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DAILY HERALD

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1906

THE SCHOOLS.

The public schools are closed for the annual Christmas vacation, and teachers and pupils are given a needed breathing spell, from their exacting duties. The character of the work done in the Fredericton schools is of a very high order, no town or city in Canada enjoys better educational advantages, and, while we have to pay liberally for the service, it is satisfactory to realize that the youth of the city are being well grounded in their studies, and well prepared for the active duties of life, to which they will be called when their school days are over.

The teachers, we believe, are painstaking, industrious and successful, and to them and their pupils The Herald wishes them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, with the hope that they will all return to their duties refreshed by their respite from work for the next two weeks.

POPULAR CANADIAN AUTHOR.

A modest, unassuming Presbyterian clergyman, conducting the pastorate of a large Winnipeg congregation, Rev. C. W. Gordon, while faithfully discharging his clerical duties, has found time to make a distinguished name for himself in literature.

There is no more popular author before the public today on either side of the Atlantic than "Ralph Connor," the nom de plume under which Mr. Gordon writes.

Since 1898 he has given the public seven volumes of fiction, but fiction with a strong moral point, and inspired by his own personal experience in western and eastern Canada.

Black Rock, the Sky Pilot, the Man from Glenarry, Glenarry School Days. The Prospector and his latest work, the Doctor are books that have been read and are being read by everybody and are universally admired.

"Ralph Connor" who is a Canadian through and through is the son of a Glenarry, Ontario, Presbyterian clergyman, and his literary ability was first recognized and applauded in his own country, but his reputation as a writer of great merit has spread to every English speaking part of the globe.

His latest work "The Doctor" first published less than a month ago is having phenomenal success. Its first edition consisting of 30,000 copies sold out the first week of publication and a second edition—as large as the entire Canadian sale of almost any foreign book of fiction—is now being sent out. "Ralph Connor" chooses robust characters for his heroes, men of action, resource and courage, and he surrounds them with a web of romance and reality which never fail to attract.

A POSTAL PROPOSITION.

Mr. W. D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher, has made an offer to the American government to run the postal service of the country as a private enterprise. He offers to capitalize the scheme with \$50,000,000, to place it under government regulation, to reduce by half all postal rates and establish rural postal express, to pay the government a rental for post office quarters and to charge it regular rates for postal business and to pay the government all profits above 7 per cent.

He affirms that by eliminating all sinecures and politics, and by replacing the business in charge of a well known railroad traffic expert already secured at a salary of \$30,000 a year, the deficit of \$15,000,000 a year can be overcome in spite of lower rates of postage.

Mr. Boyce or his kind would receive scant attention from a proposition of that kind made in Canada.

Thanks to the efficient management of the Canadian Post Office Department since the Liberals came into power, our post office system is annually yielding a magnificent surplus, the past year in the vicinity of \$1,000,000, and in spite of the reduction of postage from three cents to two cents, the adoption of penny postage to all parts of the empire, and the general extension of the postal facilities of the country.

In the old times under Tory rule the Post Office Department showed regular heavy deficits but it

was not then on the business basis adopted by Sir William Mulock, whose excellent administration is being continued by Hon. Rudolph Lemieux.

CURRENT COMMENTS.

It sounds funny—the declaration of a New Brunswick newspaper—that Halifax is the great national winter port in the face of St. John's undoubted claim to that distinction.

The presence of Hon. A. G. Blair at the Provincial Liberal convention at St. John next week will add interest to that gathering which promises to be a very successful affair.

Anyhow the advocates of the St. John valley route for the Transcontinental railway have been able to give the commissioners and the government something to think over before the route for the road is finally selected. The engineers' reports are much more complete this time than before, and when the selection is made it can be intelligently done, and the evidence is said to be strong for the valley route.

It is stated that the amendments proposed to be made to the Dominion election law this session will include a provision for compulsory voting. That is the way to do it. Such a law would do more towards putting down bribery than any other force that could be employed. If a man has to vote or say go to jail for a month or more he will not likely be found sitting on the fence waiting for the highest bidder.

Mr. Chamberlain is said to have lost his memory—the past being a complete blank to him. How thankful Mr. Foster would feel if his mind could be a complete blank so far as the insurance investigation is concerned, and what a happy Christmas he might be able to spend if he could blot out the recollection that Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he would submit the commission's report to parliament after recess.

Soon it will be time for making resolutions for the new year. Some of the politicians are said to be resolving that they will make no further effort to secure elections by bribery, and other means, the lawyers may make up their minds to be entirely honest, the preachers might conclude to preach shorter sermons and the newspaper men—well, they maintain such a high average in all that is best that there is little room for improvement with the new year.

The Northumberland Liberal Association has been meeting, hearing speeches from prominent members, and appointing delegates to the provincial convention to be held next week at St. John, but we fail to find the name of Mr. Morrissey, M. P., in the record of the association's business, although when Mr. Hazen tries to pose the local opposition as a coalition party, he points to Mr. Morrissey as a Liberal. Did the gentleman finally sever his relations with the Liberals, when Mr. W. S. Loggie was chosen as the Liberal candidate for the commons in Northumberland?

BITS OF NEWS.

The Transcontinental Railway Commissioners have purchased a block of land two and a half miles long and half a mile wide, about four and a half miles east of Winnipeg for yards and workshops. The price is about \$225,000.

Thirty-five feet of property on King street, Toronto, adjoining the Bank of Nova Scotia, was sold Wednesday at \$3,500 a foot. The nominal purchaser was G. A. Case, but it is understood the Bank of Nova Scotia is behind him and will build an extension to the bank on the land.

The Ontario government has decided upon extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway from the end of the present line at the junction of Black and Abitibi rivers to connect with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway between thirty-seven and forty miles further north.

Details now available from the settled portions of Manitoba show conclusively that the Roblin government's proposal for municipal telephone exchanges throughout Manitoba has been decisively defeated. Out of eighty-one municipalities from which final returns are to hand, forty-eight have rejected the scheme and thirty-three have endorsed it.

The C. P. R. steamer Empress of Iceland arrived at Halifax Thursday night from Liverpool and anchored opposite the I. C. R. wharf at 6.18 p. m. and sailed for St. John at 9.04 o'clock. Six first class passengers and fourteen hundred packages of mail matter were landed there and were taken by the special train which was waiting at the wharf and left for Montreal at 7.30 o'clock.

The attorney general has issued instructions to have fifty additional jurymen summoned for the Collins murder trial, which will open at the Albert shiretown on Tuesday, January 15th. This, with the ordinary

panel and the members of the grand jury, will make ninety-five jurors in attendance. Hon. Mr. Pugsley will himself conduct the case for the crown.

The Houlton Press says: Townspeople who keep a horse are beginning to think it is a most expensive luxury. They are now obliged to pay \$15 a ton for hay, and are inclined to believe the limit for this season has not yet been reached. The highest mark reached before on hay was \$12 per ton. Some dealers would not be surprised to see hay reach the \$20 mark before spring. Lucky is the farmer who has a big stock of hay in his barns for the local market.

Despondent because he had lost all of his money gambling and had been gilded by his pretty Austrian sweetheart, Joseph Tomsic committed suicide at Delagoa, Colorado. He climbed to the top of a burning coke oven and, with a wave of his hand, to the workers who were watching him, but helpless to interfere, leaped into the burning cauldron to his death. A second later a cloud of white smoke burst out of the opening and all was over. Tomsic's annihilation was as quick as it was complete, for the oven into which he threw himself was at white heat. Not the slightest trace of his body will ever be recovered.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*



OTTAWA, Ont.

Architectural Competition for Departmental and Justice Buildings.

Competitive drawings are invited for Departmental and Justice Buildings to be erected for the Dominion Government at Ottawa, Ont.

The author of the best design will be awarded a premium of \$8,000 the second best \$4,000, the third best \$1,000 and the fourth best \$1,000.

Drawings will be received not later than April 15th, 1907, and are to be addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Public Works, Ottawa. This competition is open to Canadian architects who have been resident in Canada for one year or more.

Conditions of competition stating requirements of buildings and maps showing site, etc., may be had on application to the undersigned.

By order,
FRED GELINAS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works.

Ottawa, December 12, 1906.

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from this Department.

Dec. 18—431.

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Ladies Secretaries, Fancy Rockers, Fancy Chairs, Fancy Tables, Music Cabinets, Parlour Cabinets, Dressing Tables, Chiffoniers, Jardiniere stands.

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FOR WIFE, MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SISTER AND SWEETHEART.

Silk Waists	Coats	Neckwear	Umbrellas
Skirts	Belts	Shopping Bags	Furs
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R. L. BLACK, YORK ST. Fredericton, N. B.

DECEMBER 18, 1906.

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FOR

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Ladies Kid Gloves
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Ladies Lace Novelties
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The Making of a
Silk Waist
Silk Dress
Wool Waist
Wool Dress
Ladies Jacket
Down Quilt
Wool Blankets
Ladies Umbrellas
Gents Umbrellas
Table Linen
Linen Towels

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Agents for Standard Patterns. Designers, 50c. per year.



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George McMullin,

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Beautiful Xmas Packages.

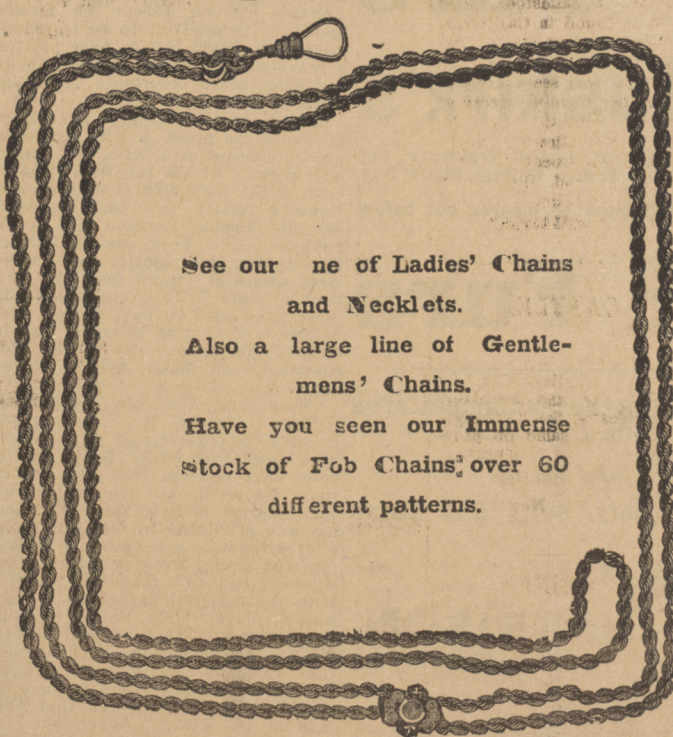
We have just received a large assortment of this well known confectionery done up in the most attractive boxes ever offered to holiday buyers. A suitable gift for a young Lady.

HUNT & McDONALD,

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Also a large line of Gentlemen's Chains.

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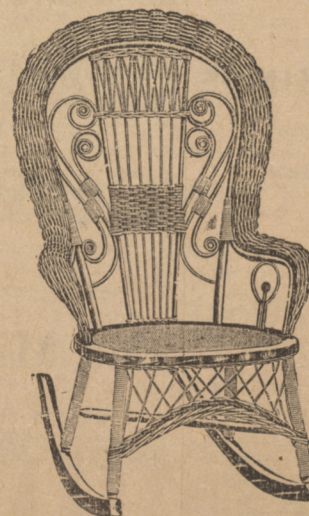
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