

EDISON PERFECTS THE KINETEPHONE

It Is a Talking Machine That Works in Harmony with Moving Pictures.

New York, Dec. 31.—The first demonstration of Thomas A. Edison's kinetophone will be given in New York within a few weeks. The kinetophone is a talking machine that works in harmony with moving pictures. It is to be used to add the realism of the voice of the actor to the scenes shown on the screen. Within a short time it is predicted, kinetophone performances will be playing in every corner of the West. Great musical numbers will be sung by the machine, and with the music is being rendered in action of the scenes will go on in the audience. Mr. Edison has not said as yet how he thinks he will be able to give only a question of time before the best scene in America will be performing with the kinetophone before the camera and the kinetophone.

After four years of the hardest kind of work Mr. Edison has perfected the machine so that it is said to be a "foolproof" machine. In June of last year the inventor told of his desire to bring with a stage larger than that of the Metropolitan opera house, where actors were playing and when the scene was changed the machine would be made in a few minutes, and while the change was being made, it would not be necessary to stop the scene. Since then the work has been going on at a steady pace, and the machine is now ready for the public.

One test in New York, the opera of "The Merry Widow" are to be given. The first test was made in the city of New York, and the results of the test were very good. The machine is to be used in the theatre and in the home. The one in the theatre shows the picture of actors and scenery upon the screen, while the other, run by a second operator, will be worked just back of the screen.

At present it is necessary to change the scene every six minutes, but this, it is said, can be changed so that the entertainment will not be broken up.

GRABSTREET'S WEEKLY VERMONT TRADE REPORT

Reports to Grabstreet's for the week show the holiday trade as a whole was a little above what was recorded last year. In some places the increase was small, while in others as high as one-third more. In the larger places early trading was encouraged and the result was apparent but in the smaller towns the bulk of the trade was crowded into the three days before Christmas; the early shopping idea, however, predominated and is working well. New Year's day trade is generally good and the volume of extra work accumulated is expected to be further increased. The trade was as large as it was reflects the prevailing condition of the public as regards ability to buy. All this was accomplished in spite of the lack of snow, the benefit of the country purchaser, further comment is made regarding holiday trade to the effect that in the State merchants were ready, confined to small articles. Real winter weather is needed to move reasonable goods. So far far have moved slowly, so has winter clothing. The light fall of snow, while not sufficient for sleighing, materially aided the boot and shoe dealers, whose sales show a marked increase for the period. Jewelry trade this year was along the line of smaller goods, some of the jewelers report a larger business than last year, though they did not do so much. The demand for toys, novelties and kindred goods was large. In certain lines of manufacture shops are closed for the holiday period and will not resume until after the new year. The coming week the work of inventory will take the forefront. As a whole manufacturers report orders on hand and about the usual amount for this period. Collections generally are reported slow. Reports from some of the larger houses in the State are as follows: Burlington merchants note the holiday season was a successful one, sales showing a good increase over what was done in 1912. At Rutland the holiday trade was reported better than was expected and in many instances the sales were about normal. St. Albans merchants report that the buying was good particularly on the three days prior to Christmas. Trade here would have improved if there had been snow. The same report is also received from St. Johnsbury with the exception that the merchandise was more earlier business than usual. Montpelier and Barre merchants state a good holiday trade. The reports from dry goods, boots and shoes and food stores are satisfactory. Retailers note a result business among merchants in spite of lack of snow for sleighing. Montpelier merchants state the trade was good and showed a good increase over what was done last year.

CLASPED HANDS AT 12.

Auld Lang Syne Sung as the New Year Arrives. Cavalry officers in dress uniforms and civilians in semier dress attire, and women guests, clasped hands at the midnight hour Tuesday night and greeted the new year with "Auld Lang Syne." Instantaneously the large ball room was in darkness. Then on a wall in glowing numbers, appeared "1913," followed by "1912."

It was the way the officers of the 10th cavalry welcomed the new year. It was the annual New Year's eve ball of the regiment and, besides the officers and ladies of the post, it was attended by many persons from Burlington. The ball was replete with Yuletide decorations, there being a profusion of evergreen and leaves of holly and mistletoe. The colors of the regiment added to the attractiveness of the general decorations.

Music was furnished by the 16th cavalry band or better. Following the coming of 1913 an elaborate supper was served. The decorations were designed by Capt. William Carson and Lieut. H. S. Dillworth.

SOLUTION EASY.

"People love to perplex themselves and their children on someone else to get them out of the middle," says Henry Miller of "The Hainbow" company, and as an example, gives the following: "A famous Chicago lawyer once had a singular case to settle. A physician came to him in great distress. Two sisters, living in the same house, had babies of equal age, who so resembled each other that their own mothers were unable to distinguish them when they were together. Now it happened that by the carelessness of the nurses the children had become mixed, and how were the mothers to make sure that they received back their own infants? But, perhaps, said the lawyer, "the children weren't changed at all." "Oh, but there's no doubt that they were changed," said the physician. "Are you sure of it?" "Perfectly." "Well, if that's the case, why don't you change them back again? I don't see any difficulty in the case." "Exchange."

Not in "keeping overlandly at it," but in keeping at it until you accomplish it—that is the winning policy in west advertising!

Two men were sitting side by side on a beach. One was leaning back on his hands, the other was leaning forward. The man leaning back said to the man leaning forward: "You just look out yer watch at 'em look at 'em." "Yes, that was to see whether I still had it. I still have it. Anything else I can tell you?" "But the other fellow had edged away from there."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

CASTRO TURNS HIS BACK ON UNFRIENDLY AMERICA

Problem of How to Deal with "Terror of Venezuela" Solved by His Decision to Return Voluntarily to Europe.

New York, Dec. 31.—General Cipriano Castro, one-time "terror of Venezuela," and defier of the civilized world, declines to stay in the United States owing to the official attitude he met with on his arrival from France today on board the French liner La Touraine.

When the Touraine was steaming up the bay with the former president of the South American republic an intended visitor to these shores, Castro was taken off by immigration officials and carried to Ellis Island that it might be decided whether or not he was an undesirable.

Angered at the treatment accorded him, General Castro expressed a desire to return at once. His wish was that he be allowed to go to Germany instead of France, whence he had come. He refused to accept any mail, telegrams or newspapers or to receive visitors, although some of his family connections and old friends tried to greet him.

Long before the customs officers boarded the vessel at quarantining the former dictator was told he was an unwelcome visitor. The cutter immigrant, carrying Inspector Dohler and two assistants, picked up La Touraine down the bay and the officer informed Castro that he was to come with them to Ellis Island instead of proceeding on board the liner to her dock.

Arrived at Ellis Island Castro underwent a medical inspection and the physician pronounced his condition as satisfactory. The inspection, a thorough one, was conducted by Dr. Sprague and Dr. Stoner. Castro took it good humoredly and was on the best of terms with the doctors, with whom he afterwards had luncheon.

"Castro, in reply to a request for an interview, said: 'No, I am a prisoner and as long as I am not liberated I refuse to say anything.'"

Although he appeared brisk and well, Castro did not seem to possess his former iron will. When the officers approached him he appeared indignant but remained calm. He had not believed the wireless reports that he was to be subjected to examination as to his fitness to enter the United States.

The general said he had come as a tourist to America. He had undergone a harrowing experience during the many storms he had encountered, since his departure from Tenerife for England some weeks ago, as he is not a good sailor. On reaching England he found it advisable to go to Belgium and thence to France where he embarked for America.

His voyage across the Atlantic was distressing, and he was confined to his cabin throughout. He was glad to get ashore, if only at the immigrant station. All efforts to approach General Castro were frustrated by his own unwillingness to receive visitors and the close guard kept on him at Ellis Island.

Only at a late hour in the evening came the official announcement that he had renounced his visit to the country. The note issued by Commissioner Williams of the immigration department said:

"After a preliminary hearing this afternoon at Ellis Island Gen. Cipriano Castro informed Commissioner Williams that he desired to return to Europe forthwith."

It was added that Castro had expressed the wish to go to Hamburg instead of back to France. It was said at Ellis Island to-night that Castro's wish would be acceded to. The next steamer for Hamburg will be the America, scheduled to depart next Saturday and Castro probably will take passage on her. Meanwhile he will be detained at Ellis Island. He has been assigned to a suite with a private bath in the administration building and will not necessarily be closely confined.

With the decision of Castro to return voluntarily to Europe the incident was closed and the difficulty of the department of state and the department of commerce and labor how to deal with the South American "stormy petrel" overcome.

MIDDLEBURY FAIR CLEARED \$996.28

Secretary Dyer Says Prospects Were Never Brighter—President Weeks Is Re-elected.

Middlebury, Jan. 1.—The annual meeting of the Addison County Agricultural society was held in the town hall this afternoon. The attendance was so large that every seat was taken and a number were obliged to stand. Secretary Frank C. Dyer of Salisbury, in his report, said:

"During the past year extensive changes have been made and all of the addition to the grounds, known as the 'Whinnright lot,' not otherwise disposed of, had been enclosed, thus providing ample for future expansion. Late in the fall one of our horse barns was destroyed by fire but will be rebuilt. In my opinion, the nearly unanimous opinion of the board of managers that there should be no free day at our fair, but that admission should be charged each of the four days. To give a free day as we have been doing is entirely wrong. No other fair does it and it is exceedingly unbusinesslike and expensive. I trust that this matter will receive favorable consideration this year. This meeting will round out a period of exactly 20 years that your association has been connected with the Addison county fair. Never has the future looked more hopeful or its prospects brighter."

Treasurer Charles F. Rogers of Middlebury reported that the total receipts of the fair last fall were \$14,958.29, total expense, \$13,962.01, net profit, \$996.28. The general account shows receipts of \$10,075.25 and expenses of \$5,962.33, leaving a balance of \$4,112.92 and with other assets, a balance of \$1,883.36. These reports were accepted.

President John E. Weeks of Middlebury was elected president and on taking the office he mentioned that this was his sixth election to the office. He spoke for a few minutes on other matters and was loudly applauded. The other officers are: Vice-presidents, Col. S. A. Hiley of Middlebury, Edgar N. Bissell of Shoreham, secretary, Frank C. Dyer of Salisbury; treasurer, Charles F. Rogers of Middlebury; directors for one year, William A. Lawrence of Bristol, John H. Donnelly of Vergennes, Lucius E. Avery of Ferrisburgh, directors for two years, John A. James of Weathersfield, William C. Hack of Orwell, Cyrus Smith of Bridport, directors for three years, F. E. Foote of Cornwall, E. B. Hyde of Salisbury, William Noonan of Addison, auditors, Charles A. Chapman of Ferrisburgh, Joseph M. Burke and John A. Fletcher of Middlebury. The next fair will be held on August 26, 27, 28 and 29, 1913.

The meeting was followed by the customary evening entertainment provided by Col. A. S. Hiley, the first number being John Duddy, a well known resident of this town, who took the part of a colored man. He was followed by Mr. Gleason, "The man with the colored crayon"; Signor Pietro Mordella, "the one-man orchestra"; George Bartlett Cutler, the singing humorist, and Scott and Bayard's original two-man minstrel show of Boston. They all received great applause. The entertainment lasted about two hours and was considered one of the best ever given in the hall.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR. The reason it scares a girl so much to kiss a man is it only seems to her he does it.

A woman has so much else to worry over her husband wants her to do it all about his health.

A man that thinks people want his photograph isn't in a padded cell simply because he isn't violent yet.

To give money away in charity hurts more folk more than to lose it.

A widow soon gets to be so innocent she can wonder whether it is quite proper even if he is her husband.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AS NOISY AS EVER

Only Four Tiny Oases of Melody in New York's Desert of Discord.

New York, Dec. 31.—Four tiny oases of melody in New York's New Year's eve desert of discord were overwhelmed to-night by horns and cowbells.

At three past midnight, City Hall Park, Madison square and Herald square, a citizens' committee stationed brass bands and choruses to play and sing the old year out in useful fashion. So a fourth, Union square, the Salvation Army sent Miss Eva Booth, two bands and old singers. The patriotic airs on the program were drowned in bedlam and Miss Booth, speaking through a megaphone, could scarcely be heard a dozen yards away.

CITY SUED FOR \$25,000.

Negligence in Operating Lighting Plant Charged by T. F. Leary.

Suit was Tuesday brought against the city of Burlington for the sum of \$25,000 by Thomas F. Leary, administrator of the estate of John A. Leary, whose death occurred suddenly on the 19th of last February in the basement of his apartment at the corner of King and Kings streets. Papers were served yesterday forenoon on City Clerk Grandy, and the declarations set forth that Mr. Leary was killed by a current of electricity which ran into the Leary store owing to the faulty wiring of the electric lighting plant. The city is, however, protected against such things by its policy with the Employers' Liability Assurance company of London, and it is therefore sought that if the suit is successful, the amount of the award be divided between the wife and six surviving children.

The death occurred when Mrs. Leary was in the business of furnishing electricity and that on that date John A. Leary conducted a store at the corner of King and Pine streets. It claims further that the city's wires were not properly insulated and that a primary wire was connected to the pole in front of the store and that it carried a voltage of 2500. The store was connected with the wire by secondary wires, which are calculated to carry but 110 volts. Negligence is charged against the city in that the wires became crossed and that the death current of 2500 volts was carried into the Leary building.

On the day in question it is alleged that Leary, while at work in the basement, extended his hand to an electric light and the heavy voltage passed through his body, causing instant death. The administrator brings suit to recover damages to be divided between the wife and six surviving children.

At the time of Mr. Leary's death no suspicion that he had been killed by electricity was entertained and he was buried without any feeling of such a theory. Several days later however it is claimed that a member of the family was down stairs and received a shock from a electric lamp. This led to an investigation and it was found, according to the story of the plaintiff, that a main feed wire was crossed at times with the secondary wire which led into the store. Consequently a severe shock could be received from the wire.

The trouble was remedied on February 22 by employees of the electric plant and the plaintiff states that he is a man who can testify that he has seen sparks flying as a result of the contact of the two wires.

The cause given for the death in the certificate was cardiac accident, but because of the suspicion of electric shock the body was exhumed on March 1 and Drs. B. H. Stone and C. E. Dalton performed an autopsy. In their opinion death was due to an electric shock. The insurance company was not notified, however, at the time of this autopsy and it may be that they will refuse to assume any liability for the reason that they were not informed so as to those some.

STATE Y. M. C. A. NOTES

J. Sterling Moran resigns as Addison County Secretary.

J. Sterling Moran has resigned the secretaryship of the Addison County Y. M. C. A., a position that he has held for three years. Mr. Moran's resignation is effective at the beginning of the next year. Lyman A. Melrose is a graduate of Middlebury College, has been engaged to succeed Mr. Moran.

G. W. Hinchley, the founder and manager of the Good Will Farms for boys and girls at Hinchley, Me., has just been secured to be one of the speakers at the boys' conference, to be held at Saxtons River on January 17, 18 and 19.

VERMONT NOTES

The Essex Organ Company Benefit association of Brattleboro has paid \$5 claims this year amounting to \$187. The association has a net surplus of \$72.

Barre's Co-operative Loan and Savings association has effected a temporary organization, with the Rev. J. H. Bourdon as temporary president. Rollin D. Burditt, a student of Norwich University, is ill with smallpox at the home of his parents at Southport. It is thought that he contracted the disease at Northfield, where there are several cases.

BREAK WINDOWS OF HOTEL ASTOR

General Strike of Waiters Falls Flat on Busiest Night of Year.

New York, Dec. 31.—A general strike of hotel employees, swiftly sanctioned this afternoon by the International Hotel Workers' union, died with the old year tonight. Timed for the busiest moment of the year, when hotels and restaurants were overflowing with the New Year's eve crowd, it spluttered a bit during the early evening and finally flamed out altogether.

Less than 500 men, the hotelkeepers estimated, quit work in three famous hotels where 10,000 persons kept a midnight still there was not the slightest indication of a strike, in a few of the smaller places some slight inconvenience was caused, but the total was trifling.

Angered by the failure to bring about a general strike, 20 men, deputed by the police to be picketing waiters, tried to force their way into the Hotel Astor, to-night. When they were repulsed by private detectives, they secured bricks and hurled them through the windows of the hotel.

A policeman grabbed one of the strikers, waving a revolver ordered the others to retreat. Instead, however, they rushed the policeman and attempted to release the prisoner. Other policemen then reinforced their brother officer and the prisoner and three others who had taken part in the affray were taken to the station house.

The crowds during the early evening at the strikers' headquarters dwindled as the night advanced. At ten o'clock it was said that less than 2,000 men would be affected, and all those who heard the call so far.

In several instances, union officials said, hotelkeepers granted the demands which were for higher wages, and in others requested a conference later with the strike leaders.

So far as the annual throng of revellers was concerned there seemed to be no strike at all. Broadway presented its usual New Year's offering of discord, beginning from the Battery to Harlem, with the clang of horns and the tumult of noise-making devices of every description.

THE BURLINGTON MARKET

Changes in the market prices have been about the same except in one instance. Eggs have taken a big drop, the retail price descending from 15 cents to 12 cents per dozen, while the wholesale price fell from 10 to 8 cents.

The following prices were quoted for the Free Press by the Burlington Fruit company, C. A. Barber, grocer, F. Hoxsey & Co., and the A. D. Pease Feed Co.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Beef dressed, Butter, Chickens, Eggs, etc.

RETAIL GROCERIES

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Beef, Pork, Butter, etc.

RETAIL MEATS

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Bacon, Beef, Chickens, etc.

The W. G. Reynolds Co. Carpets, Furniture, Linens. It begins promptly at the opening of our store doors to-day! This greatest of all MARCH PAYMENT SALE! Nothing like it ever before attempted by a Vermont store. Nearly every piece of merchandise in this mammoth stock out in price from 25 to 50 per cent., and still, with these extreme reductions, you don't have to pay us one cent on your purchase. Until March 1, Select Furniture. For your entire home and pay us on March 1st—from 25 to 33 1-3 per cent. less than regular worth. Select Brass and Iron Beds. And pay us on March 1st—from 33 1-3 to 50 per cent. less than regular worth. Select Rugs and Carpets. And pay us on March 1st—from 20 to 25 per cent. less than regular worth. Select Linens and Beddings. And pay us on March 1st—from 15 to 20 per cent. less than regular worth. Select Draperies and Curtains. And pay us on March 1st—from 25 to 33 1-3 per cent. less than regular worth. THIS BIG MARCH PAYMENT SALE. Is the January for you to save money. NOW TO-DAY IS THE TIME! Because selections are best and buying is going to be brisk. JUST COME AND SEE WHAT THIS SALE MEANS TO YOU. The W. G. Reynolds Co. AGENTS FOR GLENWOOD STOVES