has become such a grain centre that the Dominion Government has decided to establish a survey board for inspection of grain passing through here. The new board will probably consist of twelve members, six being appointed by the Government, and the rest by members of the Calgary Grain Exchange.

Albert & Great Waterways Railway officials state that they expect to have the line in operation to a point 150 miles to the north of Edmonton by the middle of next summer. The remaining 200 miles of the line to Fort McMurray is also expected to be completed by the fall of 1911.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy interviewed on his arrival in England recently in reference to emigration, said that recently when 1,600 small holdings were offered in England there were 35,000 applicants. All these could be accommodated in Canada. "We propose to prepare land for this class of small holder," he added, "to build his house, fence his holding, break a part of the soil and sow it, so that he can come and find all ready to settle down. This will be within the reach of the English countryman who has £100 capital to make a start."

Burden & King are supplying their customers with a necessity in the shape of a household article. It is a Want Check List to tally the kitchen wants of the household. Ask for one of these when you make your next purchase. Its clean and neat and is in keeping with the goods supplied by them.

Appropriate Xmas sermons were preached in all the churches of the town on Sunday last, and special music rendered by the choirs of the different churches.

Another Knock at the English.

A Predjudiced American Paints a Very Dismal Picture and Applauds Germany.

(Boston Transcript.)

Great Britain was contrasted most unfavorably to Germany in an address by Dr David Snedden, the new commissioner of education in Massachusetts, at the December meeting of the Wellesley Club in the Copley Square Hotel, last evening. The commissioner stated, first of all, that he was merely giving his own opinions and was not sure that they would be his final judgment, but, as he sees things now, he anticipates the decline of England and the relative rise of Germany.

Speaking of England he said that the people are a physically broken population, and the country is apparently failing to produce any large number of great leaders. "Although Great Britain is still enormously wealthy," he continued, "I did not see such abject poverty in any other part of Europe as in England. She is today making desperate efforts to remedy these evils, but it is hard to guess whether or not she will succeed. England sincerely believes that within a few years the German navy is going to try conclusions with Great Britain for the supremacy of the seas."

"Germany, although unfortunately situated as regards natural resources, has 64,000,000 people on a high level of happiness. There we see no poverty, relatively little criminality, and cities which are the cleanest, best governed and best planned of any in the world. The Germany of today is magnificent from a social point of view. The practically compulsory insurance system is the most important social fact in Germany in preventing poverty and promoting thrift."

The speaker contrasted the splendid physique of the people of Germany with the broken physique of England's population.

"Germany has," he said, "a splendid mass of peasantry to draw upon and her leaders are willing to serve their country. Germany is, in fact, one great army of industry, nearly perfect because of its splendid rank and file. The one precaution: point is that the leadership may not be of the present class."

Extravagance Still Prevails.

It has been supposed that trade depression exerts a sobering influence on the public mind, and that in post-panic periods expenditures are generally reduced so as to closely accord with income. But unless present signs are misleading, a vast number of our citizens were not chastened by the baneful effects of the depression following the untoward economic happening of October, 1907. Indeed, there seems to be a spirit of extravagance abroad in the land, and the events of a few years ago also appear to have been disregarded. In the western and southern communities there is evidence of inflation, and in the cities pleasure-seeking of a costly type holds high favor. The farmer having enjoyed several years of unalloyed prosperity is bent on enjoying the fat of the land. He did not suffer from the depression, thanks to continuously high prices. In the farming communities money is plentiful and the mode of living is changing. Luxuries that were looked at askance in other days are now demanded. In the surplus crop growing region, as in the cities, automobiles are in vogue. The Wall Street Journal, in writing on the subject of rural inflation, tells us that "general borrowing has spread widely among the better-to-do people under forty."

Our contemporary illustrates its point by stating that a banker in a western town was asked where the people got the means to buy automobiles. He replied that the secret could be found in looking over the list of the bank's commercial paper, which the buyers of automobiles had given in the form of notes to other agents of the manufacturers. Then comes the Iron Age with an editorial in which it tells of a great automobile business in the middle west sending a representative to the east with authority to purchase outright a machine shop and assemble 200 toolmakers as its working force. The home plant has found it impossible to turn out its planned production simply because enough workmen are not to be had. Wages are high, \$11 a day being paid to toolmakers, and especially skilled men command \$18 a day. But not nearly enough tenements exist to house the employees, and tents and shanties are occupied as homes by hundreds; therefore the men will not stay. On that account machine tool makers are being sought in other fields. Finally, we find a leading firm of bond dealers—Fisk & Robinson—complaining that high-grade bonds bring lower prices than they did ten years ago, for which increased extravagance as well as the demand that money must earn more are largely responsible. On every hand there is a cry for more money. A good deal of this is due to the high cost of living, but at the same time the craving for luxury is also a very evident cause, to which one may also add the gher standard of living.

Old Year Finishes in a Knock Out Blow.

Great Storm Along Atlantic Coast.

A heavy gale along the New England coast with an immense tide caused much damage last week. Coming on a full moon, the gale rolled a tidal wave along the coast which, in some places, reached a height of over 14 feet above low water mark. In Boston the tide went across Atlantic Avenue, filling hundreds of cellars, and caused damage estimated over \$1,000,000.

In Everett, a man and wife were overwhelmed by the flood, while an infant lost its life in Chelsea under similar circumstances. People were taken from their houses in boats. Hundreds of summer cottages were undermined, and persons living some distance from the coast found themselves looking over an open sea.

There was a wholesale prostration of wire service in South-eastern New England. Railroads are blocked, trains stalled and street railways could make but little progress.

across the narrow isthmus which connects Nahant with the mainland and for several hours the rocky peninsula was an island. The State highway was covered to a depth of four feet with seaweed.

Details of Militiamen from Malden, Lynn, Everett and Marblehead were sent to Chelsea with blankets and mattresses by order of Governor Draper. It is estimated that over 2500 people were driven from their homes.

The storm all over the country was fierce. Grim winter has swept the whole country from Newfoundland to New York with this storm of such terrible energy and much suffering and some deaths are reported from different parts.

New Year Nuggets.

Start right.
Wind up right.
Keep to the right.
Resolve the right about.
Don't sham, but be real.
Be content with the little you have.
Think evil of none, but well of all.
Keep busy in order to be healthy.
Consistently add to what you have got.
Undertake something good and stick to it.

Advertise from the start and make business thrive.
Have push and get up and show that you are alive.
If you break your resolve, don't give up in despair.
Break away from bad habits, evil companions and vile language.
Cultivate courtesy, kindness, cheerfulness, carelessness and promptness.
Aim to be something, do something, get something and keep something.

Keep your word, keep out of debt, keep good company, keep your own counsel.
Don't kick, don't grumble, don't criticise your brother's shortcomings, but smile at your obstacles and be gracious and forgiving.

James C. tton.

Woodstock, N.B., Dec 23—James Sutton, florist, of this town, who has been ailing for the past year with Bright's disease, and a few months ago suffered a paralytic stroke, passed away today, his 71st birthday. He was a native of the county of Wiltshire, England, and came to New Brunswick with the 15th Regiment in 1862. He was a deacon in the United Baptist church and was held in the highest esteem by a large circle of friends. He is survived by a widow, two sons, John, of Oregon, and William, of the Woodstock Woodworking Co., and three daughters, Mrs George Green, of Massachusetts; Mrs A F Baker, of New Westminster (B.C.), and Miss Pearl at home. The funeral will take place on Saturday.

Installation of Officers.

The following officers of Woodstock, Lodge No 11 F. & A. M. were installed by Donald Munro P. D. G. M. assisted by W. Bro. John McLaughlin acting as director of ceremonies, on the evening of Saint John's Day. After the ceremonies of the installation the members partook of refreshments at the "Royal Cafe": Bro. Charles A Peabody, Wor. Master; Raymond M Gabel, Senior Warden; Albert G Fields, Junior Warden; Hubert A Seely P. M., Chaplain; Williamson Fisher, Treasurer; Donald Munro P. M., Secretary; E Kenneth Connell, Senior Deacon; Wallace Gibson, Junior Deacon; William S Skillen, Senior Steward; Frank L Atherton, Junior Steward; Dr Merton C McLean P. M., Dir. of Cer's; George A B Howard, Organist; Thomas R Gabel, Inner guard; Emerson L Hagerman P. M. Tyler.

Mr and Mrs Williamson Fisher and family spent Xmas at Monticello, the guest of Mr and Mrs George Bull.