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Three Cornered Contest For Mayoralty Unnecessary.

A three-cornered fight in the Prince Rupert mayoralty election would be of little benefit or satisfaction to anyone. Generally, in three cornered contests—and also where there are more than three candidates—the majority of the public is not satisfied. That is, of course, if one of the candidates is not elected with more votes than the others combined. Such being the case it would seem a better plan to sink differences before nomination day and get in behind one of two candidates. It would be just as well to do that before the election as to be forced to do it afterwards.

The indications at present are that personalities may come into the contest. Such certainly will be the case if too many candidates are entered. When there are four or five candidates in an election contest, the general principles of some of them are usually so nearly similar that they could readily stand combination. Personal stubbornness is not desirable and will usually be shown up in the end. What is really wanted is common-sense principles with as much co-operation and team work as possible. Good legislation in the realm of civic affairs, as well as any other field, is more apt to be produced by a common desire toward the general welfare of the community rather than through personal endeavour, no matter how honest the latter may seem on the face.

Mayorality Is Not The Only Sphere.

There is room and plenty of it for good material in civic politics without concentrating on the chief magistrate's chair. Only one man can be elected and the others will be out of the game altogether. It would seem to better purpose if some of the candidates whose objective is the mayoralty would content themselves with running for the council and perhaps the school board or police commission as well. In these capacities as much work for the city can be done as in the mayor's office, for, after all, a mayor has little power except of a summary nature, and that is usually subject to the ratification of the council. When it comes down to the fine point, an alderman has almost as much say in city affairs as has the mayor and an alderman who also sits on the school board or police commission has just as much. There is a certain amount of honor and prestige about being mayor and there is a little more pay for a great deal more work. That is about all there is to it. While a mayor is necessary under the law and there must be an executive head to all businesses, there seems, after all, to be no very great benefit personally or to the community as a whole by any particular person occupying that position.

Peace Seems At Hand In Ireland.

Now that the last of the British military forces have been withdrawn from Southern Ireland it will be interesting to follow events there and ascertain if there will be any improvement in the matter of law and order under self-government which is now fully in effect. Certain dispatches last week indicated that the Republicans were tending towards a conciliatory attitude. If that is the case and the followers of De Valera can be ultimately reconciled, there would seem to be no reason why an era of peace should not be coming in Ireland. It is apparent that the past few days have been quieter in Ireland. While it is not to be expected that peace will come at once, suddenly and completely, there is basis for the hope expressed by many that a cessation of the internal strife is at last in sight. The Republicans are perhaps beginning to realize that their cause is a hopeless one and that they might as well adjust themselves to the new order of things and settle down under the most liberal autonomy possible as long as Ireland remains a part of the Empire. If De Valera has not already surrendered he soon will have to and he might as well do it peacefully.

United States Puts Problem To Nations.

That the European nations will have to come to some basis of settlement of their reparations difficulties before any financial assistance for Germany will be forthcoming from the United States seems apparent from the announcement made yesterday by the J. P. Morgan Co., the leading of the United States financial concerns. The attitude taken by the United States firm does not necessarily mean that it is unwilling to give assistance to Germany but rather that some plan will have to be worked out for accepting such assistance before it will be given. After all, that is a very logical stand, for if United States did advance a large sum of money to Germany, there would have to be some definite understanding as to how it would be disposed of. There will doubtless be a great call for it from many creditors and an unsatisfactory distribution of payments would be little better than no payments at all. The next step will be for Britain, France and Germany to reach a basis of reparations payments. This may be done in Europe or it may be done at another conference at Washington, the calling of which by President Harding was suggested in last week's dispatches.

Versatile Program is Presented by Pupils of Public Schools in Fine Annual Christmas Concert

The pupils of the Prince Rupert Public Schools put on the first recital of their annual Christmas concert in the auditorium of the Booth Memorial School last night and they did themselves as well as their instructors much credit indeed. The entertainment, which lasts well over two hours, is most enjoyable and novel and provides something in the way of entertainment that the citizens of Prince Rupert can ill afford to miss. The spacious assembly hall of the school was filled to overflowing last night and there was not one of all those present who was not most surprised and pleased at the talent and eloquence, music and dancing displayed. The work of the teachers in the preparation of the affair must have been long and painstaking but their efforts will have a great deal of recompense in the favorable impression created upon the minds of the audience. The concert will be repeated tonight and, in view of the favor it found last night, the place will undoubtedly be packed again.

The program of the concert takes the form of a Christmas book. One act represents the cover, another the advertisements and another the frontispiece. The balance and the major portion of the program represents the story pages of the book. There are in all twelve numbers, each undertaken by the individual classes of the schools except in one or two cases where classes have been combined. Each act is of such excellence that it would be difficult to single any particular ones out in point of merit. Each is altogether different from the other and several hundred pupils from the receiving classes up to the Entrance take part. In every respect, the concert is very finished in character. The costuming of the children in many cases is a work of art and shows that the parents have taken a lively interest in the affair by fitting out their children in several instances in garb almost artistic and costly.

Opening Number

The cover of the book is a tableau, "The Herald Angel," depicted in lovely manner by Miss Nellie Wilson. The advertising characters in the opening are taken by Reginald Kayne as Cream of Wheat, Helen Sims as Aunt Isabel Fox as Aunt Gemina Pancake Flour, Robert Kelly and Katie Sutherland as Donald Arney, Charles Mullet, Pears Soap, and Winnie Hill, Pauline Johnston and Phyllis Harvey as Old Dutch Gleaner. A beautiful vocal genre, "Star of the East," in which the singers are garbed in white and silver shen accentuated by the use of the spotlight, forms the frontispiece, those taking part being Miss Evelyn Dally, Miss Norma Rogers, Miss May Clark, Miss Kathleen Bulger, Miss Betty Arney, Miss Catherine Irvine and

Miss Dorothy Patmore. This section of the program is under the direction of Miss Mae Martin and Miss S. A. Mills and Miss Barbara Peyton is accompanist. A novel feature is the manner in which the various acts are announced. Freddie Wyle as Sir Frederick, garbed in a crimson court costume with all the dainty accoutrements of the sixteenth century, had the duty of coming on the stage between each act and turning over the program folder as well as making the necessary announcements.

Full Program

The full program is as follows: Story—"Sunshine and Show-er." Boys: Lewis Gromp, Stanley Brown, Trevor Hill, Jack Cherry, Peter Goyan, Paul Anderson, Frank Gomez, Robert Linnell, Girls: Vera Bourne, May Sazar, Jessie Cherry, Mickey Casey, Velma Walters, Lillian Davis, Mary Bremner, Pearl Golliver. (Prepared by Miss Gladwell.) Fairy Story—"Cinderella." Cinderella, Maxine Beilheornert, Prince, Chas. Hutchison; Sisters, Margaret Jackson, Barbara Lee; Fairy Godmother, Audrey Tremayne; Page, Frank Derry; Horses, Henry Lee, Oscar Guelpa; Coach, Eric Christison. Chorus: Audrey Parkin, Catherine Burton, Dorothy Derry, Thelma Fulton, Dorothy Richardson, Margaret Fritz, Ritz Edgar, Eileen Green, Ann Kirkendall, Marion Sherman, Myrtle Rose, Doris Rose, Doris McEvoy, Beverly Jack, Gertrude Morgan, Claire Williams, Theodora Postulo, Margaret Ackland, Phyllis Dewhurst, Billie Kunkin, Douglas Ganslow, Mike Mantzrob, Allan Kirkendall, Douglas Christison, Bobby Moxley, Charles Sturart, Rupert Ross, Billy Stockdale, Donald Arney, Charles Mullet, Olaf Hanson. (Prepared by Miss Nickerson and Miss Hibbard.)

Jack and Jill Drill

Drill—"Jack and Jill." Girls: Ethel Edgar, Esther Walters, Florence Peterson. Boys: Ian Murray, Edwin Johnston, Kenneth Green. (Prepared by Miss Eason.)

The Booth School Choir—Singing "The Falling Star" and "The New Moon." (Prepared by Miss Stone.)

"How The Fairies Chose Their Queen"—A Fairy Story—Fairy Queens, Edith Wilkinson, Lucile Brooksbank, Brownie, Ned McLeod, Herald, David Brannen, Paul Stevagiv. Fairies: Ning Martin, Cathie Watson, Margaret Long, Myrna Fuller, Cathie Eastman, Ella Sigmond, Mary McDonald. (Prepared by Miss Scott and Miss Mitchell.)

Ribbon Dance—Girls.—Joan Arthur, Muriel Walker, Alice Loughborough, Margaret Jackson, Joyce Collison, Winnifred Eby, Edith Kergin, Megan Morris, Nora Budderham, Elizabeth Wilson, Olive Foss, Edith Johnston. (Prepared by Mrs. Walker.)

Mrs. Wiggs of Cabbage Patch Playlet—"The Theatre Party," from "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." Mrs. Wiggs, Mary Long; Billy, Willie White; Asia, May Martin; Australia, Chrissie McLeod; Europa, Evelyn Pierce. (Prepared by Miss McKinnony.)

Singing Games and Folk Dances—Girls—Aleta McKinley, Margit Hallberg, Julia Walters, Bessie Berry, Bernice Brochu, Muriel Brewerton, Joan Cross, Annie Walker, Laura Stevens, Julia Thomas, Winnie Thompson, Lillian Worsfold, Svea Rosang, Clarabel Cook, Vera Shockley, Julia Calderone, Lois McRae, Jean Grieve, Alice Spencer, Doris Candow. (Prepared by Miss Mercer.)

Playlet—"Sleepyhead's Dream"—Miss Question Mark, Nellie Gurvey; Old Woman, Charlotte Boulter; Baby Bunting, Mona Yates; Orphan Annie, Annie Teoch; Cinderella, Palema Cameron; Margery Daw, Verma Brochu; Miss Muffet, Eleanor Tite; Topsy, Jean McDonald; Sleepyhead, Bronson Hunt; Bluebeard, Bruce Stevens; Capt. Kidd, Jimmy Bryant; Sandman, Albert Styles; Piper's Tom, Nick

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