

Social and Personal

Mr. and Mrs. James Oastler and children arrived from the West last Saturday, and are visiting Mrs. Oastler's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Andrews, of Minister's Island. Mrs. Oastler and the children expect to spend the winter here.

Mrs. George Elliott and Mabel Elliott left on Thursday for Boston, where they will spend the Christmas season with Mrs. Elliott's mother, Mrs. Wetmore.

Mrs. Allan Grimmer returned on Friday last from Fredericton. While there she had the pleasure of seeing her brother, Sapper W. S. Babbitt, who is now home from the front on sick-leave.

Mrs. J. D. Grimmer has returned to her home in Chamcook from a visit in St. Stephen.

Owing to the ill-health of the Rector, Mr. George Elliott, there will be no service in All Saints Church last Sunday evening.

Miss Margaret Graham was a passenger on Saturday night's train for Boston.

Mrs. R. W. Churchill, of Hantsport, N. S., wife of Capt. Churchill, is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Armstrong. She is accompanied by her daughter, Miss Churchill.

Sir Thomas and Lady Tait, with Miss Wainwright, expect to spend Christmas in Toronto, with Mrs. George Cockburn.

Lady (Thomas) Tait entertained at luncheon today, at the Mount Royal Club in honor of Mrs. Frank Pearce Fraser, who arrived in town this morning from New York, and Miss Brenda Williams.

Mr. T. A. Hart, M. P., has returned to town from Pleasant Ridge.

Mrs. Ralph Sharp, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Sharp, left on Thursday for St. John, whence she will sail for England on the S. S. *Scandinavian*.

Dr. Amos and his wife arrived on Monday and are visiting his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Amos, at their home on Water Street.

Dr. Amos has been employed in the manufacture of munitions and is now recuperating from an attack of gas poisoning caused by the nature of his work.

Mrs. W. J. Rollins received on Wednesday afternoon and evening, for the first time since her marriage, and was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Graham, and by Mrs. Rollins, sr. The reception was held in the residence of Mrs. D. C. Rollins, where the newly married couple are now living.

The usher was Miss Cummings, and Mrs. D. G. Hanson poured the tea, having as her helpers Miss Irene Rollins and Miss Hewitt.

Mrs. Fred Stevenson was the hostess at a very delightful tea on Tuesday, when she entertained a large number of her friends. Mrs. Fred Andrews presided at the tea table, and the refreshments were served by Miss Main and Miss Nellie Stuart. Owing to the inclement weather the guest of honor, Mrs. Oastler, was unable to be present.

Mr. Herbert Lamb was called away on Wednesday to New York by an urgent message which stated that his wife's condition was very critical.

Mrs. Hazen Burton held, on Thursday afternoon and evening at the residence of Mrs. Thomas Burton on Water Street, her first reception since her marriage.

Mrs. Hazen Burton, who is the most recent of the five brides now in town, was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Dyer, Elmville, and by her mother-in-law, Mrs. Thomas Burton. Mrs. Sydney Anning presided at the tea table, while Mrs. Cecil DeWolf, Miss Carson Rigby and Miss Helen Burton served refreshments.

The public examinations of Prince Arthur School will be held as follows: Grammar School, Miss Giberson, Tuesday, December 19, 2 p.m. Grades I and II, Miss Shaw, Wednesday, December 20, 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. Grades III and IV, Miss Wade, Wednesday, December 20, 2.30 to 3.30. Grades V and VI, Miss McClellan, Thursday, December 21, 1.45 to 2.45. Grades VII and VIII, Miss Richardson, Thursday, December 21, 2.45 to 3.45.

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St. Stephen, N. B.

Local and General

There is now a splendid opening in the Beacon office for an intelligent, energetic and well-educated boy to learn the printing business. Our printing office is now one of the best equipped smaller offices in the Maritime Provinces, and there is no better place wherein to learn all the details of the printer's art. In the past the Beacon office has graduated a number of men who have gained enviable positions in the large establishments of the United States and elsewhere; and the opportunities are better to-day than ever before.

The members of the Baptist Sunday School will hold their annual Christmas Entertainment, with a Christmas tree, in Paul's Hall, Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7.30 p.m. A silver collection will be taken at the door.

A GOOD PRESENT for your daughter is a Remington Typewriter which is practically the gift of an independence and a paying profession.

A. M. Fraser, Halifax, N. S.

Winter has fairly set in. A thaw and heavy rain at the close of last week and the beginning of this, was followed by a lowering of the temperature and a down-fall of snow. On Wednesday night the thermometer must have approached the zero mark; and Thursday was a regular old-fashioned winter day, with the ground frozen hard and sufficient snow to make good sleighing. The undesirable feature of a "green Christmas" seems now to be altogether improbable this year.

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND

The local Treasurer, Mr. G. W. Babbitt, acknowledges receipt of the following payments to the Patriotic Fund:

Dec. 9. (Collected by John McMillan, Bocabec) Herbert Erskine, balance for year 1916, \$5.00
Max Groom, one month, 2.00
Sam Erskine, two months, .50
John McMillan, balance for year 1916, 2.50
Total, \$10.00

ST. ANDREWS MARKET PRICES

Dec. 14.

Butter, 35 per lb.
Eggs, 50 per doz.
Chicken, 20 per lb.
Fowl, 16 per lb.
Duck, 24 per lb.
Turkey, 24 per lb.

Beef, 98 to 10 per lb.
Pork, 12 per lb.
Mutton, 10 per lb.
Lamb, 16 per lb.

Potatoes, \$1.00 per bbl.
Apples, \$2.00 to 4.00 per bbl.
Cabbages, \$1.00 per bbl.
Squash, \$2.50 per bbl.

Pumpkin—season over.
Turnip, \$1.00 per bbl.
Carrots, \$1.50 per bbl.
Beets, \$1.50 per bbl.

Hay, loose, \$12.00 per ton.
Hay, pressed, \$14.00 per ton.
Straw, \$8.00 per ton.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Dr. J. H. Frink, treasurer of the Belgian Relief Fund, to-day received from Mr. F. H. Grimmer, St. Andrews, secretary-treasurer of Charlotte County, two cheques for \$1,500, the amount of the assessment of that county for Belgian relief. The letter is self-explanatory.

St. Andrews, Dec. 12.
Dr. S. H. Frink, St. John:
Dear Sir,—I beg to hand you herewith my cheques as secretary-treasurer of the Bank of Nova Scotia, St. Andrews, for five hundred dollars (\$500.00), in payment of the amount of the assessment, fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500.00) ordered on the municipality of Charlotte during the current year for Belgian Relief fund.

Yours very truly,
F. H. Grimmer,
Municipality of Charlotte

—St. John Globe.

FIRE AT ST. GEORGE

A disastrous fire broke out in St. George at 4 a.m. on Friday, December 8, and before it was brought under control it destroyed seventeen buildings. The fire started in a vacant house on Carleton street. The building was situated in the Young block, and the fire caught in an adjoining building occupied by George McCallum, jeweller; Frank Murphy, general store; and George McHugh and M. Lovett. The fire then spread to a residence on Portage street occupied by John O'Brien, Town Clerk, with the Post Office on the ground floor. A considerable quantity of furniture stored in the building was lost. In the rear of this building, which also belonged to the Young estate, two barns were burned. An adjoining building owned by Mrs. K. P. Gilmore, and occupied by T. Stewart McGroun, and in the rear another barn was destroyed.

Continuing along Carleton street the fire destroyed a building occupied by George F. Meating, merchant tailor; a store owned by H. V. Dewar and occupied by Alexander D. Heron, grocer; a residence and barn owned by George McCormick; two buildings owned by D. Bassen, of St. John, and occupied by Barton Blundell, and Ralph Doyle, barber; a building owned by Dr. Alexander and occupied by Miss Laura Mooney, dry goods; a garage owned by Dr. Alexander; and another residence owned by the Gilmore estate and occupied by M. Moore.

St. George possesses no fire-fighting apparatus, and the fire had to be fought by a bucket brigade which did great service, water being brought also on truck wagons. A building had to be dynamited to prevent the further spread of the fire; and a change in the wind was a factor which probably prevented the destruction of nearly the whole town. The total loss was in the neighbourhood of \$50,000, of which only a small amount was covered by insurance. The heaviest loser was the Young Estate, managed by Mr. E. A. Young, St. John West.

U. S. GOVERNMENT LIFTS EMBARGO ON CANADIAN POTATOES

In order to reduce prices of food staples the U. S. Government on December 5th lifted the embargo existing on the importation of Canadian potatoes.

Shipments of potatoes, it was explained, must be certified to be as sound as is commercially practicable and to contain no more than 10 per cent of tubers showing traces of disease. Heretofore Canadian potatoes were admitted only at designated ports of entry. Under the amended rule importers must apply to the Federal Horticultural board for permits.

LORD SHAUGHNESSY'S VIEWS ON BRITISH CABINET CHANGES

Lord Shaughnessy, President of the C. P. R., arrived back from England this week. In an interview appearing in the *New York Press*, Lord Shaughnessy expressed in glowing terms of the part Canada is playing in the world war. He said: "Canadians have won a name which will forever distinguish them. Never will they be confused with other nationalities in this continent. Canada will, in fact, be a senior partner in the British Empire, bearing an equal share of the burdens, reaping an equal, proportionate share of the profits, and filling a prominent seat at the council table."

He further stated: "Mr. Lloyd George's elevation to the Premiership undoubtedly is the outcome of a desire on the part of the more aggressive party in the House of Commons to have a government that will prosecute the war with more vigor. The change merely indicates that the people of Great Britain wish to utilize every resource and every force at their command to insure victory."

"Britain wants peace just as soon as the demands made by her and her Allies are won from Germany. Anything less is not victory."

"The masterful way in which Britain is financing the war is no less her achievement than the achievements at the front. Her wealth and resources are almost limitless and are being freely and gladly pledged."

"This war is developing the individual. Every man, woman and child must do a share. Women in the United Kingdom are taking men's places at home. They have demonstrated that they can do the work men heretofore have done and just as efficiently. They work on the railways, manufacture munitions, do the farm work, in fact, there is nothing except the actual fighting in the trenches that they are not doing. Every woman at man's work puts another rifle on the firing line."

"As to Canada's future I have always been certain. The war has only hastened development. With the population nearly equivalent to that of New York State, and a territory larger than the United States, her possibilities are vast. The quality of her fighting and her share in the war have carried her name to remote corners. Before the war immigration was rapid, but not a measure to what it will be when peace is declared. I firmly believe that Canada will have an influx of population not unlike that in the United States about fifty years ago."

"A great deal of money and many thousands of settlers have already gone to Canada from the United States. The investor finds there a good field for his wealth, and the settler a fertile soil for his plough. Rewards have come quickly to those who have looked to the United States more than she ever did before for two reasons; money and men are plentiful here and the supply for overseas is cut off."

THE APPLES IN CANADA

There were 10,408,457 bushels of apples produced in Canada in 1910, according to the census of the following year. Of this quantity, 6,250,672 bushels were produced in Ontario, 1,696,382 bushels in Nova Scotia, 1,461,238 in Quebec and 575,377 in British Columbia. New Brunswick produced 272,886 bushels and Prince Edward Island 160,124 bushels. In Prairie Provinces apple-growing was in its infancy but there was every indication of development, as shown by the number of trees coming forward. These facts are pointed out in a valuable and most comprehensive bulletin recently issued, of which the Dominion Horticulturist, Mr. W. T. Macoun, is the author, and which can be had free on application to the Publications Branch, Department of agriculture, Ottawa. Mr. Macoun notes the prominent place the Dominion has come to occupy in the world's fruit industry and especially as regards the apple. He tells us that there are probably 3,000 named varieties, that 734 have been tested at the Central Experimental Farm and that 613 are now growing. He makes a survey of the different provinces, pointing out the varieties that are probably the best adapted to certain districts. Quebec is the oldest apple-growing province and Nova Scotia comes next, but Ontario is a long way the greatest producer, almost half the total. The Dominion Horticulturist, in 1911 not fewer than 1,734,000 barrels were packed and sold from the Annapolis and adjacent valleys in Nova Scotia. Mr. Macoun lists and describes the varieties suitable to Canada, records the results of the numerous experiments and tests at the Central Experimental Farm, gives complete instruction on the cultivation of the apple, describes in full the necessary treatment of the trees, advises as to the soil that is best adapted for orchard, says how disease and insects pests can be combated, counsels as to picking, packing, shipping and marketing, tells of the keeping qualities of different varieties, and, in short, has written a bulletin of 136 pages of the utmost worth to the apple-grower and all interested, or likely to be interested, in the industry.

"What did you do, sah, when big Brudder Tump called you a liar?" "Uh-weh, sah," replied small Brother Slink, "as de gen'lman an six feet high an weighs mighty nigh a ton, what could I do but move dat we make it noanamous?"

Judge.

"We usually spend three months at our cottage in the country. Would you be willing to go with us?" "No, mum, I would not. With good help as scarce as it is in the city I think I'd prefer working for somebody else and keeping close to the moving-picture shows."—*Detroit Free Press*.

Mr. Goodleigh—"I was surprised to see you in a helplessly intoxicated condition last evening." Tipple—"I was surprised myself. I thought I could stand a lot more."—*Boston Transcript*.

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All Next Week From
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