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HARRINGAY MERCURY.

DYING DAYS OF Hornsey District Council.

This week brings the Hornsey Urban District Council to the end of its career. On Monday next, the Elections will take place to return Members to the new Borough Council. The moribund body has been clearing up its official details during the past few days in preparation for the new order of things. On Monday evening the Council met under the presidency of Sir Francis Cory-Wright, Bart., J.P., and again this (Friday) evening the members are convened for the transaction of some necessary official business which must be completed before the outgoing authority is finally released from its responsibilities.

On Monday evening the two most important subjects under consideration were the Stroud Green-road sewer and the emoluments of Dr. Clothier, the medical officer of health. Distinctly painful tension prevailed during the time that the Doctor's official income formed the topic of somewhat animated differences of opinion. The matter was introduced into the evening's agenda by the action of Dr. Brackenbury, who had given notice of a motion which, divested of its technique, meant that if carried Dr. Clothier's position should be clearly defined before the new Borough Council comes into office.

It is a little difficult to understand or to give expression to the exact circumstances and precisely the tone which prevailed in the Council chamber connected with Dr. Clothier's personality. On the one hand, the members probably without exception entertained feelings of both cordial respect for and confidence in the Doctor. But a little monetary dispute has sprung up, seeming to threaten "a rift in the lute." Dr. Clothier is in receipt of £550 per annum for his services in the two capacities of medical officer for the district and medical superintendent of the infectious diseases hospital. Early in this year the Hornsey Council entered into a certain arrangement with the Finchley district, one consequence of which has been that a number of Finchley patients have been received into Hornsey's hospital for treatment. Dr. Clothier therefore claims that he is entitled to something extra for special services. Here is the bone of contention.

On more than one occasion during the summer months the Council has talked round this question, but no final settlement has hitherto been arrived at. The object of Dr. Brackenbury's motion on Monday evening was to clear up the point once and for all before the District Council goes out of office. What Dr. Brackenbury wanted to establish beyond all possible question was that legally Dr. Clothier's only official income consists of two salaries (one for each of the two appointments he holds), in the total amounting to £550 per annum. Up to this point everyone seemed in agreement. Dr Clothier himself, with his ready courtesy and tact, fully acquiesced in the statement that his only salaries are £550 per annum. For the moment it was puzzling to see where there was room for any collision of opinion. Then Mr. Sloper defined the trouble.

Some of the Councillors, he said, felt strongly that whatever special services Dr. Clothier had performed in respect of the Finchley patients should be properly paid for in the form of a supplemental vote of money which could not be labelled technically as salary, so that if when the new Borough Council gets to work Dr. Clothier should elect to retire on superannuation its amount should not be inflated by being calculated upon any sum in excess of his actual salaries of £550 per annum. Here again Dr. Clothier was sweet reasonableness itself. Instantly he waived the point. He was quite willing that anything he received for the special work of attending to the Finchley patients should not be taken into account in respect to future superannuation allowance. Nevertheless, the painful tension in the room still prevailed. Evidently, the speakers had not yet "touched the spot" of the crucial difference between the Doctor and the Councillors.

Again uprose Dr. Brackenbury and in explicit terms said that what he wanted was to pass a resolution that evening before the Urban District Council dissolved so that Dr. Clothier would find himself in this position when the new Borough Council takes over the control of the district, namely, that if the Borough Council says to Dr. Clothier "we are willing to give you a total salary of £550 for all your work and no extra fees for the Finchley patients," and if Dr. Clothier decide to decline the offer then that Dr. Clothier should be disentitled to any superannuation allowance whatsoever. Dr. Brackenbury emphasised and repeated that he wanted this point to be quite clear and explicit. "Yes," replied the Chairman, "nothing could be clearer than your language, nothing more explicit; only its clearness will not make it law. You cannot by passing a resolution in any shape or form deprive Dr. Clothier of his legal rights as regards superannuation." Then the Chairman called upon Mr. Tatham, the Council's solicitor, who said, of course, if when the new Borough Council begins work it prevents Dr. Clothier from performing the same duties at the same salary that he has been discharging for the District Council, then Dr. Clothier would be entitled to superannuation of which no one could deprive him.

At this stage Mr. Sloper and Mr. Fox both delivered brief, tactful speeches, which raised the discussion to a higher plane The keynote they struck was that no on connected either with the District Council or the new Borough Authority would desire to treat Dr. Clothier shabbily. That was a sentiment which instantly touched the soul of the meeting evoking hearty responsive "hear, hears," from every part of the Chamber; and, after a little more sparring, it was unanimously agreed, Dr. Clothier again acquiescing, that the dispute which has been prolonged over several months concerning Dr. Clothier's special services to the Finchley patients should be compromised by the payment of a hundred guineas which shall not affect any subsequent superannuation calculation; this amount to cover the special services until the new Authority comes into office, and that Dr. Clothier's actual salary is £550 per annum.

On the important question of the Stroud Green flooding, Sir Francis Cory Wright made an interesting statement indicating, amongst other things, how much delicate and detailed work is undertaken for the good of the district quite irrespective of the routine public meetings of the Council. A sub-committee consisting of Sir Francis and Councillors Fox and Lawson has been working vigilantly conducting Hornsey's share of the Stroud Green road sewer negociations with the Islington Borough and the London County Councils and as a result Lord James has consented to act as arbitrator on all questions in dispute, including the question as to whether the Hornsey Drainage Act of 1871 should be amended.

Sir Francis explained that when the case was stopped in the House of Lords, the engineers of the three Councils met and agreed upon what was necessary to be done to put a stop to the flooding. When the London County Council were approached on the matter they at first put forward such conditions that it was impossible for reasonable people to agree to them. On being told of this deadlock, Lord James interviewed the London County and Islington Councils with the result that it was agreed that Lord James should arbitrate on the matter and that his award should be final for all parties.

The inclusion of the London County Council in the negociations was absolutely necessary as Hornsey contended that the London Council is the authority which is bound to provide a proper outfall.

Actually, Hornsey had no alternative but to accept the arbitration of Lord James. If they had persisted in the appeal to the House of Lords and had won the day it would have proved but a Phyrric victory. It would have established their right to empty into the London sewers, but the flooding would have continued. Now Lord James would arbitrate and say who were to carry out the necessary new works. In connection with the matter, it would probably be found necessary to amend the Hornsey Drainage Act of 1871. In referring to this part of Sir Francis' statement, Mr. Fox remarked that they were very reluctant to tamper with the Act as it had always been considered beneficial to Hornsey. Mr. Lawson agreed with this view in the main, but considered that in the process of amendment it might be quite possible to make it still more satisfoctory to Hornsey. Upon the recommendation of the sub-committee, the Council adopted the report in order that the solicitor might have instructions to continue the negociations for an agreement with Islington and the London County Councils.

Writing of the Balaclava dinner a local scribe seems to have found special pleasure in noting the healthy appetite of one of the survivors. This veteran said he was 84 years of age and had been personal servant to Colin Campbell. Previous to being discovered by Mr. T. H. Roberts, he declared he had been starving, but could now get a good dinner and enjoy it. That his digestion is in an excellent state of preservation is evident, for of his admirable trencher performance at the dinner the scribe gives the following account:—

"He went through the seven courses, and did repeats of some. And when he came to the slab of ice pudding he put it holus bolus into his mouth and never winced. He accompanied his dinner by continual chucklings as to the tasty viands and the remark that they could have done with some of such meats in the Crimea."

With all due respect to the members of the Y Division of police it must be admitted they are wretched hands at directing traffic; they should take a few lessons from their City confreres. While saying this it must be confessed that the task the constables this week on duty in Green-lanes, Harringay, have had to perform has been a trying one. Under ordinary conditions it is difficult to keep things "moving" in the neighbourhood of the railway bridge, but with a portion of the thoroughfare "up"—that, it is asserted, is the correct term, though as a matter of fact, the trench which has been made is three or four feet "down"—it has been simply impossible. At times six policemen had made the attempt, they had failed. It has been a case of confusion worse confounded. What pedestrians and train passengers have said is, on the highest authority, not fit for publication.

Apparently, in connection with the electrification of the North London tramway system the roadway in the neighbourhood of Harringay Park Railway-station is to be considerably lowered. It was a veritable "slough of despond" before; inhabitants are asking what they may expect in those days—they seem far, far off at present—when the road digger shall cease from troubling.

As in ecclesiastical, so in educational matters, the Rev. J. H. Greaves, the chairman of the Hornsey School management committee, is an enthusiast. Some folk cannot follow the Vicar of S. Paul's on the education question—they ask "Where are you going to stop?"—but at the same time they admit his "thoroughness." They realise that he is thorough and, doing sot will, with confidence, accept his statement that in the choice of Mr. Horace E. Piggott, M.A., as head master of the Mattison-road higher elementary school a wise selection has been made. Mr. Piggott, who hails from Southampton, is spoken of as young and vigorous; he was chosen out of 135 applicants, and, naturally, great things will be expected of him in the establishment and development of this school—this "School Board legacy" it has been designated.

It is certainly complimentary to the Harringay would-be representatives on the Hornsey District Council that they should be allowed a "W.O." For those who do not read Sporting notions it should be explained that "w.o." is short for walk over; perhaps it would have been wiser to have written this in the first place and so have saved space.

But to return to the Harringay Borough Councillors—does not that read remarkably well?—the only new importation is Mr. H. Grimsdall. He is not unknown; he is one of the most respected of the sidesmen at Hornsey parish church, and he is also Secretary to the Hornsey Charity Trustees. He has resided in the district he will now represent for something like a quarter of a century, and the ratepayers of Harringay feel pretty confident they have in him an able member. At all events he should not "go astray"; he has good and tried colleagues in Messrs. G. A. Lewcock, and J. W. W. Agnew.

Mr. E. W. Sloper's unopposed return in South Harringay was merited; the compliments paid to him this week by the Hornsey Education Committee were well deserved Mr. Sloper accepted the office of chairman of that body when the Council were taking over the duties of the School Board. At this period of evolution the duties were difficult and delicate, but Mr. Sloper succeeded where others, though possessed of equally good intentions, would have failed. If Mr. Sloper retires from the chairmanship—on Tuesday he rather seemed to suggest such a course—he will do so with the satisfaction that he has successfully launched a vessel which perforce took her first dip in stormy seas.

[illegible] y "wolf"; it is not much [illegible] o shout "hooligans." The [illegible] t Green-road have recently been doing [illegible] tter, but their grave grievances [illegible] They have now moved, as a preliminary to decided action. A deputation from the road in question placed their complaint before the Tottenham District Council; they in turn have agreed to memoralise the Commissioner of Police with the object of "'tecs" being placed on duty in the thoroughfare on a Sunday, the evening when it is asserted hooliganism is most rampant in the particular area. In the meantime it will be interesting to know what the churches—passive resisters and others—are doing to meet the difficulty—a difficulty which, as was pointed out, is very apparent after thirty years of School Board management

Ratepayers of Harringay, ever keen on a municipal fight, are watching with considerable interest the struggle which is being determined in the Finsbury Park ward. One of the candidates in this district is Mr. Harry Green, the hero of more than one sharp bout in North Harringay. With the retirement of Mr. John Davis, Mr. Green entered the arena, and, fighting what had been spoken of as a hopeless battle, came off triumphant. However, at the end of three years he did not seek re-election, the "resident candidate" having removed from the neighbourhood. Mr. Harry Green, schoolmaster, is credited with being smart at electioneering.

Another candidate in the same (Finsbury Park) ward is Mr. F. E. Grayson, who, having taken an active interest in the opposition to the erection of the Mattison-road higher elementary school, came into Harringay and fought a good, though unsuccessful, struggle. In Finsbury Park, however, Mr. Grayson was more successfull, and with the constitution of the Education Authority he was placed on that body, being subsequently chosen chairman of the Works, Finance, and General Purposes Sub-committee. Mr. Grayson is an architect by profession, and does not hesitate to speak his mind. The queries he put, only on Friday last, in connection with the Cranley-gardens sewer trouble shows that in all matters Mr. Grayson will insist upon investigation. The Local Government Board Inspector realised this fact, as did the Council's Engineer, Mr. E. J. Lovegrove, who, as usual, was extremely fair in connection with a very difficult problem. There are six candidates for Finsbury Park; there are only three seats.

South Hornsey was formerly a part and parcel of Hornsey; it is now, except for political purposes, incorporated in the metropolitan borough of Stoke Newington. The ward elects nine members, but there are twelve candidates, these including Messrs. Fred Varley and G. B. Winckworth, the latter of whom filled the office of chairman to the South Hornsey District Councils. Writing of Stoke Newington affairs reminds one that it is "almost a foregone conclusion" that Mr. J. Glass, secretary of the Regent's Canal Company, will be the new Mayor. Stoke Newington has been fortunate in the selection of the chief magistrate.

The Rev. Thomas Gladwin, pastor of Harringay Primitive Methodist Chapel has had some of his goods seized for the non-payment of rates, but as they were "bought back" the reverend and respected gentleman has not been seriously inconvenienced. Mr. Gladwin was only one of the 33 passive resisters whose goods were submitted to public auction—"going, gone."

Outside paid officials there were two ratepayers, and one of those was a Councillor, present at the inquiry at which Hornsey asked permission to borrow £39,700 for the reconstruction of a part of the Highgate (low level) outfall sewer. Truly the average ratepayer—except he be a passive resister or one who on principle objects to pay rates at all—is a sleepy individual. Of course, we shall be told he is highly satisfied with present local administration.

Mr. J. J. Talbot represented the Tottenham Council before the arbitrators, one of whom is Sir Hugh Owen, of Crouch End, appointed in connection with the acquisition of the various metropolitan water undertakings. Eight companies claim £50.000,000 in addition to their debenture stock. Despite the recent record rainfall water promises to become a "luxury" from a London ratepayer's point of view.

Mr. Silas Hocking, better known in the literary than in the political world, presided at "a conference of representatives from working class organizations in North London" which was held in Harringay when a resolution was passed protesting against any "tampering with the free trade policy of this country." Were the supporters of this motion good old Tories—or, can it be, they were "Progressives"? However we have it on the authority of Mr. Silas Hocking that "free trade is essential to the well being of the country."

Following on this Harringay meeting it was rather amusing to read the report of a case heard this week at the Clerkenwell City Court. There, a defendant, a milkman, pleaded bad trade; "There were so many people out of work that they went without milk." The Judge retorted "but we have had plenty of rain recently; that's in your favour." Defendant did not accept this ruling; there is no free trade in milk—and water!

Lacrosse was "off" on Saturday at Finsbury Park, but good games are promised for to-morrow and the following two Saturdays, Brookfield being down to play at home, Blackheath Seconds, Cambridge University Juniors, and Oxford University Seniors. Certainly a strong "card"; but it is the first occasion on which a 'Varsity combination has played in Finsbury Park. Two games of local interest, however, were brought to a conclusion—a very decided conclusion—on Saturday, Highgate beating Clapham by 17 goals to nil, while in a contest between the second contingents of the same clubs, Highgate notched another success—10 to 1.

Annie Allen, a homeless needlewoman, who, on Wednesday was charged at Tottenham with being drunk and incapable, pleaded that she had a weak heart. As a result the following conversation ensued:—

Alderman Huggett: And a weak will.

Prisoner: I'm all right if I don't walk too much.

Alderman Huggett: And drink too much. Why did you give a wrong name?

Prisoner: I don't remember giving any name.

Alderman Huggett: Weak memory as well. You had better have another seven days.

Mr. Charles Townley is on "the stump"; he desires the electors of Canonbury ward to re-elect him to the Islington Borough Council. It is at such a period that Mr. Townley is heard at his best; there are occasions, even in pantomine, when he is not extremely interesting. Here is an extract from his election address:—

The Council was good enough to appoint me one of the two Trustees for Islington at the Alexandra Park and Palace, and in that capacity I was able, as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, to commence a great work for the people in endeavouring to make the Northern resort a source of health and culture for the masses. I framed its policy, gathered a collection of art and other treasures, and established what might have been a Kensington Museum, and Albert Hall, and a Kew Gardens combined, but, unhappily, the vaulting ambition of a single Trustee to run the place as a third-rate speculative show frustrated my intentions and compelled my resignation of the chairmanship.

There is plenty more of a similar character but the compositor warns one that his stock of "I's" is not an unknown quantity.

FREE CHURCH COUNCILLORS At Woodberry Down.

MEETING OF TOTTENHAM, EDMONTON, & ENFIELD COUNCIL.

On Monday a triple event in connection with the Tottenham, Edmonton, and Enfield Free Church Council took place at Woodberry Down Baptist Church, Seven Sisters'-road. The first item was a sermon preached by the Rev. W. J. Dawson, of Highbury, in which he made an earnest appeal to Free Churchmen to strive might and main against the materialism of the present day. This was followed by a conference which the Rev. Richard Richards opened with the reading of a pamphlet issued by the National Council of Evangelical Free Churches on the subject of "The Electoral Duty of Free Churchmen." Amongst the leading features of the work were suggestions for organisation, the advisability of election campaigns being formed in every district, the publication of a Free Church manifesto, and the distribution of literature. It further advised the formation of separate electoral committees for canvassing, and in places where candidates were found to be unfavonrable to the Free Church policy that favourable candidates should be adopted and strenuously supported.

Mr. Thomas Smith, of Enfield, thought that if an appeal was made to the country early in the new year, it would be considerably to the advantage of the Free Churches, inasmuch as they would find that the new register gave them increased strength. Whether a candidate was up for municipal, County Council, or Parliamentary election, they would have to obtain from him a definite pledge, and if such candidate would give them that definite pledge, then they must take off their coats and go into the battle, for they must be enthusiastic on behalf of the man who would be sincere in his pledges and promises to them.

Dr. Ridge, of Enfield, believed that the confusion of their enemies on the fiscal question was the beginning of the end.

The Rev. E. Stanley Tape (president of the Council) ridiculed a suggestion made by the previous speaker that the children in public schools might be given denominational instruct on in groups on certain days in the week. "What a pretty spectacle," he said, "would this be of seeing sect fighting sect on the floors of our public schools." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Clarke Williams, of the Tottenham Citizens' League, urged that Free Churchmen were responsible to a large extent for the present state of affairs. They had been asleep, and it was time they woke up. They had been snubbed and insulted both locally and in Parliament, and yet at the ballot-box they had displayed little or no interest.

A resolution pledging the Council to do all in its power towards carrying out the recommendations of the National Free Church Council was carried unanimously.

At a largely-attended evening meeting the Rev. E. Stanley Tape moved a resolution stating that it was the duty of every constituency not to allow discussions on fiscal proposals, or even on War Office abuses, to monopolise public attention, but to require from any Parliamentary candidate seeking the Free Church vote a distinct pledge that he would vote for the amendment of the Education Acts of 1902 and 1903. (Applause.)

In seconding, the Rev. J. Edmunds said they did not ask for favour, but only for justice, and for justice they meant to fight until they won the day. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. Morgan Gibbon, of Stamford Hill, in supporting, said their opponents were in dead earnest. Free Churchmen were not dealing with hypocrites. They were dealing with men who believed that theirs was the one church of Christ in that island, and would have every man accept it as the one church if they could. (Hear. hear.) Well, Nonconformists also had their ideals. They were not Nonconformists for fun. They were there to fight that thing, and he wanted every Nonconformist to ask himself the question—What business had he to be a Nonconformist unless he was opposed to those Education Acts? (Hear hear.)

The resolution was carried by acclamation. Other speakers followed.

Previous to the evening meeting, solos were rendered by Miss Smallman and Mr. H. Neal, and an organ recital given by Mr. Vincent L. Edward.

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HARRINGAY'S "HIGHER" HEADMASTER.

UNANIMOUS APPOINTMENT.

135 APPLICATIONS.

On Tuesday evening the Hornsey Education Committee met for the last time prior to the development of Hornsey from a district to a borough. Mr. E. W. Sloper (chairman) presided, and among those present were Miss E Hunt-Cooke, Miss F. E. Straker, Revs. St. Clair Donaldson and J. H. Greaves, Dr H. B. Brackenbury, Messrs. B. D. Mackenzie, W. G. Barrenger, J. Butler, W. W. Kelland, M.A., D. J. Chamberlin, C. D. Dixey, and J. W. Fox.

The five selected members of the Schools Management Committee having "very carefully" considered the 135 applications for the post of head master to Hornsey's (Harringay) higher elementary school made a recommendation to the sub-committee, the result of which was that they interviewed the following six candidates:

Mr. F. H. Hayward, D. Litt., M.A., B.Sc., organising teacher in the Okehampton District of Devon.

Mr. Frederick Horner, B.A., LL.B., principal of the Coventry Pupil Teachers Centre.

Mr. Sydney Pontefract, B.A., Assistant Master in the Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith.

Mr. Horace E. Piggott, M.A., Ph.D (Jena), lecturer in Education at the Hartley Institute, Southampton.

Mr. James Wallis, B.A. headmaster of the Wolverhampton Higher Grade School.

Mr. Jesse West, B.A, B.Sc., headmaster of the Wolverhampton Higher Grade Secondary School.

After careful consideration of the qualifications of the several candidates, the sub-committee recommended that it should be a recommendation to the Council that Mr. Horace E. Pigott, M.A., Ph. D., should be appointed upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Council's scale of salaries for head and assistant teachers, head master of the Hornsey Higher Elementary School, Mattison-road, at a salary according to the aforesaid scale, viz., £350 a year: the engagement to date from the 1st January, 1904, and to be determinable, on either side, by three months' notice, ending on the last day of any calendar month, given by or to the Education Committee, such notice, if given during the first year of service, not to include the month of August.

In reference to the other appointments Mr. Greaves mentioned that this was their last batch of apprentices.

The proposition was afterwards agreed to, as was one appointing Miss Ellen Emily Barber temporarily as an assistant mistress. Miss Barber completed satisfactorily on the 10th September, her three years' course as a "Colonel Bird's Scholar" in the Camden School for Girls and the North London Collegiate School for Girls; she has since passed the Matriculation Examination of the London University, and she proposes to enter, in September next, the London Day Training College for Teachers.

Mr. Greaves referred in complimentary terms to Miss Barbers successes.

Mr. Greaves, who moved the appointment of Dr. Piggott, said this was the most important appointment the Education Authority had had to make, and the committee had felt it to be their duty to go outside to find a master who should establish and organise this school which was a very different institution to those they had formerly set up in their midst. Besides possessing excellent qualifications Dr. Piggott was young enough to have all the vigour necessary for the work, and they all sincerely trusted they had found the man who would organise the school in such a way that it would be a conspicuous success. Mr. Greaves also commented on the fact that, although there werr other "higher elementary" schools in the kingdom, they were conducted in buildings which had been adapted to the purpose; Hornsey had the distinction of being the first municipality to erect specially-designed buildings for this class of school. Therefore, he hoped it would in every way not only be a success, but an example for other authorities to follow.

Mr. Grayson seconded the proposition which was unanimously adopted.

HOUSEBREAKING AT HARRINGAY.

At the Highgate Police-court on Tuesday Albert Bach, 56, watchmaker, of 37, Newport-court, Charing Cross-road, was charged with breaking and entering a house at Harringay and stealing a watch and other articles, value £3. There was an alternative charge on the sheet of receiving the property knowing it to have been stolen.

Chief-inspector Fox, of New Scotland-yard, deposed to visiting the prisoner's shop, with other officers, the previous day, and as they entered he noticed prisoner put a cloth over a number of articles, including those produced. Witness spoke to him, and he said, "I have just taken them out of a bowl to get them ready for sale. Its broken stuff." That morning prisoner said he had had the articles for months.

Mr. Rees Davies, retired draper, of 85, Seymour-road, Harringay, said his house was forcibly entered on the 4th inst., and the articles produced stolen.

Inspector Fox produced an assortment of articles of jewellery, and said some had been identified in another case, and there would be further charges.

Mr. Dix Lewis remanded prisoner, who said, "I am quite innocent of the breaking and entering."

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

This week's "bill" at the Holloway Empire is, as usual, very attractive, for its various items are all calculated to assist in diverting one's mind from the dismal weather and to act as a tonic to brace one up for further discussions on "Fiscalitis." The Jees are there again, and their "Musical Smithy" is thoroughly appreciated by those who enjoy clever manipulations. A good pantomimic sketch is contributed by the Alfonso Troupe, who show "Calamities in the Kitchen" that would make the chair of any ordinary householder stand on end for the rest of his natural life. Other lever sketch artistes are Nelson and Thomas. Miss Marie Collins contributes some well rendered songs, and Espinosa and Neilson show themselves to be clever dancers. Some amusing patter comes from Charles and Harry Rich, while Phillips and Terrys' "Revolt of Man," if not quite in accordance with Sir Walter Besant's account of that tragedy, is thoroughly amusing. As balancers, the Maningos are inimitable and show marvellous powers in their head to head act. A clever aquatic exhibition is given by James Finney and his sister Marie. To keep everyone thoroughly up-to-date, the American Bioscope gives excellent living pictures of recent occurrences.

LEFT-HANDED OATH.

In the course of a case at Tottenham, a witness held out his left hand for the testament and the observant magistrate remarked, "Right hand, please."

Witness: Can't.

Police-sergeant David (holding up the empty right sleeve of the witness): He hasn't got one sir.

Witness was sworn with the Testament in his left hand.

Miss Hocken, who was previously appointed an assistant mistress, has been assigned to Harringay School (infants).

MR. SLOPER'S ADIEU.

"EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO AVOID RELIGIOUS STRIFE."

When routine business had been dealt with at Tuesday's meeting of the Hornsey Education Authority, Dr. Brackenbury (vice chairman) submitted a resolution to which most hearty support was accorded. In proposing that the cordial thanks of the committee should be given to Mr. E. W. Sloper (the chairman) for the able and courteous manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office, Mr. Brackenbury remarked that Mr. Sloper's tenure of the position had not been a lengthy one, but it had not been an altogether easy task to conduct for the first time the business of a committee of a composite order such as that was, but Mr. Sloper's desire to be impartial and his clear thinking and courteous expression of opinion had helped the committee over all difficulties. For all those qualifications they wished to thank Mr. Sloper. (Applause.).

Mr. James Butler (former chairman of the Hornsey School Board), as representing the co-opted members and the members of the late School Board, wished to second the resolution. Everyone who had sat there under the presidency of Mr. Sloper could not fail to acknowledge his ability, his fairness, and his courtesy. That small recognition was the least that was due to him. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was adopted with unanimity.

Mr. Sloper, in acknowledgment, remarked that he valued very highly the kind expressions of opinion. When it was seen that the District Council would have to take over the educational work, and to consider how the Education Committee was to be constituted, he, for one, determined that he would do everything possible to avoid religious strife. (Hear, hear.) He was encouraged to think from what had been said that they had succeeded in that, and he hoped they would continue in the same way. Mr. Sloper then expressed the thanks of the elected members to those who had been co-opted, and especially those who were members of the late School Board, whose long experience had been of great value to them. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Sloper finally intimated that, owing to business engagements, he would not be among them when the new committee was formed. However, he hoped they would continue as they had begun, and all religious strife would be kept out of the committee's deliberations. (Applause)

Finsbury Licensing Sessions.

A meeting of the Finsbury Licensing Magistrates was held at the Sessions-house Clerkenwell Green, on Monday, Mr. J. J Goode presiding, for the purpose of hearing applications for the transfer of licensed victuallers, beer-houses, &c. The Bench agreed to alterations being made in respect to a beer-house at 54, Hampden-road, Holloway. In respect to an application to put in a new shop front of the licensed premises at 579, Holloway-road, it was reported that when some members of the Bench visited the house the plans were not there. The Chairman said that the rules of the Bench not having been complied with, the application would be refused. The Bench refused to grant the application for alterations at 16, St. Jude street, Islington. In respect to alterations proposed to be carried out at the Red Lion, St John Street-road, Clerkenwell, the Bench adjourned the application to allow of amended plans being submitted.

VICTUALLERS' LICENSES.

Spanish Patriots, 14, White Lion-street Clerkenwell, from Reuben Barbey to Alfred Edis Drake.

Queen Victoria, Skinner-street, Clerkenwell, from David Thomas Hobbs to Leopold Walter Chitty.

Welsh Harp, Aylesbury-street, Clerkenwell, to Elizabeth Mady, the widow and administratrix of Frederick Rowe Madge deceased.

Bee Hive, 1, Burnard-terrace, Islington, from Lydia Hiscock to George Lappage.

Cardinal Wolsey, 10, King Henry-street, Islington, from George Lyndhurst Nicholson to Frederick Phillips.

City of York, York-road, King's Cross, to Florence Marie Gentry, widow and executrix of Edward Gentry, deceased.

Devonshire Castle, 67, Devonshire-road, Islington, from Bertram William Taylor to John Lamborn.

Duke of Wellington, 119, Ball's Pond-road, from John Welby to Mrs. Alice Eliza Linford.

Lord Nelson, 105, Copenhagen-street, Caletonian-road, from William Alfred Atkinson do James Joseph Willis.

Offord Arms, 388, Caledonian-road, from Alfred Aylett Moore and Samuel Thomas Leigh to Frederick Robert Webster. The application was refused.

Prince of Denmark, 151, Junction-road, Upper Holloway, from John Wilson Higgins to Henry Thomas Whale.

Prince of Wales, St. James's-road, Holloway, from George James Belcher to William Josiah Brooks.

Queen's Arms, 19, Caledonian-road, from Frederick Robert Webster to Ernest Pickard and Frederick Williams.—Mr. Bodkin, who appeared in support of the application, said that the house had been purchased by the Caterers, Limited, and it was proposed that the license should be held by the secretary, Mr. Pickard, and Mr. Frederick Williams, the resident manager. This was the first license asked for, and it was intended to make a prominent feature of supplying food, &c. The application was granted.

Stapleton Hall Tavern, 2, Crouch Hill.—This was an adjourned application under the 14th Section, from Matthew James Wesson to Edward Cecil Moore and Ernest Walter Edwards. The application on the last occasion was opposed by Mr. Dewey, town clerk of Islington, on the ground that the rates had not been paid. It was now reported the rates had been paid, and the Bench thereupon granted the application.

Royal Oak, 37, Waterloo-street, Islington, to Francis Edward Prettlejohn and James Raymond, executor of Mr. James Kettle (deceased).

Spread Eagle, 142, Whitecross-street, St. Luke's, from Amos Harrington to Mrs. Alice Maud Wilson.

BEER-HOUSES, &c.

10, Collier-street, Pentonville, beer-on and billiards, from John Lamborn to Charles Morgan.

BEER-ON.

164, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, beer-on, from Matthew W. King Jennings to James Thomas Hood.

149, Shepperton-road, Islington, beer-on and billiards, from Louisa Sarah Ann Wright to Edward Dawson.

9, Sidney-street, Islington, beer-on and billiards, from George Mizen to Arthur Witherick.

79, St. John-street, St. Sepulchre, beer-on, from Elias Everett to Alfred Church.

15, Queensbury-street, Islington, beer-on and billiards, from Mr. Josiah Perkins Gorrell to Albert Edward Hazeltine.

BEER-OFF.

180, Drayton-park, Holloway, beer, wine, spirits-off, from Ebenezer George Burn to Heinrich Bender.

432, Essex-road, beer, wine, and spirits-off, from Alice Ruth Greenaway to Edward Robert Powell.

17, Hamilton-road, Islington, beer, wine, spirits, and sweets-off, from Isaac Smith to Harry May.

39, Junction-road, Upper Holloway, beer, wine, and spirits off, from Agnes Manning Gregory to Frances Howson French.