

THE WEATHER

Toronto, Dec. 29.—A ridge of high pressure extends from Ontario to Texas, while pressure is falling rapidly over the central portion of the continent and of the Atlantic coast. Weather has been fair and rather mild in the West and fair and colder in Ontario and Western Quebec. Light snow has fallen in Eastern Quebec and light snow or rain is reported from the Maritime Provinces.

Table with weather forecasts for various locations including St. John, Dawson, Prince Rupert, Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops, Calgary, Edmonton, Prince Albert, Regina, Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw, Winnipeg, Port Arthur, White River, Parry Sound, London, Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, and Halifax.

Below Forecast: Maritime — Northwest gales, decreasing tonight; some light local snow at first but mostly fair and turning much colder.

Northern New England — Fair and colder Friday; Saturday increasing cloudiness and warmer; northwest and north winds; probably gales.

AROUND THE CITY

WANT INFORMATION. The secretary of the Board of Trade is in receipt of a letter from a firm in Prague, desiring to know the names of wine dealers in the province. The letter has been referred to the New Brunswick Liquor Commission.

CALENDARS RECEIVED. The Standard has received fine calendars from the Canada Printing Co., Ltd., Toronto, the Royal Bank of Canada, and Mutual Life Assurance Co., of which Hugh Cannell, Prince William street, is manager for New Brunswick.

MET WITH ACCIDENT. Miss Mary Gledson, 100 Waterloo street, is confined to her home as a result of a fall on King street. She suffered serious injury to her thigh, and although no bones were broken she is able to move with great difficulty but is reported to be recovering slowly.

BRAZIL ROCK BUOY. The Board of Trade were advised yesterday by J. C. Chesley, agent of the Marine Department here, that he had received word from Halifax to the effect that instructions had been given to the Coast Co. of Yarmouth to look out for and bring into port the buoy which had gone adrift from Brazil Rock, which at last reports was seen off the Larcher.

MILITARY ACTIVITIES. The Saturday afternoon badminton and tea at the Armory will be postponed until Monday (New Year's) afternoon on account of the preparations being made for the dance on New Year's night. There will also be a reception in the officers' mess from 12 to 1 o'clock on the same day, in revival of an old custom.

Captain E. L. M. Burns, who left the post of works officer here last June to take a course in the School of Military Engineering at Chatham, England, returned on the S. Minerva. He left for Montreal for a short visit before taking up his duties at his new station, Halifax.

Major E. R. Vinco, M. C., left for Woodstock on Dec. 22 for a short holiday.

Sentenced To Ten Years At Dorchester

Harry A. Morrissey Given Long Term for Robbing the Mails—Liquor Case Heard. A sentence of ten years in the Maritime Penitentiary at Dorchester was imposed on Harry A. Morrissey yesterday morning in his possession of mail reaching its destination, and cited the maximum penalty for interference with it, namely, life imprisonment. He said that he had taken into consideration everything in favor of the accused, but was forced to be bound by the law, and would therefore impose a sentence of ten years.

Edward McGrath was before the magistrate yesterday afternoon on a charge of having liquor in his possession other than in his private dwelling. Sub-inspector Henderson told of going to the defendant's place of business on Prince Edward street on Saturday at 3 o'clock, and finding a still of liquor in the toilet of the kitchen. Sub-inspector Killen corroborated this evidence. The defendant was sent below until the necessary deposit of \$500 could be obtained.

Commercial Men Enjoy Smoker

Happy Crowd of Travellers Assembled in Pythian Castle Hall—Interesting Addresses Delivered—Hotel Rates Knocked.

It was a happy crowd of commercial travellers that gathered at the Pythian Castle Hall last evening to amuse the "peeps of peace" and celebrate the season of good will and fellowship in a royal style, and that the gathering was a success goes without saying, as in everything which the "peeps of peace" of St. John undertake, whether it be the selling of their regular line or putting over a victory Loan drive.

G. D. Ellis, president of the Maritime Travellers' Association, was in the chair and delivered the opening address, extending a warm welcome to the visitors. One part of the programme must have caused the ears of the hotel proprietors of the province to burn for in the discussion on hotel rates some burning language was used and a resolution was unanimously adopted that hotel rates must come down, and that right away or there would be something doing.

The programme opened with "O Canada," and this was followed by a male quartette composed of Messrs. Holder, Charlton, Girvan and Wood, after which W. S. Fisher gave a most interesting address on the possibilities of Canada and the Maritime Provinces in particular. As illustrative of the position already attained by this country, he stated that the exports of Canada were two and a half times those of the United States, per capita of population. He then took up the almost unlimited opportunities for development of the practically untouched natural resources of the Dominion and of these provinces by the sea. He pointed out to the travellers how much they could do to assist in developing the country by boosting it whenever they had an opportunity, and urging them all to be optimists on the road.

The next number on the programme was some "Scotch" by Jock Rossiey, and the audience appreciated very much the brand he had to offer. This was followed by a number of choruses, in which all joined with vigor. Next came a solo by Clarence Girvan, which met with approval and a call for more. He was followed by a little more "Scotch," this time in the form of selections on the bapbies by Alexander Cameron, and this, too, met with favor.

The chairman then called on Canon Armstrong, and he gave a stirring address, laying down some principles which ought to guide the commercial traveller in his daily life. This was the season of the year when the thoughts of men turned to the birth of the Saviour and it was an inspiring thought that to men who were following their daily avocation the news first came, and it was the men who were on the job that heard the glad news, not the fellow who was away sporting or loafing.

Men should be clean and straight in their business life; it was much more important to do clean business than it was to do big business, and his definition of clean business was that which benefited everyone and harmed no one. Another principle he would have them adopt was loyalty. Loyalty to their homes, to their homes and to their home town—and in the latter connection he made a plea for boosters for St. John. He also urged them to think sometimes of the higher things, and give a part of the time to God and the church, and thereby make of themselves better citizens.

Inquest On Death of Chas. E. Atkinson

Jury Recommend Children be Not Allowed to Coast on Hills That Cross Main Thoroughfares.

That no blame could be attached to anyone for the unfortunate death of Charles Edward Atkinson, five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Atkinson, No. 177 City Road, who was run over by a motor car driven by Dr. John R. Nugent at the corner of Richey street and City Road, last Monday afternoon, was the verdict of the coroner's jury who heard the evidence last evening.

The jury made the following recommendation: "We the jury thoroughly realize the necessity for outdoor sport and pleasure in the lives of the children of our city, but feel that steps should be taken both by the civic authorities and by the parents of the children to provide with danger signals to warn drivers of vehicles using the intersecting streets, and would especially call attention to the Commission of Public Safety to see that this recommendation is observed." "Signed—H. J. Keyes, foreman, Wm. Wheaton, J. J. Merryfield, W. V. Hatfield, Francis McElriarty, D. J. Stockford, John K. Parson."

In charging the jury Coroner H. A. Perter stated that his purpose in ordering the inquest was more with the purpose of bringing to the minds of parents the dangers run by their children when allowed an indiscriminate choice of coasting places. He observed that motor drivers in every part of the city were complaining of the reckless chances taken by children in coasting, and which were of a nature as to render even the most careful motorist little chance of avoiding an accident.

Clayton Atkinson. Clayton Atkinson, father of the deceased child was the first witness called. He stated that his son left his home at about 4:30 Monday afternoon after receiving permission to go down and watch the skaters in the Victoria Rink. A few minutes later he looked out of the window and seeing a crowd gathered on the road he ran down to investigate. On arrival he found his child severely injured held in Dr. Nugent's arms. He said the doctor told him to place the child in his car and together they started for the hospital.

The car stalled however, and they were forced to signal another car which took them to the hospital. On arrival there Doctor Nugent after examining the child pronounced him dead. Mr. Atkinson said he found later that the boy's chum, Harry Fowler, had learned Charles his sled, and that the little fellow was sliding down the Richey hill for the second time when the accident occurred.

It was about five o'clock then, clear and cold, and the dusk falling. He did not think Richey's hill was a fit place for coasting because of the amount of traffic that passed along City Road. There was always a number of cars exceeding the speed limit, and two lines of street cars passed by. He had been told by several people that the car was a very fast child but after investigating their stories did not put much credence in them. As far as he could see the child had coasted between the front and rear wheels of the car.

Retention of the Returned Soldiers

A. I. Machum, local secretary of the Great War Veterans' Association is in receipt of a telegram from the Dominion secretary of the association, C. G. McNeil, of Ottawa, stating that the Dominion Command is urging upon the Government the retention in the Post Office Department through out the winter of those returned soldiers who were given temporary employment during the Christmas season upon the Government's retention of the discharge from the service on the 31st of this month. The G. W. V. A. is urging the step as a means of relieving the unemployment situation.

Farewell Dinner To Ralph H. Watts

Popular Advertising Manager Leaving City—Guest of St. John Advertising Club and Retail Merchants' Assn.

Glowing tributes were paid to Ralph H. Watts, advertising manager of the Telegraph and Times, and keen expressions of regret at his coming departure from the city were voiced at the complimentary banquet tendered to him last evening at Bond's by the St. John Advertising Club and St. John branch of the Retail Merchants' Association. About sixty persons, representing these organizations and the different newspapers in the city, sat down to a sumptuous repast. R. A. Macaulay and F. A. Dykeman acted as joint hosts for the evening's programme, which consisted of several toasts and a reading by one of the members present.

Mr. Watts who, for a number of years, has been advertising manager of the Telegraph and Times newspapers, has accepted a position with the advertising department of the Evening Register in New Haven, Conn., and will leave to take over his new duties after the beginning of the new year. He will be greatly missed, not only by his business associates, but also by the host of friends he has made while living in this city. During the course of the evening Mr. Watts was presented with a handsome travelling bag as a token of the esteem in which he is held by those present.

After the array of good things had been disposed of, a lengthy toast list was carried out. R. A. Macaulay, president of the St. John Advertising Club, proposed the toast to the King, which was responded to by the singing of the National Anthem. Mr. Macaulay then went on to pay a tribute to the sterling character and principles of the guest of the evening. He mentioned the fact that Mr. Watts was an American although he had spent the last eighteen years in Canada. The speaker stated that a man abroad was always an ambassador of his country and he hoped that Mr. Watts, in his new sphere, would retain the same friendly feeling for Canada as he had while living here. Mr. Macaulay made mention of the friendly feelings existing between the two sister nations and in concluding wished Mr. Watts every success in his new sphere of endeavor.

R. E. Armstrong, secretary of the Advertising Club, then took the opportunity of presenting to Mr. Watts, in behalf of those present, a very handsome travelling bag as a token of the esteem in which they held him. In a few well-chosen words Mr. Drummond expressed his regret at Mr. Watts' departure from the city. He described the guest as a great friend of the merchants and as a great giver of service to the merchants and buyers of the city and province. He also mentioned Mr. Watts as one of the men who had helped bring the Retail Merchants' Club into existence and stressed the great amount of work done by him in the various Victory Loan campaigns of recent years.

In reply to the last toast, Mr. Watts said that it was a most complimentary and pleasing to witness a demonstration accorded him, and that words were inadequate to express his innermost feelings on the matter. He thanked the speakers for their kindness and, in closing, said that they were the best boys on earth in the best city of the world, a city that shows the best spirit of hospitality, cordiality and friendship.

W. H. Golding, then rose to propose the toast to "The Prebs." He cited several instances in which former newspaper men of this city had distinguished themselves in other spheres and he felt assured that Mr. Watts would emulate their success in New Haven. E. W. McCready, managing director of the Telegraph and Times, responded to the last toast. He echoed the expressions of regret at Mr. Watts' departure, voiced by the previous speakers and paid a glowing tribute to Watts as an advertising man and a worker. He also said that it was a great privilege for the newspaper business to have had a man of Mr. Watts' caliber at its helm and that it was a great loss to the business men and the community.

S. K. Smith, in proposing the toast

Fireplace Furnishings. In new and conventional designs, both in polished brass and black finishes, which have just arrived, are well worthy of your critical inspection. This new line embraces: ANDIRONS: Fenders, Spark Guards, Fireirons, Wood Baskets, Coal Hods. —ALSO— we offer a complete range of the ordinary Fire Shovels, Pokers, Coal Scuttles, Hearth Brushes, etc., which await you in our HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT—STREET FLOOR. W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED. Store Hours:—8.30 to 6. Open Saturday evenings until 10.

"Perfection" Oil Heaters. Mean—Cozy Comfort and Health. Give inexpensive and ample heat for health and home comfort. Light, easily carried from place to place, give ten hours or more of cheery warmth on a gallon of coal oil. A Perfection Oil Heater is warmth insurance in any room. NO DIRT, LITTER OR ASHES. Emerson & Fisher, Ltd., 25 Germain St.

Millinery Prices Slashed For Big Clearance. This is a splendid opportunity to get a new hat to wear the balance of the season. The most stylish models are all reduced for this big final clearance and the prices are so low you will probably select more than one. IMPORT MODELS—Exclusive hats in Fuschia, Rust, Navy, Taupe and Black, with French and Glycerine Ostrich trimmings, also latest metal materials and flowers. To clear, \$8.50 and \$5.50. DOMESTIC MODELS in right up-to-the-minute styles and best quality, \$1.98. SALE OF COATS Reg. \$45.00 Now \$18.75. Macaulay Bros & Co. LIMITED. SALE OF COATS Reg. \$45.00 Now \$18.75.

The International Joint Commission. H. A. Powell, K. C. Returns from Meeting Held in Washington—Report Given Out in About Two Weeks. The report has been completed and as soon as the appendix has been typed it will be filed with the two Governments, who will then be in a position to give it publicity as they choose, which it is expected will be in about a fortnight. The commission is composed of: A. Magrath, of Ottawa; H. A. Powell, K. C., of St. John, and Sir Willis Hearst, of Toronto, for Great Britain; and Senator Gardiner, Senator Cairns and Senator Marcus Smith, for the United States. The international conference was a session while Mr. Powell was in Washington and he said there was great deal of interest manifested in its doings by the people of the State. WORK FOR THE UNEMPLOYED. A well established Life Insurance Company wants reliable, active agents in unrepresented districts. Liberal remuneration - guaranteed. Apply P. O. Box 854, St. John, N. B. Clifton House, all meals. Captain Alfred Howard, of St. John, N. B., accompanied by Howard and child, are in St. John spending the holidays.