

THE WEATHER

Toronto, April 4.—Pressure is high from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and relatively low to the west of the Mississippi. The weather has been comparatively mild over the Dominion with a few light scattered showers in Eastern Ontario and the Maritime Provinces, and heavy showers in Northern Saskatchewan.

St. John	33	48
Dawson	24	42
Vancouver	40	50
Calgary	32	46
Edmonton	34	42
Battleford	36	38
Prince Albert	24	38
Parry Sound	32	40
London	35	56
Toronto	36	50
Kingson	30	42
Quebec	25	44
Montreal	30	46
Quebec	30	42
Halifax	14	42

Forecast
Moderate to fresh west winds; partly cloudy, not much change in temperature.

Northern New England—Cloudy Wednesday, Thursday unsettled, no change in temperature. Moderate variable winds becoming east and northeast.

AROUND THE CITY

FIRE HORSES SCARCE

Commissioner Thornton is finding difficulty in securing horses for the fire department, the Prince Edward Island breeders having gone out of the raising of this type of stock.

LEAK IN WATER MAIN

A leak was discovered yesterday in No. 2 leading main at the Marsh Bridge and householders on the higher levels are advised to draw a supply of water to carry them through the day.

TO COMMAND PREMIER

Captain Fred H. Mabee will be in command of the steamer Premier this summer, running from St. John to Chipman, he having purchased an island breeder having gone out of the raising of this type of stock.

RECEIVED MEDALS

Thomas Scott, of 236 Prince Edward street, has received medals and ribbons, also a memorial plaque in honor of his son, Pte. John Scott, who was reported missing since May 9, 1917.

INSPECTORS SEIZED BEER

Liquor inspectors Henderson and Kilen Monday visited a beer shop in Britain street and seized two cases of beer, thought to contain more than the legal limit of alcohol. An analysis will be made.

NINETEENTH BIRTHDAY

George Prescott, ex-M. L. A., or Albert and Mrs. Prescott, passed through the city yesterday enroute to their home, after spending a few days at Eastport, the guests of Mr. Prescott's mother, Mrs. Moses Prescott, who on Sunday last celebrated her nineteenth birthday.

THE CIRCUIT COURT

Yesterday in the circuit court the case of Baxter vs. Douglas, a claim for debt amounting to some \$300 was dealt with. It was undefended. H. W. Robertson appeared for the plaintiff, Dr. Baxter. The jury was informed that it would not be required until April 18. Several non-jury cases were set down for hearing.

GRANT WAS ACQUITTED

In the county court, before His Honor Judge Armstrong, yesterday morning Alexander Clark Grant, said to be a Presbyterian clergyman, was acquitted of the charge of brawling on the ground of insanity. It was said he will likely be sent to the D.S.C. R. hospital at St. Anne, C. H. Ferguson appeared for the prosecution and C. P. Inches and L. McC. Ritchie for the defence.

SAND POINT ACCIDENTS

Two accidents occurred with workers at the Winter port yesterday. At 8.30 yesterday morning Arthur Codner, a trucker at No. 7 shed, suffered a lacerated wound to his right thumb and was taken to the Emergency Hospital for treatment. He left for his home 1 Millidge avenue after the wound was dressed.

About 11.15 o'clock Frank Wilson, of 149 Bertram street, a longshoreman working on the steamer Lakonia at No. 1 shed, had a finger of his right hand bruised. It was dressed and he was able to return to work.

C. P. R. TRACK WORK

Track work on the C. P. R. main and branch lines throughout the N. B. District will commence as soon as the frost is out of the ground, General Superintendent Woodman advised yesterday morning. He said that the work would probably get under way about the middle of this month, and that in addition to replacement of wornout ties, there would be laid on the main lines upwards of fifty miles of new heavy steel and that upwards of 30 miles of rails will be relaid by heavier steel on the branch lines, including the Shore Line.

THE POLICE COURT

In the police court yesterday one drunk pleaded guilty and was remanded.

Max Schetcher pleaded not guilty to a charge of keeping his second hand store open after the hour allowed by law. Policeman Bette testified that he went into the store of the defendant at 134 Mill street on Saturday evening at 10.30 o'clock and saw the defendant, another man and a boy there. He said a third man had just left with a parcel. He added the defendant had been warned on two occasions to close his shop earlier. The case was postponed until this morning.

MILLIONS OF MONEY HAVE BEEN SPENT ON A GUESS; NO ENGINEER OF STANDING PASSED UPON MUSQUASH; PLAIN FACTS POINTED OUT AT MEETING LAST NIGHT

So Far as Can be Seen a Report Was Made on Legreaux, But Who Made Any on the Musquash Development? —The Mayor's Meeting Uncovered Some Remarkable Facts Which Demand a Full Investigation — Is the Whole Affair a Frightful Waste of Public Money? —Who is Responsible and Why the High Price for the Musquash Properties?

Before an audience which completely filled the Imperial Theatre many of whom had been there from seven o'clock, Mayor Schofield last evening laid down his platform and policy in connection with the distribution of the hydro power from Musquash, and as he gave in clear cut terms the reasons why he favored such a policy, the audience testified in no uncertain manner that they considered them good ones and in the best interests of the taxpayers of the city. Dr. E. J. Ryan, who acted as chairman, paid a tribute to the work of the Mayor in his term of office, and R. A. Ross, the expert engineer employed by the city, told the audience just what way the situation here differed from that in Ontario and why he had made the report he did to the City Council. He told the audience it was his client and it was as such he gave them the advice he had.

In opening, the chairman said the city was to be congratulated that such a large audience would turn out to hear civic matters discussed. The question of hydro was a very live one just now, one of the most important ever before the citizens, and it was impossible without a study of the matter to arrive at a correct solution of the problem. The Mayor had given the matter the closest attention for some months and had a thorough mastery of the subject. He had been able to secure several concessions from the original proposition and these more than justified the so-called delay in closing negotiations and completing the bargain.

He paid a high tribute to the Mayor as the chief magistrate of the city for the past two years. He had upheld the dignity of the office at all times and he had dealt with all matters coming before the council in a business-like manner. He had taken a keen interest in the welfare work of the community and was, in his opinion, one of the best and most democratic Mayors the city had ever had. He had gone the whole length of his way despite the temporary clamor of the crowd, refusing to be stamped into hasty action on any question.

This was a time in which there was needed as the head of the spending department of the city a cool, level headed man of business, not a bluff Wallingford. There was needed not a man who would make promises to win votes, but a man who would deal with matters in a sane and level-headed manner. He referred to the introduction of Federal politics into the campaign and said the Liberal party was not backing any man or men, and if they were it would be hard to choose between the three candidates for the Mayorality, as all three were members of that party.

He then introduced the Mayor, who said he was glad to see so many present, as it meant they were taking an interest in civic politics, and that was a good sign. Before proceeding with the subject of the evening, he dealt with a few things which had been accomplished by the Common Council in the past two years. In the Public Works Department, Douglas avenue, City Road, Prince Edward street and Millidgeville avenue had been paved, and were streets any city could be proud of, and the public squares had never looked better. In the Water Department the Spruce Lake extension and Newman Brook work had benefited many and improved the services greatly. The police department was one that any city might be proud of, and intended doing a considerable amount of work during the summer.

There had been considerable criticism of the elevator at City Hall, but he was willing to take the blame for this and considered it a necessity, not for the employees but for the public who had to call at the second and third floor offices.

He repeated his statement of a week ago that neither he nor any member of his family had any interest or stock in the New Brunswick Power Co. He then turned his attention to the subject of the evening, and he said in order not to wander from the subject he had written it out and he outlined his case as follows:

As to My Policy:— In considering hydro power, my investigation of the facts to date shows me two practicable methods for the city to deal with this question.

The first would contemplate an immediate decision to establish a civic distributing system for light and power.

The second would contemplate the deferring of this decision until all facts and conditions affecting the situation are absolutely established.

The first alternative entails an estimated immediate investment in distributing plant of \$900,000.00 together with preliminary expenses before any income is received, which I estimate at not less than \$300,000.00, making a total of \$1,200,000.00.

The second involves no present expenditure by the city on capital account, but would bring an immediate saving to the light and power users of \$50,000 each year for the period decided on—say not less than two years.

At the moment hydro uncertainties include the vital facts that no satisfactory guaranteed fixed price has been offered by the Power Commission, and also that the amount of power available is in question.

In view of those uncertainties in my opinion it is not advisable for the city to embark upon such an immense expenditure of public money as would be necessary at once under the first alternative.

If elected I would propose to recommend to the council the adoption of the following procedure:

First:—The arrangement of a con-

tract with the Power Commission involving a guaranteed fixed rate for power together with a definite guarantee as to the amount available.

Second:—A definite arrangement for a reduction in rates of say, from 12.5 net present maximum rate to 12c net the first year, and 11c net the second year together with a similar revision downward in the scale of all the lower rates for lighting.

Third:—The carrying out of an arrangement for a period of two years whereby the power contracted for would be distributed over the existing lines; all benefits obtained thereby to be applied to the reduction of rates to consumers of light and power.

Fourth:—In order to ensure the carrying out of this programme to the benefit of the citizens, a commission of three competent men to be appointed—one each by the city, the Power Commission and the Power Company.

By the end of the proposed two year period all facts as to quantity and cost of Hydro/Power and all uncertainties as to its value to the city would have been cleared up and much valuable information obtained, which would enable the citizens to decide their final programme with safety. The city would then have the same freedom of choice of their policy which they have at present without being misled by many uncertainties, and would still retain control of the Hydro Power for final disposition, while in the meantime the users of light and power would make a material saving in actual cash.

Now I know only too well the kind of treatment you and I have had to put up with from this company in the past, and my recommendation is not made with any idea that the "leopard will change his spots." It is made solely for the purpose of uncovering the actual situation for the safety of the city and in the interest of the taxpayers, so that we may move with certainty later on when all the facts are before us.

I would further recommend that the legislation be obtained whereby at the end of the period a plebiscite may be held on the question as to whether the city should take over municipal ownership and either build its own distribution system or purchase through arbitration or otherwise the property of the N. B. Power Company on the basis of actual physical values only, without any consideration allowed for franchise and other intangibles. If I believe it is inadvisable that any five men should have power to settle a momentous question of this kind for the city, I think that immediate civic distribution carries possibilities of involving the city financially for many years, while the second alternative removes this risk entirely and effects a saving. I, however, realize that this platform may lose me some votes in the coming election, but even if this statement may lose me the election entirely, I would not be doing my duty to you if I did not submit a policy which had my entire approval.

His Worship then took up the history of the hydro as it affected the City Council. Their notice was first called to the matter in a letter from the New Brunswick Power Co. on Nov. 24, 1920, under date of Nov. 24, 1920, in which it was stated they hoped to have \$500,000 p. ready for distribution by the end of 1921, and offering to the city on the basis of cost of development of the power, which, on an estimated consumption of 3,000,000 k.w.h., should not exceed two cents per k.w.h.

Commenting on this, he said: "Mr. Business Man, please note the situation. The basis of the offer is 'at a price to be based upon the cost of the development of such power,' and the seller of the goods is anxious that the buyer should arrange to take delivery of the goods as soon as his goods were ready for the market."

However, this letter was written on Nov. 24, 1920, and on Nov. 25 it was replied as follows: "Nov. 25, 1920. 'C. O. Foss, Esq., Chief Engineer, N. B. Electric Power Commission, St. John, N. B.' 'Dear Sir,—I have yours of Nov. 24 and the matter of the Hydro Electric Power will be placed before the Council at a very early date, when I hope to have the matter discussed, and perhaps will meet you again as soon as possible.' 'Thanking you for writing me, I remain, 'Yours truly, '(Sgd.) 'E. A. SCHOFIELD, 'Mayor.'"

Following this, I sent out a notice under date of Dec. 3, nine days after receipt of original letter calling a meeting, at which were present: C. O. Foss, N. B. Water Power Commission; Hon. W. E. Foster, Premier; Dr. E. A. Smith, chairman N. B. Water Power Commission; City Commissioners, L. R. Ross.

No minutes were kept, but as I remember it, matters were discussed



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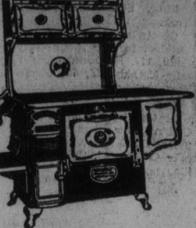
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Guitar, regular \$25.00, Case, regular \$3.50, Set Strings, \$1.25—all for \$15.00. Banjo, regular \$25.00, Case, regular \$3.00, Set Strings, \$1.00—all for \$20.00. Ukuleles, regular \$10.00 and \$12.00 Values, Sale \$6.00 and \$8.00, respectively. Accordeons, regular \$12.00 and \$14.00 Values—Sale \$8.00 and \$10.00. \$40.00 Cornet reduced to \$26.00. \$25.00 Cornet reduced to \$15.00.

VIOLINS

A \$10.00 Violin, \$3.00 case and \$2.00 bow, \$1.00 set of Strings, Sale \$10.00. An \$18.00 Violin, \$5.00 case, \$2.00 bow, Sale, \$20.00. \$50.00 Violin—Extra Special—\$35.00.

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THE VALCARTIER CHAPTER I. O. D. E.

The Valcartier Chapter, I. O. D. E., held their monthly meeting at the residence of Miss Gertrude Fleming, Paradise Row, last evening. The second vice-regent, Miss Jack, presided. It was decided to send a bale of clothing to the Grenfell Mission. An appeal to the Chapter to raise its subscription towards the salary of the Kindergarten teacher at the County Hospital, was answered.

It was decided not to support the movement for an additional I. O. D. E. War Memorial, as the members were of the opinion that in view of the finances of the Chapter, the I. O. D. E. War Memorial and the Overseas Bursaries, were sufficient. Further arrangements were made for the holding of the Rose Ball, Easter Monday.

Clifton House, all meals 60c.

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