

THE WEATHER.

Maritime - Fresh Northwesterly winds, fair and colder, local snow flurries. Toronto, March 31.-The weather has been generally fair and cold throughout Canada today except that some local snow falls have occurred in the western provinces, and snow flurries in Ontario and Quebec. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson-4, 22. Alton-16, 28. Prince Rupert-32, 36. Victoria-38, 52. Kamloops-42, 68. Edmonton-20, 40. Battleford-28, 45. Prince Albert-16, 34. Calgary-24, 32. Moosejaw-24, 30. Qu'Appelle-18, 24. Winnipeg-5, 18. Port Arthur-12, 24. Parry Sound-16, 26. London-21, 32. Toronto-26, 32. Montreal-22, 38. St. John-34, 40. Halifax-36, 46. Lower Lawrence and Gulf-Fresh Northwesterly winds, fair and colder.

AROUND THE CITY

Boy Scouts in the Park. The Boy Scouts will have another run today. They will visit Rockwood Park and while there will take measurements of the lakes and other sections of the Park.

Sydney Ward Committee. The election of the Sydney Ward are requested to meet in King's Hall, St. James street, Monday evening, April 3, at 8 o'clock to organize for the elective commission plan.

Engagement Announced. Mr. and Mrs. J. Willard Smith announce the engagement of their daughter, Annie L., to Herbert W. Read, of Sackville, N. B. The wedding will take place on the 5th of April.

Promoted to Be Manager. The many friends of Daniel J. Borrett of Crouville, for the past two years connected with the firm of McLean & Holt, as bookkeeper, will be pleased to learn that he has recently been promoted to the position of manager. Mr. Borrett will take up his duties in that capacity today.

Artillery to Attend Funeral. The members of No. 5 Battery Artillery were supplied with uniforms at the Armory, West End, last evening, and with the regimental band will assemble at the armory tomorrow afternoon for the purpose of attending the funeral of James Ross.

Confirmation Services. Tomorrow, His Lordship Bishop Richardson, will officiate at confirmation services. In the morning he will confirm in St. George's church, and at seven o'clock in the evening he will administer confirmation in St. James' church, Broad street, to twenty-two candidates.

Concert and Candy Sale. Under the auspices of the Mission Band of St. David's church a pleasing entertainment was given last night. An interesting programme was carried out during the evening, the drills by the Scouts adding to the feature of the entertainment. A candy sale was conducted during the evening from which a considerable sum was realized.

Entertainment at Municipal Home. About thirty members of the Epworth League of the Portland Methodist church paid a visit to the Municipal Home last evening and gave an entertainment for the benefit of the inmates. An interesting programme of songs and recitations was carried out, games were indulged in and coffee and cake served. Mr. and Mrs. Austin had charge of the entertainment.

Bird Life in Springtime. There was a good attendance of the junior members of the Y. M. C. A. in the boys' rooms last night to hear A. Gordon Leavitt deliver a most interesting lecture on Bird Life in Springtime. During the course of the lecture Mr. Leavitt showed a number of charts which illustrated his subject and incidentally stated that a man or woman who shot a bird was guilty of a criminal offence.

New Post Office. This morning there will be opened a new post office known as the East St. John Post Office, and Rupert Taylor will be the postmaster. The office will be situated in Mr. Taylor's store on the corner of Mount Pleasant street and the Red Head Road. There will be a daily mail service here, and it will prove a great convenience to those residing in the vicinity. The Marsh Bridge post office is made into a money order office.

Case of Wife Beating. Yesterday afternoon a young married woman, who resides in the North End, called at the police court and swore out a warrant for the arrest of her husband, whose case claims has been acting badly of late. The woman presented an appearance that was pitiable, her left eye was swollen and discolored, her face was scratched, and she claimed that these injuries were caused through a beating from her husband.

The Pied Piper of Hamelin. In the Natural History rooms last evening, the members of the Junior Association of the Society gave a delightful entertainment. A large audience attended and the different items of the programme were received with marked appreciation. The Pied Piper of Hamelin was given by the Juniors, and it is doubtful if it has been given in better manner than last night. The solos were sung in excellent style, and the many voices in the choruses blended sweetly. The musical and literary programme which followed the cantata was unusually attractive.

Grand Concert. A grand concert will be given in the Seaman's Mission on Monday evening, April 3rd, at 8 o'clock. The programme has been arranged by Miss Frances Travers and the following ladies and gentlemen will take part: Miss Ethel McLean, violinist; Miss Travers, M. Reynolds, Hew Walker, vocalists; Blake McInerney, clarinetist, and a vocal quartette composed of J. Kelly, Robt. Seely, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. Wise. D. Arnold Fox at the piano.

EVIDENCE IS ALL IN SPERDAKES CASE

Several Witnesses Heard in County Court Yesterday--Adjournment Taken Until Today for Arguments.

The evidence in the case of the King vs. John G. Sperdakes was finished before Judge Forbes in County Court Chambers yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

Fred R. Taylor and C. H. Ferguson appeared for the Crown, and Dr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., and John A. Sinclair for Sperdakes, who is charged under Section 351 of the Criminal Code with unlawfully and fraudulently stealing electricity to the value of ten dollars from the St. John Railway Company. The alleged theft took place in the defendant's store on Charlotte street and pool room on Market street.

At the opening of the morning session, Dr. Wallace took preliminary legal objections to the form of the charge, which were reserved. J. W. Matheson, lineman, examined by Mr. Taylor, said on March 24 he was in Sperdakes' store. The meter in the front store was not running, and the lights were burning in the ice cream parlor. When he went to look at the meter someone switched off the lights. Witness said that when the shunt wire was cut the lights would burn, but the meter would not register. The meter could not be reached by one standing on the floor. He found nine 16 candle power, two arc two hundred watt tungsten, ten 60 watt, fifty-two 5 candle power, one sign over the door, forty-six 1 candle power on arch between store and ice cream parlor. In the pool room there were one arc, twenty-one 16 candle power, nine 22 and two 100 watt.

Sydney J. Walkin, another lineman, corroborated Matheson. He was subjected to a lengthy cross examination by Dr. Wallace as to identification of a piece of wire. Clarence E. Kenney, electrician, said that on March 27 last he was in the pool room. He described the condition of the shunt wire. He had done wiring on the premises. Under cross examination by Dr. Wallace, witness said that the shunt wire might have been dislodged by being struck with a billiard stick. Police Officer Charles H. Marshall testified that he frequently patrolled Charlotte street. Sperdakes' store was often open up to three a. m. The store was brightly lighted up to one o'clock.

Hat A. Brown, an electrician in the employ of the St. John Railway Company, corroborated the testimony. From the appearance of the book of the shunt wire, he said, it looked as if the wire had been hooked and unhooked several times. Robert J. Cochran, line foreman in the employ of the Railway Company, corroborated previous witness.

Afternoon Proceedings.

James K. Hamm, reader of meters, in the employ of the St. John Railway Company, was the first witness when the Court met in the afternoon. Mr. Hamm gave a statement of the meter readings taken from the meter in Sperdakes' store. The statement disclosed three years' readings. Dr. Wallace objected to the statement being received in evidence. Statement admitted subject to objection.

Cross examined by Dr. Wallace, witness said that in some months the readings would be very small. James Hoyt, a lineman, in the employ of the St. John Railway Company, next testified. Witness took the meters out of Sperdakes'.

Harry M. Hopper, manager of the St. John Railway Company, gave the meter readings, and prices of electricity in connection with the Sperdakes' store. Mr. Hopper showed that the number of lights burned by Sperdakes would amount to three and four times more than Sperdakes' bill.

Mr. Hopper showed that Sperdakes burned approximately \$1,985 in twelve months, while \$600 was the amount of his bill. Witness told about having had two conversations with Sperdakes, one when the government seal was broken and another when one of the wires was broken. Sperdakes blamed the carpenters for doing the damage on both occasions.

This closed the case for the crown. Dr. Wallace briefly opened for the defence, after which Sperdakes took the stand. Witness took over the Charlotte street property about eight years ago. He said that one Adams took the pool room off his hands. The contract with the St. John Railway people were made with the accused and his tenants paid him. The defendant denied that he ever cut the wires or had anything to do with them, and swore that he used very few lights in the winter time.

Cross-examined by Mr. Taylor, witness said that he assumed control of the pool room on March 21st. He denied that he ever climbed up and adjusted the meter at any time. To the court, Mr. Sperdakes said that he knew nothing about the theft of electricity.

This closed the case for the defence. Mr. Taylor called George Spelman, a Greek, formerly in the employ of Sperdakes. He said that he frequently saw the defendant climb up the meter. Mr. Taylor--When would this occur? A--About two days before the meterman would come. Q--How often did you see him? A--Several times. Cross-examined by Mr. Wallace. Q--You are not employed with Sperdakes now? A--No, with Peter Petropolis. Q--You sued Petropolis? A--I had some trouble. Q--Sperdakes brought you to this country? A--Yes. Adjournment was made until this morning at ten o'clock when argument of counsel will be presented.

Died in Dorchester, Mass.

The death is announced of Miss Sarah Barrett at Dorchester, Mass. Deceased was at one time an active member of Centenary church in this city, and was the daughter of a Methodist minister. She resided in Boston for the last ten years with Mrs. C. E. Woodman, of Dorchester, Mass. The body will probably be brought here for interment.

PLAYED TAG WITH DEATH IN MID-AIR

Thrilling Action of Drink-Crazed Sailor on Schooner Beulah--Arrested after Hair-Raising Performance at Mast Head.

A seasoned trapeze performer would not have taken the chance that Aubrey McCumber, a sailor on the schooner Beulah, took yesterday.

The vessel is moored at Moran's wharf of Britain street and for nearly an hour Policeman McCollom, the members of the Beulah's crew and a large number of citizens watched with terror the actions of a man crazed with drink. McCumber had been drinking heavily, and was quite unmanageable. He left the deck of the schooner and in his delirious state, instead of going on the wharf he started up the rigging of the vessel. Members of the crew called for him to "come down," but without effect. When he reached the cross trees he undressed and threw his clothing to a stay by his legs and do a number of other thrilling acts. All the time he used profane language.

These on the deck of the vessel and wharf thought that at any moment the sailor would fall to his death, and called for him to "come down." McCumber took his time and after nearly an hour of the most thrilling actions he came down the rigging to the deck and when he regained his senses he was placed under arrest by Policeman McCollom, who charged him with drunkenness, profanity and unbecoming conduct.

The sailor was locked up in the British street lock up and will appear before Magistrate Ritchie this morning. That McCumber was not dashed to death on the deck of the vessel is wonderful and those who witnessed his performance aloft will never forget his actions.

BROWN TAIL MOTHS FOUND IN PROVINCE

William McIntosh, Provincial Entomologist, Recently Found 32 Nests in One Orchard in Charlotte County.

A colony of brown tail moths have been discovered at Pomeroy Ridge, about 17 miles from St. Stephens. About three weeks ago William McIntosh, who is acting as provincial entomologist, started on a tour of the western counties, exhibiting colored plates and specimens, showing the brown tail moth in its various stages to the school children. On the afternoon he returned at the school in Pomeroy Ridge the boys and girls started a hunt, and one of them named Fred McIntosh, discovered what he thought was a brown tail caterpillar nest, and showed it to his teacher, Miss Knight. She thought it was a nest of the dreaded pest, and notified Mr. McIntosh, who confirmed the opinion of the boy and his teacher.

Mr. McIntosh started a hunt in the vicinity, and found 32 nests in one orchard--17 being on the same tree. The Dominion authorities have been notified of the discovery, and they will send their men to conduct a thorough search of the vicinity. In the past three weeks Mr. McIntosh has visited about 50 schools. He gives a lecture on the life history of the moth, and passes among the scholars specimens of the pest in its various stages of life. This method of interesting the children in the search is calculated to save the province the expense of employing men to scour the country, and is likely to show better results than a hundred moth hunters could hope to accomplish.

As regards the colony of nests at Pomeroy Ridge, it is supposed that some of the female moths were blown over from Princeton, Maine, where they were found last summer. Mr. Batty in Exmouth Street. Rev. J. L. Batty, of Moncton, will occupy the pulpit in the Exmouth street church both morning and evening.

Socialist Meeting. J. W. Eastwood will speak on Sunday at the Socialist hall, 141 Mill street at 8.15 p. m. He will endeavor to prove the assertion that "Labor creates all wealth." All are invited. Discussion at the end of the lecture.

Borden Club To Meet. The members of the R. L. Borden Club will meet on Wednesday evening next at the office of the president 12 Canterbury street, for the purpose of electing delegates to the coming Liberal-Conservative convention.

Rummage Sale. The King's Daughters purpose holding a rummage sale at their guild, 13 Prince William street, next Wednesday and Thursday, April 5 and 6. On these days members from the different circles of the order will attend at 11 a. m., 2 p. m. and 7 p. m. each day. Miss Tratt, the general secretary will be glad to receive donations for sale. Those wishing to contribute who may find it inconvenient to send, are requested to phone 1129 or send a post card to 13 Prince William street and articles will be called for.

W. E. Vroom Seriously Ill. The many friends of W. E. Vroom will learn with regret that he is in the General Public Hospital seriously ill.

Painless Dentistry. Teeth filled or extracted free of pain by the celebrated "HALE METHOD." All branches of dental work done in the most skillful manner. Boston Dental Parlors. 527 Main St., Tel. 483. DR. J. D. WARE, Proprietor.

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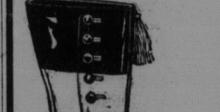
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Is it worth while to suffer from eyestrain, headache, or poor vision when you can obtain relief so easily and at such small cost?

Even if you paid the highest price for glasses which overcame these troubles, would not the saving in time, the improvement in the quality of your work, and the comfort and pleasure with which you would do it, soon pay the cost?

It does not pay to do without glasses when Nature warns you so persistently of the need. It costs in nervous energy, and in actual money loss through unsatisfactory work, much more than the saving you think you make. And even then it is not saving, but only putting off for a little while the inevitable, with the probability that the longer the delay the harder it will be to get satisfactory glasses.

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BELTING Rubber--Leather--Canvas Belt Dressing Belt Lacing We have a number of remnants on which we allow an extra 10 per cent discount. W. H. Thorne & Co., Limited Market Square and King Street, St. John, N. B.

A Customer's Reasonable Wish is This Store's Pleasure DYKEMAN'S A Special Importation of English Made Black and Colored Moire Underskirts They are to be sold at extraordinary low prices. You can buy them at the same price as the common black sateen skirt and they will wear much longer and look much better. At \$1.00 a very nice quality of moire with a three decked founce tucked and shirred. Comes in navy blue and black. At \$1.25, a fine lightweight moire with a wide founce trimmed with three wide rows of shirring and also pleating. A very fine skirt at the special low price. Comes in black, brown, green and navy. At \$1.65, This is the leader of the lot. A skirt that is usually sold at \$2, has a three decked founce with shirring on a large founce, tucked and shirred in a way that will add to its wear as well as appearance. At \$2.00, This skirt has a novel idea in cluster tucks on the founce, and is made from a fine quality of moire. At \$2.50, An extra fine English fast colored moire, beautifully tucked and fluted on the founce. Comes in navy, brown and black. Sateen Underskirts from 95 cents to \$3.75, in a large range of styles. F. A. Dykeman & Co., 59 Charlotte St.

Bath Room Fixtures We have a splendid range of BATH ROOM FIXTURES made of solid brass, heavily nickel plated, including: SOAP DISHES, TOWEL BARS, GLASS SHELVES, TUMBLER HOLDERS, SPONGE HOLDERS, HOOKS, ETC. EMERSON & FISHER, Ltd., 25 Germain Street, PHONE MAIN 87.

Ladies' Cotton Lisle and Silk Hosiery Our hosiery stocks are now very complete and spring requirements may be exactly met and at figures reasonable for the unusually fine qualities we offer. Read this list and note the prices. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, Per pair, 25c 30c 35c. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, white and bal, sole, pair 25c. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, natural wool sole, pair 40c. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, lace ankle, pair 40c. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, out size, pair 60c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, white sole, pair, 55c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, out size, pair 60c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, self clock, pair, 35c. 45c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, colored clock, pair 45c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, colored embroidered ankles, pair 45c., 55c., 65c. Ladies' Plain Black Cotton Hose, out size, Per pair, 25c. and 30c. Ladies' Plain Tan Cotton Hose, pair 25c. Ladies' Plain Black Lisle Hose, Pair 25c., 35c., 40c., 60c. Ladies' Plain Black Silk Hose, lace ankle, pair \$2.00, \$2.60. Ladies' Plain Black Silk Hose, silk clock, fashioned top, pair \$2.25. Ladies' White Silk Hose, self clock, pair \$2.25, \$2.50. Ladies' Colored Silk Hose, self clock, sky pink, mauve, grey, and tan, pair \$2.25. Ladies' Tan Spun Silk Hose, colored clock, pair \$1.60.

Some Interesting Specials Special No. 1--Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, 19c. pair, 3 pairs 54c. Special No. 2--Ladies' Black Lisle Hose, plain and fancy, 25c. pair, 3 pairs for 70c. Special No. 3--Ladies' Black Lisle Hose, plain and fancy. Ladies' Tan Lisle Hose, plain and fancy, 35c. pair, 3 pairs for \$1.00. Special No. 4--Ladies' Black Lisle Hose, plain and fancy. Ladies' Tan Lisle Hose, plain and fancy, 40c. pair, 3 pairs for \$1.10. HOSIERY DEPARTMENT MANCHESTER ROBERTSON ALLISON, LTD.