The Times Daily Puzzle Picture

John Alden.
(From the Courtship of Miles Standish, by Longfellow.)
Find Priscilla.

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE.

Upside down, in decoration.

The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

Author of "The Crimson Blind," "The Corner House," etc.

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(Continued.)

"Oh, I had almost forgotten the main part of my story," Ravenspur proceeded. "The more I read of that case, the more convinced I was that I should be doing right in carrying out my promise to my dead friend. It was not a difficult matter. It only meant a journey to Italy and back, and the little one was in safe custody. I leave you to guess what that child is called now."

"Vera Rayne, of course," Walter said.

"Quite so. From that day to this she has been with me always. But, mind you, I was not blind to the risk I was taking. If ever the truth came out, my life was not worth much. I knew that I should be tracked and followed, and finally lose my life, even if the search took twenty years. But, gradually, as the time wore on, I became easy in my mind. I had taken the utmost precautions to blind my trail, and the only accomplice I had was my old nurse, who has been dead for some years. Besides, Vera was growing up, and it seemed to me impossible to identify her with the baby not quite two years old. She is not in the least like her father, either, and that is why I made a mistake. I had quite forgotten that she might be very like her mother, and she I have never seen."

CHAPTER XV

Dallas Makes a Discovery.

"The danger would certainly lie there," Walter said thoughtfully.

"My dear boy, that is just where the danger comes in," Ravenspur replied. "I haven't the remotest idea whether Vera is like or unlike her mother, but I fear that she must be, otherwise that man Silva would never have got on my track, as I have felt quite sure lately that he has done. Doubtless in some of his wanderings he has seen the girl, he has recognized the likeness, and made up his mind that he has found the object of his search at last. You see, he has only to make a few inquiries amongst the servants, who would tell him that Vera is my ward, and that, as to the rest, she is more or less of a beautiful mystery. One can understand now why he should come to my studio and steal that portrait."

"I think I can see a better theory than that," Walter said. "Wasn't the portrait exhibited before it came back to the studio again? I seem to remember something of the kind."

"Of course it was," Ravenspur exclaimed. "I had quite forgotten that. Silva must have got his inspiration from the picture. I suppose that is why he made that murderous attack upon Sir James Seton the other night, taking him, of course, for me. But that is not the first warning I have had of the impending danger, and I am afraid it won't be the last."

Walter listened to this desponding view with impatience.

"But, surely, you are not going to take it like this, sir?" he expostulated. "By greatest good fortune we have discovered who your mysterious foe is. I think it has been a wonderful slice of luck, and we ought to take advantage of it. Surely you couldn't do any less than place the matter in the hands of the police, telling them all that has happened. At any rate, you can do nothing. If I may be allowed a suggestion, you will let Inspector Dallas know without delay. If you don't care to tell him yourself, let me broach the matter. Indeed, it seems my imperative duty to do so. If you fell by the hand of this man now I should feel morally responsible for your death. And, besides, if anything happens to you, what are we going to do about Vera? She is not yet of age. She might at any moment be claimed by her mother, who you say is a perfect fiend. And, besides, though this is a minor matter, I am deeply attached to Vera myself——"

"Oh, I know, I know," Ravenspur groaned. "The thing is hedged round with trouble and difficulties. You know why I was against your marriage with Vera, and how greatly distressed I was when I found everything out. If there had been nothing in the way, nobody would have been more delighted at a match like that than myself. But you see the danger, though you little know how deep and far-reaching those Corsican vengeances are. How do I know that if you marry Vera you would not be marked down for the same fate as myself?"

"I am prepared to risk that," Walter said grimly. "Still, at the present moment, we have far more important things to talk about. And Vera must know nothing of this."

"My dear boy, of course not. I should never dream of telling her. But sooner or later she must discover everything for herself, I am afraid. I have been thinking over what you said just now, and perhaps it would be as well to let the police know."

"You will do it at once? asked Walter eagerly.

"Well, no. I don't propose to do it at all. You have been so clever and cool-headed in this matter that I have decided to leave everything to you. The whole problem is so complicated that I am utterly unable to grasp it. I can see no connection between the 2 but I am perfectly certain that the death of poor Delahay is all part of the coil."

"I feel that, too," Walter said. "But we need not concern ourselves about that at present. By the way, have you seen anything of Mrs. Delahay to-day?"

"She won't see me," Ravenspur replied. "She obstinately refuses to see anybody. She remains wilfully blind to the fact that she is in a serious position. You see, she declared in her evidence in chief that she had not been outside the hotel on the night of the murder, and yet on the testimony of three independent witnesses we have it that she was away upwards of three hours. Of course, that man Stevens is a very suspicious character, but he could have nothing to gain by swearing that he saw Mrs. Delahay with her husband very early in the morning in Fitzjohn Square. Moreover, the man's evidence was not in the least shaken. What to make of it I don't know. I wish you would try and see her. You know her far better than I do, because you were a deal in Italy before Delahay's marriage, and I think she likes you. Of course, she might have some strong reasons for leaving the hotel and for keeping the thing a secret, and she may be utterly and entirely innocent. But, really she ought to tell her best friends what is the meaning of this mystery."

Walter glanced at his watch. It still wanted some minutes to eleven o'clock, and it was no far cry to the Grand Hotel. A hansom took him there in ten minutes. Mrs. Delahay had not yet retired for the night, and Walter sent up his card, with a few urgent words pencilled on it. A maid came down presently with the information that Mrs. Delahay would see him for a moment.

She came into her sitting-room perfectly calm and self-possessed, though the deadly whiteness of her face and the scintillating of her eyes told of the torture that was going on within.

"I wish you would let me help you," Walter said as they shook hands. "I wish you would be advised by me. My uncle tells me that you refused to see him altogether."

"I was bound to," Mrs. Delahay said in a low voice. "Oh, I know exactly what you want. I am the victim of a set of extraordinary circumstances. My innocent lie may get me into serious trouble. I am not blind to that knowledge, but at the same time I cannot speak. I must allow people to think the worst. But I swear to you if it is the last word I ever utter, that I was not with my husband. I was not the woman the witness identified as the person he had seen with Louis Delahay in Fitzjohn Square that terrible morning."

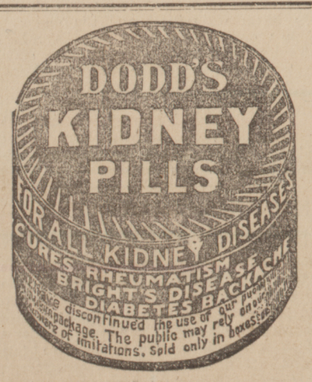
The words were quietly, almost coldly, uttered, but Walter believed them as he would perhaps have refused to believe a passionate outburst on the speaker's part.

"But surely," he argued, "you can give some account of your movements. You can say why you went out and what for?"

"I cannot," Maria Delahay went on in the same even tones. "There are the most pressing reasons why I should keep silent. My dear Mr. Lance, I am grateful from the bottom of my heart for all your sympathy and kindness, but nothing can move me from my determination. After all said and done, the police can prove nothing against me. For the rest of my life I shall be a person to be shunned and avoided, but I shall know how to bear my punishment uncomplainingly. And in conclusion, I am quite convinced of this—if I told you everything, you would say that I was perfectly justified in the course I am taking. Further argument is useless."

(To be continued.)

M. H. Thomas, teller of the Royal Bank, North End, has been transferred to Newcastle.



SIX COAST ON A COW

Port Jarvis, N. J.—Three couples while coasting down the long hill, struck Farmer Caldwalder's cow. Sled and all slid down a quarter of a mile on the cow's back, the steel runners of the sled having caught on the cow's horns. At the bottom of the hill the young people were hurled many feet and the cow so badly injured that she had to be shot.

Mr. C. J. Placey, a prominent farmer of Wolverton, Que., was afflicted with serious kidney trouble. For years he suffered tortures with pain in his back. Doctors said he had incurable kidney disease. "I was discouraged," writes Mr. Placey, "when I was advised to try "Fruit-a-tives." I used altogether fifteen boxes and am now well—all signs of kidney trouble having left me."

"Fruit-a-tives" are fruit juices and tonics in tablet form—and never fail to cure all Kidney, Liver, Stomach, Skin and Bowel Troubles. 50c a box—6 for $2.50. At all dealers.

ALD. SCULLY AND HIS BRIDGE PLAN

Proposal for Bridge to West End Referred to a Committee of the Common Council to Take Up.

The resolution of Ald. Scully to take up the question of building a bridge across the harbor at Navy Island resulted yesterday in the proposal being sent by the common council to a committee to investigate and discuss the matter with the Dominion government and the transportation companies.

Referring to the subject yesterday Ald. Scully said in bringing the project up he was aware he was not dealing with a new subject. At the time of the union it was considered and the people of Carleton were promised a bridge in the near future. Surveys and estimates were made but nothing came of them. Carleton was still waiting for the bridge. "We contend," he said, "that we are entitled to have the promises at the time of the union carried out. It is just as fair to charge the people a toll coming from the north end over the Mill street bridge as it is for us on the west side to pay toll on the ferry. Every family in Carleton contributes from $30 to $40 a year as a direct tax for the use of the ferry and the business people pay from $200 to $500 a year for ferriage on their teaming.

"Besides, the ferry does not give us the accommodation required. If we want to supply customers early in the morning, we cannot get to the city by ferry on time and frequently have to lose a trip or two during the day because there are more teams than the boat can take on board.

"In taking up the ferry as a business proposition we find with all the money that Carleton pays toward running it still it does not meet its running expenses. From the statement furnished by the chamberlain covering the last five years I find that, apart from the heavy cost of the Ludlow, the expenses exceeded the receipts by some $4,000 to $6,000 a year.

"In a very short time the city will be called upon to build another boat as the two old ones now in the hospital are all out of condition and are not worth general repairs. From a railway standpoint we are twenty-five miles away from the city. Cars of coal or any other goods that we want to use cost $10 or $15 a car to get them brought around from the I. C. R. to west St. John and vice versa. If we had a bridge this shifting across the harbor could be done for $2 a car. "If," concluded the alderman, "we are to do a winter port business, all railways communicating with St. John must be able to handle cars easily to and from the steamers, whether they are on the east or west side."

A report which accompanied the surveys and estimates referred to by Ald. Scully was prepared in 1889 by F. W. Holt, C. E. It was submitted to the common council December 18 in that year, and was then "filed for reference."

K—Take in former bridge story.

Mr. Holt's report was as follows: "I have made preliminary designs and estimates for four different styles of bridges on the same site, the foundation and piers to be the same in all cases as follows:—The bridge proper will consist of two spans of 175 feet each, over Buttermilk channel, resting on three piers, a fifty feet span resting on a small pier; twenty-two spans, of twenty feet each, across the island, of trestle on pile foundations, protected by riprap; a span of 175 feet and opening of 125 feet; pivot pier opening of 125 feet; channel span of 375 feet and four spans of 175 feet each—this last crossing the main river and founded on a pier on Navy island. A receiving pier on rock; pivot on rock; channel receiving pier on a large crib sitting on rock in about sixty feet of water at low water; a pier in about twelve feet of water at low water; a pier on the reef dry at spring tides; a second pier in about three feet of water at low spring tides, and a shore pier, all to be in suitable concrete foundations, and the piers above low water to be of granite masonry.

"The highway will be approached by about 400 feet of trestle, in a 5 per cent grade from each side, and the railway on an embankment or wharfing, as may be deemed best.

"The supplementary works needed may be a guard pier of the usual crib construction and a guide boom some 300 or 400 feet in length, perhaps of the sheer boom pattern, modified to meet the necessities of the case.

"I estimate the cost as follows: 1st a combined highway and railway bridge proportioned for a moving load of 4000 lbs. per running foot of bridge; superstructure to be of steel or iron of the most modern and approved construction; highway to be on the upper chord of bridge, except draw and channel spans; railway, single track through bridge; highway 22 feet wide with a sidewalk on each outside, two walks, five feet or six feet wide as thought best; roadway on top of trestle over railway across Navy island; railway to begin at Union street, Carleton, and end at I. C. R. tracks, East End; highway to begin at Middle street, West End, and end at North street slip, with suitable connections with Portland street, North End; the distance from Rankin's wharf to Smythe street to be a roadway sixty feet in width, the northern boundary of which shall be the southerly of the St. John Bridge & Railway Company's right of way; estimated cost, $450,000."

Mr. Holt submitted another design for a bridge for highway purposes only, beginning at Middle street, Carleton, and ending at Smythe street at the level of the wharves and avoiding the trestle across Navy island. The estimated cost was $321,425. Another estimate for a wooden bridge was given at $247,279. The draw was to be of modern construction operated by steam capable of opening and closing in less than two and a half minutes from the time the first signal was given until closed again ready for use as a highway. The draw and 375 feet channel spans were in all cases to be of steel and iron and proportioned for a moving load of 4,000 lbs. for each lineal foot of bridge. The council of that day adopted the report, and filed the estimates for reference.

Fashion Hint for Times Readers

PRACTICAL THREE-PIECE VISITING COSTUMES.

A type of costume which appeals to the practical woman may be developed in rough pongee, English mohair or taffeta. For visiting, formal luncheons and afternoon receptions such a costume may be of taupe, chandron, old rose or medium blue. The graceful gored skirt, with its V-tucked front panel, is quite as generally becoming as is the half-fitting and hip cutaway. This is practically sleeveless, but elaborately soutache trimmed and has an ornate waistcoat. The third piece is a soutache-embroidered jumper worn over a tucked white net blouse.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

THOMAS JEFFERSON AS RIP TONIGHT

One of the most important theatrical events of the season is the coming of the distinguished actor Thomas Jefferson in the celebrated romance of the Catskill mountains, "Rip Van Winkle." Although this will be Mr. Jefferson's first appearance in St. John his name is by no means new to the better class of amusement towns, for it has been a household word from the Atlantic to the Pacific for many years. He is of the fifth generation of the famous Jefferson family of actors and the third to keep "Rip Van Winkle" before the public, it having been played by them for a continual run of sixty-five years.

Mr. Jefferson's visit means a dramatic treat. They know the quality of his art. The opportunity, therefore, to see this worthy actor in the famous character of "Rip," for the first time in this city, is one that will be eagerly seized. There is a big advance sale and the audiences will doubtlessly be of the very best.

Mr. Jefferson will have the support of an excellent company, which will include Rosalie De Veaux, John D. Harrington, T. F. O'Malley, Claire Fuller, Harry Odlin, Horace Mitchell, Anna Mabel, Robert Stone, Daniel Jones, Dudly McCann, Charles Duval, little Edna May Hamel, Master Oscar Johnson and others. The stage settings are said to be very fine.

THE NICKEL THEATRE HAS A GREAT SHOW

The beautiful allegory "Mary of Magdala" was put on at the Nickel yesterday before delighted crowds and will be shown today for the last time. This is a religious film of especial interest, different from anything yet shown in biblical picture-stories. The long film entitled "The Bargee's Daughter" brought forth continued expressions of wonderment as the delightful scenes were unfolded in bewildering succession. The scenic wealth of this picture is marvellous, nearly all the surroundings being Southern France and historic embattlements. "A Spiritualistic Seance" made more fun than a person could carry for the ten minutes it lasted.

In the line of music the Nickel loomed up strong again. Miss Wren made a distinct hit in her costumed rendering of the patriotic number "I'm The Girl From Our Own Great West," and was encored every time. Mr. Cairns' newest love-song "Somebody That You Know And I Know Too" was a dreamy, catchy thing, accompanied by exquisite slides. Orchestral selections were appropriate and new, the paraphrase of Faure's "The Palms" in the Magdalene picture being an artistic treat.

GREAT SCOTTISH COMEDIAN AT THE PALACE THEATRE

To morrow evening will be a memorable one at the Palace, West End. Last evening the hall was well filled to hear the regular programme with Fairbanks in specialties, but as previously announced, Fred Howard the great Scottish entertainer, formerly with the Royal Scots, and about to be a headliner with Hammerstein, of New York, will be at the Palace, West End, tomorrow Wednesday evening only. Howard is probably the best ventriloquist ever heard in St. John. His Scottish comedy is of the refined type and is said to be fully as funny and just as clever as that supplied by Harry Lauder, who now has an international reputation. Howard will not only give illustrations of his remarkable ability as a ventriloquist, but will be heard in musical comedy of the kind which New York pays $1.50 per seat to hear. The management of the Palace emphasize the fact that they do not desire this great performance to-morrow to be regarded as a precedent for the future, as it can never be duplicated at the price. The object of to-morrow's entertainment is to interest hundreds who have never yet attended the Palace, to the fact that the best show in the city is given on the West Side. Besides Howard who is guaranteed to be the cleverest vaudeville artist ever heard in St. John, the redoubtable Jimmy Fairbanks will say farewell to his many West End friends, as he will leave Thursday morning to fill engagements elsewhere. Last but by no means least sixteen amateurs will appear, as Wednesday is the regular amateur night. Friday evening a handsome gold watch will be given to the lucky ticket holder, and on Saturday afternoon a candy matinee will be the attraction for the children. A special picture programme is arranged for Wednesday. It will be a great night and none should miss it.

MR. KIRK BROWN'S LAST APPEARANCE THIS YEAR

Thursday evening Kirk Brown will open his three days' engagement at the Opera House, presenting "The Sign of the Cross." As this will be Mr. Brown's last appearance here this season there can be no doubt that the three days will prove a record breaker for business. The Friday matinee promises to draw an immense house for the production of "East Lynne." "Othello" will be the selection for Friday night. Mr. Brown has been prevailed upon to give another matinee performance of "The Eternal City," which will be the last time he will present this play, on Saturday afternoon. There is a great amount of comment on who will deliver the best farewell address after the closing performance of "The Christian" Saturday night. This will prove such a novelty that it is safe to predict that the Opera House will have the largest Saturday night audience of the season.

Tired nerves, with that 'no ambition" feeling that is commonly felt in spring or early summer, can be easily and quickly altered by taking what is known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Shoop's Restorative. One will absolutely note a changed feeling within 48 hours after beginning to take the Restorative. The bowels get sluggish in the winter-time, the circulation often slows up, the Kidneys are inactive, and even the Heart in many cases grows decidedly weaker. Dr. Shoop's Restorative is recognized everywhere as a genuine tonic to these vital organs. It builds up and strengthens the worn out, weakened nerves; it sharpens the failing appetite, and universally aids digestion. It always quickly brings renewed strength, life, vigor, and ambition. Try it and be convinced. Sold by all druggists.

PERSONAL

Mrs. Wm Edmond Raymond will receive her friends at 159 Germain street on Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 6, and Wednesday evening from 8 to 10.

The marriage of Miss Vera Nevins, daughter of Charles T. Nevins, to James Grant Stenhouse will take place at her father's residence, 30 Queen street, on Wednesday, June 24, at 4 p. m.

Miss Mary McKeown left on Saturday evening on the Calvin Austin, for a month's visit to her sister, Mrs. Walter McLean, of Watertown, (Mass.).

Robert Thomson, Col. J. R. Armstrong, T. E. G. Armstrong and G. B. Hegan left yesterday for a week's fishing in Morson's pond, (P. E. I.).

Lt.-Gov. G. H. V. Bulyea, of Alberta, left on the Montreal express last evening on his return home.

Piles are easily and quickly checked with Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. To prove it I will mail a small trial box as a convincing test. Simply address Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. I surely would not send it free unless I was certain that Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment would stand the test. Remember it is made expressly and alone for swollen, painful, bleeding or itching piles, either external or internal. Large jar 50c. Sold by all druggists.

Mrs. W. S. Fielding, of Ottawa, is visiting Mrs. Thomas A. Rankine, Westfield.

Moving Picture Machines

Edison and Powers, and all standard makes of machines and supplies at lowest prices, ready for immediate shipment, also slightly used films from 3c per foot up. Shipment s prompt, prices right. Write today for price list to Canada's First and Largest Exchange.

DOMINION FILM EXCHANGE

32-34 Queen street, East, Toronto, Ont.

MUCH BUSINESS DISCUSSED BY THE COUNCIL YESTERDAY

Revised Schedule of Water Rates Adopted---Increase in Theatre Licenses Deferred---Committee Appointed on Ottawa Trip.

The common council yesterday afternoon adopted the revised schedule of water rates. An amendment to refer the matter back with the idea of dividing the increase over two years was defeated by nine votes to six. A joint committee of the council and board of trade was appointed to go to Ottawa to confer with Hon. William Pugsley on harbor improvements. All applications for increase in salary were referred to a committee appointed to draw up a scale of salaries for the departments. Ald Scully's motion with reference to a bridge over the harbor was referred to a committee. The mayor occupied the chair and the full council was present with the common clerk and Marshal Coughlan was in attendance.

Before the regular business was taken up the mayor presented to F. A. Priest, a medal and complimentary address in recognition of his action in saving the life of Samuel Allen in the harbor in March last.

Mr. Priest suitably replied.

On the report of the water and sewerage being taken up, the section recommending that Michael Corr, foreman, receive an increase in salary to $15 a week was referred back for further consideration with other applications. The remainder of the report was adopted.

In a supplementary report, the board recommended that the new schedule of water rates fixed at Saturday's meeting be adopted.

The mayor said he understood a return to the old rates would be made when the deficiency had been made up.

Ald. Frink in moving the adoption said he saw no reason why there should not be an abatement next year. The city was not in the business to make money.

Ald. McGoldrick asked why the rates had been raised to affect the poorer classes. The extension to Loch Lomond was due to representations by the board of fire underwriters and so far they had not reduced the rates of insurance.

Ald. Frink replied that the underwriters had undertaken to reduce the rates when the system was satisfactory to the board. This left the city rather in their hands. There was the alternative of municipal insurance and there was no doubt the non-tariff companies had secured a large amount of business as a result. The board had endeavored to make the changes as equitable as possible.

Ald. Kelley said he was in favor of increasing the rates on stocks in trade to three quarters of one per cent. instead of raising the rate to families. This might result in a slight increase in prices all round but would make a more equal distribution.

Ald Frink pointed out that stocks had already been increased three-tenths of one per cent.

Ald. Vanwart thought any further increase on stocks would be an outrage. They were taxed to death as it was. He moved an amendment to refer the report back to have the increase divided over two years.

Ald. Frink protested that there was very little time for delay.

The mayor pointed out that there might be another deficit next year.

The amendment was lost, Ald. Vanwart, Scully, Sproul, Baskin, Lewis and Holder voted aye; Ald. Frink, Baxter, McGoldrick, Elkin, Willet, McGowan, Hamm, Rowan, Christie and Kelley, nay.

The report was then adopted.

The order of business was suspended to take up the report of the harbor facilities committee.

The committe reported that after considering the communication from Hon. William Pugsley, with reference to the West Side facilities they recommended that a committee be appointed to go to Ottawa and confer with the minister. The committee approved of extending the wharves south of Protection street but expressed the hope that the extension of the Clark & Adams wharf would be carried out in order to provide a long wharf for the northern side. It was recommended that the committee be authorized to confer with the Dominion government, the C.P.R., and any other parties interested.

Ald. Baxter said that if the continuation of South Rodney wharf were abandoned, nothing but piling would be left to support the warehouses and a large amount of dredging done would be wasted. He was of opinion that the government should acquire the mud flats to the south of Sand Point, but he was unable to understand why the minister urged that the C.P.R be given facilities there for a yard for next winter's business. It would be useless to attempt anything in the time. Moreover, no railway company ought to secure control. The city should stand by the policy of the open door.

Ald. Baskin said he thought the committee would be taking a step in the dark in going to Ottawa as matters stood at present.

The communication from the minister was then read as was also a report of an engineer on the filling in required for a yard for the C.P.R. A letter from D. McNicol asking for further information as to the 1,600 feet frontage was also read.

Ald. Baskin said as far as he knew there was no great congestion. The C.P.R. had plenty of yard room.

Ald. McGoldrick suggested as no more wharves could be built this season there was no particular hurry and the council might wait until the minister came to St. John.

Ald. Kelley said he was in favor of making the borings in Courtenay Bay and completing South Rodney wharf. "If the minister backs down now," he added, "the city must float the bonds and complete the work ourselves. It seems the C.P.R. wants to stampede us into handing over some of the city's property.

Ald. Scully pointed out that the C.P.R. were given the 1,600 feet of frontage to make improvements as the business warranted and not to hold it against the city.

Ald. Baxter said all the city asked was that the minister would carry out his promise with regard to completing South Rodney wharf. He claimed he could be at variance with the minister on this point without any suggestion of politics being introduced. There had undoubtedly been considerable delay on the part of the government. The Rodney wharf extension might cost $150,000 and a warehouse $30,000 more and it ought to be carried out. Why was the matter loaded down with the question of giving yard room to the C.P.R.? By the plan proposed there would be no room for any other railway. "There's a dusky gentleman somewhere in the wood pile," added the alderman, "'Cox can't wait' seems to be the regular thing in railway matters."

After further discussion, the report was adopted.

The mayor and Ald. Baxter, Frink, and McGoldrick with T. H. Estabrooks and H. B. Schofield for the board of trade, were appointed on the committee to go to Ottawa.

The report of the treasury board was taken up. Discussing the section reporting applications for increase in salary, Ald. Frink said in his opinion the time had come for the whole salary question to be considered. The council should have a system of fixed salaries for permanent employes with a fixed scale of increases with a maximum. As matters now stood, no sooner was a man appointed than he was nagging for an increase. The change he advocated would prevent this state of things and give every one a fair chance. He moved that a committee be appointed to make a classification, taking into consideration service and merit and that in the meantime all applications should lie on the table.

Ald. McGoldrick suggested that the chairman of each department should bring in a list, naming the salaries he recommended.

After further discussion the motion was carried.

In considering the section recommending that the city tax marshals be paid forty cents for serving executions and $1 on returning each execution satisfied, with a commission of 2 per cent, it was decided to add after "satisfied" the words "by payment." The addition was made in order to make it clear that if a defaulting tax payer was lodged in jail the marshal would not be entitled to the fee of $1 for collection.

The remainder of the report was adopted.

The reports of the board of works and safety board were adopted, with the exception of the salary sections, which were referred back.

On motion of Ald. McGoldrick, seconded by Ald. Scully, a suitable resolution on the death of John E. Ferris, the late harbor master, was adopted.

The report of the appeals committee was adopted.

The bills and bye laws committee submitted an amendment to the bye law regulating the fees to be charged for shows and other public exhibitions. It was recommended that moving picture performances be charged $50 a month; theatres $200 a year; troupes and companies performing elsewhere than in a theatre $10 a day and street musicians $1 a day.

Ald. Pickett suggested that copies should be supplied to the members and moved that the report be referred back to give an opportunity for further discussion and for all interested to be heard. The fee of $50 a month for moving pictures seemed very high, he said, and he was informed it would result in driving out all the smaller shows and in compelling the Nickel theatre to charge double prices.

The motion was carried.

The report of the ferry committee was adopted.

An interim report on the mayor's inaugural address was adopted.

A report of the assessors on the valuations of churches was referred to the treasury board.

On motion of Ald. Christie, the bills and bye laws committee will prepare a bye law to license billiard and pool rooms.

Owing to the lateness of the hour consideration of Ald. Scully's motion on the erection of a steel bridge across the harbor was referred to a committee, to be named by the mayor.

R. O'Brien and Mrs. James F. Robertson were reappointed library commissioners.

The treasury board was given power to act with reference to the property at Loch Lomond recently purchased by the city and against which two memorials for about $300 are recorded.

The council then adjourned.

SIR WILFRID'S WEAKNESS

(Toronto World.)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's treatment of the election bill introduced by his minister of justice will not add to his reputation for strength and statesmanship. Against his own evident inclination he has yielded to the pressure exercised by the leaders of the party in Manitoba whose insistence on the bill the whole bill, and nothing but the bill, shows only too well what it is expected to accomplish. Recently the Liberal organ for that province took the premier roundly to task for his weakness in consenting to an amicable adjustment of the disputed clauses of the bill, but he has shown greater weakness in succumbing to the maleficent influences that are determined to control the Dominion electoral lists and the elections of Manitoba.

The country knows now that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was prepared to recognize the propriety of the objections made by the federal opposition to the provisions now under challenge. It knows also that the bill as introduced did not secure that impartial preparation of the electoral lists which, from the highly moral flavor of the ministerial protestations, the country had a right to expect. Equally obnoxious to democratic principles and to fair dealing is the extraordinary proposal to allow improperly marked ballot papers to be counted and as a corrollary to be identified. The Dominion government must be nervously concerned with the drift of public sentiment when these last devices of the political gambler are brought into operation. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has always been regarded as personally responsive to high ideals of public duty. It is an infinite pity that, in a matter so vital as the protection of the right of the people to a free and pure election, he has sacrificed them to the demands of none too scrupulous partisans.

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