

BUILDING GUTTED BY EARLY BLAZE

Fire Early This Morning Did Much Damage to Dominion Coal Co's. Building on North Wharf --- Loss Well Covered by Insurance.

The Dominion Coal Company's building on the end of the North Wharf is completely wrecked, as the result of a fire last night and early this morning, and the total losses, most of which are covered by insurance, cannot at time of writing be fully estimated. Only the charred ruins remain of the frame work, where the third story of the building once stood. The brick casing of the first and second stories remains, but that in the upper portions looks shaky in places.

The interior of the building has been completely gutted and only a small portion of the goods stored there are of any value. Besides the regular stock which fell a prey to the flames, A. W. Adams had some very old rosewood furniture and a number of valuable oil paintings placed in the third story of the building occupied by him, and these were practically all consumed.

Fred Jones, bookkeeper for Mr. Adams, lost a very fine clarinet, which he valued at \$100. This, however, is said to have been insured.

When, after the first alarm the building was thought to have been out of danger, and the all-out signal was rung in at 9:30 o'clock, four or five men from the fire department and Salvage Corps were left in charge, but the second outbreak, which occurred about five o'clock this morning, is said to have been discovered by the man watching the big coal pocket. The second alarm was sent

in and again the fire department was quickly on the spot. The men worked like beavers, but it was with extreme difficulty that the coal pocket was saved.

Two streams of water were kept playing upon the fire and one of the firemen said that the heat was so intense that the water was actually hot as it fell from the walls.

Mr. Adams will doubtless be the heaviest loser, as he had on hand a large stock of ship supplies, but his loss is largely covered by insurance, which is held by Cowie & Edwards in the Caledonia of Edinburgh.

The St. John Mercantile Co. had about \$4,000 in stock, mainly sugar, molasses and West India goods. Mr. McCavour said this morning that the loss would likely amount to more than \$2,000. The insurance is to the amount of \$3,500 in the London Assurance Corporation.

John E. Moore said today that his loss would be between \$1,500 and \$1,600. He said also that he had not the policies by him, and could not give any definite figures regarding insurance. Besides being interested in the mercantile company he suffered personal losses. He had about \$1,000 of furniture, sleighs and tugboat in the building, and these were badly damaged, also the fire fighting apparatus of tug Kitchener.

It may also be added that Mr. Adams had recently laid in about \$1,200 worth of ship's copper.



A FAMINE IN CHINA

Estimated 4,000,000 People Are Starving --- Tens of Thousands Utterly Destitute

PEKIN, Dec. 31.—Owing to the excessive rains and consequent failure of the crops the famine in the Northern, or Anhui province, in the east of Honan, and in the whole north of Kiang-Su, is worse than at any time during the last forty years. It is estimated that four million persons are starving. Tens of thousands are utterly destitute and are wandering over the country. The danger is increased by the activity of the secret societies as the wanderers are gladly joined by them in order to obtain rice. About fifty thousand refugees have reached the vicinity of Nanking in a pitiable condition. The authorities are unable to cope with the situation.

A WAGE INCREASE

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 1.—The Buffalo Dry Dock Co. has posted a notice in its yards stating that "Owing to prosperous conditions and the increased cost of living" ten per cent. increase will be granted all men rated at less than \$2.25 per day and five per cent. to all men rated at over \$2.25.

A general increase will also be made on piece work prices to take effect January 15 next.

ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

TORONTO, Jan. 1.—(Special)—Municipal nominations took place throughout Ontario yesterday. The following are mayors returned by acclamation so far as heard up to 10:30 p. m. last night: St. Marys, A. Monnie; Thorold, David Miller; Prescott, William H. Stephenson; Simcoe, H. A. Carter; Seaford, M. Thordersk; Parkhill, Neil McPherson.

THE POPE'S NEW YEAR WISH

ROME, Dec. 31.—The Pope, speaking of the New Year, said he hoped 1907 would bring consolation and satisfaction to compensate for the bitterness and tribulations of 1906, and that his prayer would be especially for that portion of the French people which is transgressing.

HE ABANDONED AUTO

MEXICO CITY, Mex., Dec. 31.—After having driven his automobile from Boston to within a few miles of Mexico City, Charles J. Glidden, who is travelling over the world, was forced to abandon a wrecked automobile and finish his trip to Mexico City aboard a train.

Nine steamships occupy positions in the harbor today, namely, Inishowen Head, Lake Michigan, Montcalm, Lake Manitoba, Alcides, Ameriana, Parisian, Manchester Importer and Bengore Head. There are also two coal steamers the Mystic and the Wasin in port.

NOVA SCOTIA HOCKEY LEAGUE

Formation of Maritime League Allowed to Stand in Abeyance---Meeting at Truro.

TRURO, N. S., Jan. 1. (Special)—Monter and New Glasgow of the teams interested in the formation of the Maritime Hockey League, met with Truro here last night. Word was received that Amherst would stand by the Nova Scotia league and remain under the jurisdiction of the M. P. A. A. As other teams were not represented and on account of Amherst backing out of the Maritime League, New Glasgow would not hold Truro to its action in going to Montreal. It was decided for the present to allow the formation of the maritime hockey league to stand, and the teams will fall into line in the old league. If the M. P. A. A. will not reinstate New Glasgow on their return from Montreal that town will likely send out another team purely amateur.

PROHIBITION IN STATE OF MAINE

Bangor Liquor Deputies Make Large Seizure --- Lewiston Leads in Liquor "sick" List

BANGOR, Dec. 31.—The liquor deputies made one of the largest seizures they have made for many months Saturday, when, in a closet in a hallway leading to the Commercial club they found a considerable amount of various kinds of liquors. The warrant for the seizure was made out against persons unknown.

The seizure included 12 dozen bottles of beer, ten gallons of whiskey, ten gallons of rum, three gallons of brandy, five gallons of gin, 32 quarts of whiskey, seven quarts of brandy, six quarts of gin and 25 half pints of whiskey. Liquors valued at \$131,932 were furnished the liquor agencies located in 16 cities and towns the past year by State Liquor Commissioner Justin M. Leavitt, whose annual report was made Monday. This is an increase of \$39,465 over 1905.

The largest amount was sent to the Lewiston agency, \$37,388. The expense of the office amounted to \$4,064.

THE WEATHER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Forecast: Eastern states and northern New York—Partly cloudy and colder tonight, snowing in northern portions.

This jail prisoners received their annual treat from the W. C. T. U. today, through Mrs. Seymour, superintendent of prison work.

HOW NEW YORK CELEBRATED IT

King Carnival Reigns Supreme While the Old Year Passed Away.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—The passing of the old year and the advent of the new were observed here in the good old-fashioned way.

Each New Yorker celebrated in accordance with his individual bent. The playhouses were filled to "standing room only," the cafes were crowded to the limit, and down lower Broadway moved unceasingly, a noisy, happy throng, while above the deafening din, pealed the shimes from Trinity and less historic spires under which congregations gave the occasion a religious significance.

Rain, which had fallen steadily throughout the day, let up as the evening advanced, and the crowds that had made New Year's memorable, appeared on the streets blowing horns, ringing bells, tickling each other with feather-tipped sticks and showering confetti over all. The police warned by Commissioner Bingham, to whom protests had been made when the annual night of liberty had degenerated into unbridled license, offered a show restraining the exuberance of the paraders, but the good nature of the crowd carried everything before it and the carnival went on with a "Happy New Year" shout all night.

As midnight approached, the merry-makers congregated near Trinity church, way down town, where, as "twelve o'clock rang forth, a mighty shout welcomed 1907. This was followed by "Red, white and blue," "Liberty," "Long, Long Ago," "Swanee River," "Home, Sweet Home," and other airs, while the listening thousands waved hats, sticks and umbrellas in joyful abandon. Throughout the city other chimes rang out the old and rang in the new.

Within the churches psalms were read and hymns chanted, while the prayers of the watchers rose to Heaven. The celebrations in the cafes surpassed any previous carnival of jollity in New York. Elaborate preparations had been made to entertain those who would welcome the new year with feasting. For several days the head-waiters of all the principal hotels and restaurants had been reserving table accommodations and the city's resources for catering to a large crowd were taxed to the utmost. Public and private charitable institutions imbued with the new year's spirit, joined in the merry-making and throughout Greater New York King Carnival held sway.

A GREAT RECORD

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 1.—The Tonawanda (north and south ports) are now the largest lumber market in the world. The official report of the lumber receipts at Chicago, their only rival, for the season just closed shows that 364,399,000 feet of stock were received there, while at the Tonawandas the receipt exceeded 443,000,000 feet.

THE PLOT WAS FRUSTRATED

Attempt to Blow up Ocean Steamer at Odessa Was Foiled Just in Time.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—A despatch to a news agency from Odessa, published today says that a band of unknown men made an attempt last night to blow up the Steamship Company Atlantic Liner Gregory Murch, which had just completed her first trip in the new Odessa-New York service. A desperate struggle followed between the crew and the members of the band, during which several sailors were shot. The lighted fuse of a bomb was extinguished before any damage was done.

SNOW STORMS IN RUSSIA NOW

Several Towns Buried in Drifts and Business is Suspended

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 1.—The storm which passed over Great Britain Christmas time reached western Russia, where enormous falls of snow are reported, and rail communications are paralyzed, many of the lines being entirely interrupted. Despatches from Orsha and Borisov say those towns are literally buried in drifts and all business is suspended. Seven persons have perished in the snow which has reached a seven foot level at Mohilvan, causing much suffering. The snow storm continues.

CHOKED TO DEATH BY PIECE OF MEAT

Tragic Death of Capt. Martin Carke of Margareville, N. S.

ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 31.—A tragic death took place in the County Hospital on Christmas morning, when Captain Martin Clarke, of Margareville, lost his life, being strangled by a piece of meat sticking in his throat while eating dinner. He was bed-ridden and, as usual in such cases, had been propped up in bed, with the keeper watching over him as he ate. Seeing he was getting along all right, Mr. Hiltz went to get his tea, and on going back to the bed noticed Mr. Clarke struggling. He at once seized a teaspoon and tried to open his mouth, afterwards inserting his fingers and removing the obstruction. The patient only lived a few minutes. He was 71 years of age. It is said that a more skillful skipper never sailed out of the Bay than Captain Clarke, but he has been undergoing treatment for some years. A widow and five children, all in the United States, survive him.

POLICE WORK LAST NIGHT

Several Offenders Arrested Who Will Answer to Judge Ritchie Tomorrow.

If the new year spirit was peaceful in the majority of citizens the arrest book at central indicates that the police were kept busy with those who had made up their minds to forego the making of good resolutions and meet the new year with no friendly greeting. A man named Connolly swallowed deep potatoes of the ancient brew and so exasperating was the effect that he made matters particularly interesting at the Salvation Army Metropole, Prince Wm. street. He knocked loudly at the door in his endeavors to gain admittance and emphasized his wrathful impatience in language that was neither nice or wise. He finally succeeded in getting into the dwelling and from there made his way to the officers' quarters, where he had frightened some of the women. One of the male members of household directed him to the shelter on Water street, but by the time he arrived there the doors were locked. He then returned to the Metropole, where he again made trouble and finally succeeded in smashing one of the windows in the tailoring department and at last it became necessary to put him out. Connolly was not on the street long before Policeman Hughes appeared on the scene and after giving Connolly every chance to go home, placed him under arrest; but he was released on a deposit of \$30.

Another prisoner is Charles Patterson, 45 years of age, who was arrested by Police Sgt. Baxter and Patrolman McColl, between 12 and one o'clock this morning. The charge against him is that of being a frequenter of houses of ill-fame on Snell street, kept by Anna Francis and others; also, with being a common vagrant.

John McGlone is also in the cooler for being drunk and using abusive language to the police.

Two simple subjects of King Alcohol are also awaiting the pleasure of the court.

THEY HAVE NO LICENSES

The following persons have been reported for working in the city without licenses: H. Manning, P. J. Rhemand, A. Rhemand, J. Gibson, A. Guthrie, Wm. Brizell, Nat. McCaugh, B. Larsen, Wm. Burns, Thos. Nelson, John Tunnity, J. Saure, Ement Luttis, Geo. Preston, D. Mercier, John Walsh, Thos. Gray, H. Morency, John Carney, J. Cartier, Jas. Bennett, Thos. Gray, A. Brien, P. Potain, A. Goshlin, W. Boats, L. Dragon, Gusturing Landquet, C. Dragon, Peter Demil.

Policemen Scott and Belyea were called about the seahorse Lady of Aron between 11 and 12 o'clock last night, at the request of two of the sailors who said they had been robbed of some tobacco and clothing by another member of the crew. They searched without success.

FISHERIES SALE NETS LARGE SUM

City Will Realize Over \$5,000 Out of Sale of Harbor and Land Fisheries --- Better Prices Paid for Lots Than Last Year.

The fishermen were out in force today to attend the annual fisheries sale which was held in the court house at 10 o'clock. The men of the net and line appeared to have plenty of money of all kinds, and cheques and bank bills of all denominations were showered in on Chamberlain Sandall, who had his hands full to take care of it. The sale this year realized in all, \$6,186.90, an advance of 128.55 over last year, and a gain of nearly \$1,000 over 1905.

Auctioneer F. L. Potts conducted the sale and the following members of the committee appointed by the council were present: Alds. Langham, Lockhart, McGoldrick, Baxter, Holden and Vanwart.

Ald. Pickett was the only absentee. Common Clerk Wardroper and Marshal Coughlan also attended.

The bidding, particularly on the Navy Island lots, was at times very lively and the fishermen showed a keen interest in the sale. The largest buyer was J. M. Christopher, who paid \$3,750 for lots 2, 8 and 9 on the Navy Island shore. Lots 1 and 7 also brought a good figure, being knocked down to John Sealy for \$801.

When some of the men good naturedly chaffed Mr. Christopher about where he got so much money, he replied with a wise nod that he made over \$3,000 last year and expected to make \$3,000 this year.

Following is the result of today's sale as compared with last year:

NAVY ISLAND.	
1 and 7—John Sealy	1907. 1906.
2—John Sealy	\$ 901 \$ 642.00
3—John Sealy	1,475 1,400.00
4—A. Belyea	2.50 32.00
5—A. Belyea	11.00 11.00
6—A. Belyea	25.00 120.00
7—A. Belyea	25.00 25.00
8—J. M. Christopher	1,400.00 1,200.00
9—J. M. Christopher	875.00 701.00
10—H. Sloan	10.00 60.00
11—H. Sloan	10.00 10.00
Totals	\$4,735.50 \$4,233.10

STRAIT SHORE.	
1—James Wilson	10 \$ 22
2—James Wilson	10 10
3 and 4—Not sold	
5—Havelock Wilson	50
6 to 14—Havelock Wilson	80 1.00
15 and 16—James Wilson	20 20
17 to 21—C. Masson	20 20
22—C. Masson	10 10
23—C. Masson	10 26.00
24—W. Logan	10 60
25 to 31—A. S. Logan	20 5.55
Totals	\$ 330 44.15

COURTENAY BAY.

1 to 7—J. McGoldrick

1 to 5—W. Harned

6—W. Harned

7—H. Belyea

8—George Hampton

9—George Hampton

10—George Lord

11 to 13—W. Harned

14 to 22—F. S. Belyea

23—A. Belyea

24—A. Belyea

25—A. Lamercaux

Totals

CARLETON SHORE LOTS.

1—H. Ring

2—H. Ring

3—H. Ring

4—H. Ring

5—H. Ring

6—H. Ring

7—H. Ring

8—H. Ring

9—H. Ring

10—H. Ring

11—H. Ring

12—H. Ring

13—H. Ring

14—H. Ring

15—H. Ring

16—H. Ring

17—H. Ring

18—H. Ring

19—H. Ring

20—H. Ring

21—H. Ring

22—H. Ring

23—H. Ring

24—H. Ring

25—H. Ring

26—H. Ring

27—H. Ring

28—H. Ring

29—H. Ring

30—H. Ring

31—H. Ring

Totals

RECAPITULATION.

1907. 1906.

NAVY ISLAND

STRAIT SHORE

COURTENAY BAY

CARLETON SHORE

CARLETON FLATS

Totals

Gain over last year

Gain over 1905

DIED AS OLD YEAR PASSED

A tragedy marked the closing of the old year on the west side. About 11:30 o'clock, while watch-night services were going on at head-train, engineers, section men and firemen, etc., were waiting to usher in the New Year with as much noise as possible, the men in No. 6 fire station on the west side were shocked by the death of a very dear friend.

This friend who was known to the men by the good old Irish name of "Faugh-a-ballach" No. 6 had been a resident of the engine house for about ten years and every man in the company boasted of his friendship for this good old "pal."

Needless to say, the dawn of the New Year was made less bright for these fire

ladies, when the news of the sudden taking off this tried and true companion, was made known. This morning, with all due ceremony, the burial was conducted and the remains consigned to the waters of the harbor. By the way, it was a cat.

REVELATIONS THREATENED

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Speaking at Cork tonight after the unopposed re-election of Daniel B. Sheehan as member of the house of commons for Mid-Cork, William O'Brien, Nationalist, threatened revelations of the financial methods of the "Redmondites," which, he said, would be of greater national interest than anything that has occurred in Ireland since the Parnell Commission.

Mr. Sheehan resigned his seat because, being a follower of Mr. O'Brien, the party stopped his allowance, but the "Redmondites" did not attempt to fight his re-election and therefore, according to Mr. O'Brien, the legal procedure afoot will result in the threatened revelations.

Bradford Carroll, who was sent to jail recently charged with drunkenness and destroying property in R. E. Connel's drug store, Main street, and gave evidence of mental trouble, was, by order of Judge Ritchie, placed aboard the Halifax train yesterday and sent to the sister city in charge of the conductor.

Do your duty and your delights will take care of themselves.

BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

Registrar Jones Gives Statistics for Last Year Compared With 1905.

Registrar Jones makes the following comparative statement of marriages and births for 1905 and 1906:

MARRIAGES.

For the year 1905

For the year 1906

Showing a gain of 36 marriages for 1906.

BIRTHS.

For the year 1905

For the year 1906

Showing a gain in births of six for 1906.

The registrar wishes to again remind parents not to rely wholly on physicians' returns of births, because they frequently neglect to do so and the omission on their part exposes parents to a fine.

ROOSEVELT'S PROGRAMME

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Each year the White House doors swing open to all the nation on January 1, and a warmer welcome was never extended to visitors than that which greeted the crowds who called today. New Year's cheer, banished rank and class distinctions, the president met ambassadors and laborers with the same firm hand-shake.

While the Marine band played patriotic airs, the great throng moved slowly through the mansion. The diplomatic corps, the judiciary, the army, the navy and civilian officials in the various departments, were received first and then came the thousands of citizens who had been standing in line for hours.

Heading the diplomats was Baron May-des Planches, ambassador from Italy, the dean of the corps. King Edward was represented by Emme Howard, charge d'affaires.

Deputy Chief of Police Jenkins was called to James Moore's house on Waterloo street, this morning, to settle a disturbance that Moore was creating.

NEVADA FANS PICK "KID" HERMAN TO WIN THE FIGHT WITH GANS

TONOPAH, Nev., Jan. 1.—"Kid" Herman may not be able to take as much punishment as Battling Nelson, but he can give more. This is the hope that the Nevada fight cranks to pick Herman as a good cut-side gambling chance in the battle this afternoon.

There are many men here ready to put up money in good-sized sums on the Chicago lad, but they feel that Gans ought to be favorite at better odds than 2 to 1. If as good as 3 to 1, or better, shows there will be a shower of Herman money, but at present it is being held back in the hope of getting a better price for the investment.

Notwithstanding Gans' past record, Tonopah's sporting population is pinning its faith to Herman. It figures this way: Herman hits harder than Nelson. He is head and shoulders above Nelson in cleverness and defensive ring tactics. If Gans could not knock Nelson out in 42 rounds, what reason is there to believe he can do any better with Herman, who can avoid

taking a large percentage of the punishment Battling couldn't escape. Just how the Nevadans got the idea that Herman is a harder hitter than Nelson is not apparent, but they have watched his every move and have decided that there is a mightier swat in the arms of the Ghetto champion than the Dams carries.

Herman is the most confident fighter that any of the people about here ever saw. He seems to feel that it is all over but the shouting. Gans is keeping more to himself than before the Nelson fight, and while he has many admirers has nothing like the popularity of the Chicago searper.

Straight Queensberry rules will prevail. The men must break at the order of the referee, but they will not have to break until they are clinched so tight that fighting is impossible.

The men enter the ring at three o'clock this afternoon. Nevada time, here will be about 7:10 tonight St. John time.

WAS IT A LEMON THAT EVE HANDED TO ADAM INSTEAD OF AN APPLE?

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 1.—Perhaps it was a lemon Eve handed Adam in the Garden of Eden. It certainly was not an apple, according to the American Modern Language Association, which is holding its 25th annual convention at Yale.

The association has set aside a whole morning to debate the question, and it is possible that it will be decided that Adam really got a lemon.

Prof. Oliver M. Johnson of the Leland Stanford University, who has made a special study of tropical fruits, will lead the debate. He insists that it was not an apple, but a more significant fruit. He said:

"According to a legend widely diffused in medieval and modern literature, the name of the fruit that Adam and Eve were forbidden to eat was the apple. The object of the present study is to try to show that this legend owes its origin to the difference between the meaning of Latin pommum (fruit in general) and its French derivative, pomme, both forms having been used in describing the forbidden fruit. In the Vulgate the fruit in question is designated by fructus. However, some Latin writers use pommum in referring to this fruit, and in the old French