

## SKATES!



Just opened:  
450 Pairs SKATES.

Screw Clamp, 40c. pair.  
Children's, with leather heel support, \$1.10 pair.

Also in stock:  
WINSLOW'S  
and STARR SKATES.  
Acme, Ladies' Beaver, Bulldog,  
Scotia, Glacier, Mic-Mac,  
Featherweight,  
Regal and Velox.  
DOUBLE RUNNER CHILD-  
REN'S SLED SKATES,  
60c. pair.

G. Knowling.

jan10,4,ed

## Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - - Proprietor  
H. A. WINTER, B.A., - - Editor

WEDNESDAY, January 10, 1917.

## The Water System and Fire Insurance.



The report which the Mayor read to the meeting at the Board of Trade rooms yesterday is valuable and interesting from several points of view. Its primary object was to place before the public certain facts about the improvements that have been effected in the city's water supply, which might serve to make clear to the reasons why they should be entitled to enjoy at a cheaper cost the protection against loss afforded by the Fire Insurance Companies. In his efforts on their behalf the public will give Mr. Gosling their sympathy and support, though they can leave the question to be fought out between the Companies and the Council with the assurance that it should not be difficult of settlement. It is known that the estimation of fire rates is a matter of much nicety and many technicalities, depending upon a host of considerations. These may be divided roughly under two heads, the likelihood of fire breaking out in the first place and the chances of controlling and extinguishing it when it does so break out. Undoubtedly the deficiencies of the City in the former respect are responsible in great degree for the high rates of fire premiums. We shall never enjoy low rates while so great a part of the town consists of wooden houses huddled together and intersected by a maze of streets running in all directions and in no order. Evidently Mr. Gosling had this sort of thing in mind when he said that "so far as water will avail, we need never be in fear of another conflagration."

As to the second consideration, the actual fighting of fire, the report leaves no room for question of the great progress that has been made. And after all, when the companies have taken every conceivable factor into account and carried their calculations to three places of decimals, actual experience in any city or section of the town is the basis on which rates are computed. Twenty-five years should be a sufficiently long period for such a purpose. The companies may contend that their premiums in the past have been moderate or even less than they should have been, but if they do, their record of profits seems to be distinctly against them. The recent improvements in the water service are an added argument. If it is invariably the custom of Insurance Companies to reduce their rates for any building equipped with such a device as a sprinkler, the same thing applies, the difference being in degree only, to the case of a whole city where the water supply and pressure are increased markedly.

Apart, however, from insurance rates, the lucid exposition of what has actually been done in this important

department of the city's welfare is of interest to all. Of more value than the cost of distributing fire losses is their prevention in the beginning, and in this respect great strides have been made. Windsor Lake is now harnessed to the city's needs far more effectively than before, through the use, principally, of the new intake and larger mains. George's Pond is now also available, and by a clever application of natural forces is kept supplied, as a reservoir, by the pressure from Windsor Lake. When that pressure is removed, as would be the case if a large fire drew it away, the reservoir comes automatically into operation. This fine supply, the system which makes the high and low levels immediately available as inter-auxiliaries, and the extension that will soon take place to the South Side should make the city excellently prepared against a recurrence of 1892 or minor conflagrations. Whatever may be the outcome of the negotiations with the Fire Companies, St. John's is to be congratulated upon the natural insurance it now enjoys as well as the other and many benefits that attend a plentiful water supply.

## Published by Authority

His Majesty the King has been pleased to issue his Exequatur, empowering Mr. Richard J. Devereaux, to act as Consul of Cuba at St. John's, Nfld.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Mr. B. A. Brazil, to be Surveyor of Shipping at Garnish. Mr. M. J. Jones, to be a member of the Church of England Board of Education for the District of Fogo, in place of Mr. James Jones, retired.

Dept. of the Colonial Secretary.

January 9th, 1917.

## McMurdo's Store News

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10, 1917.  
We have just received a full stock of Pinex the principal ingredient in the preparation of one of the most popular cough and bronchitis mixtures at present on sale. A sixty-cent bottle make a full sixteen ounce bottle of good cough mixture.

We are sole distributing agents for Saniflush, the only reliable thing for its purpose, that of cleansing closet bowls and traps, a really wonderful discovery for this purpose. Used with out any trouble, and absolutely thorough. Price 35c. a tin containing one and a half pounds of the powder.

## Pianist and Patriot.

Paderewski, who is no less a great patriot than he is a great pianist, has all his life been a determined opponent of Germanism in Poland. His fearlessness and dening have often placed the German Government in an embarrassing position. On one occasion his opera "Manru" was announced to be performed at Posen, in Prussian Poland, and the great pianist, who was in Posen for the occasion, gave a big subscription to the Polish Committee in that city, which had been formed to prevent the Germanization of Prussian Poland. The Prussian Government, in retaliation, forbidding the performance of the opera; whereupon Paderewski went to Lemberg and, to the horror of the Austrian Government, gave a piano-forte recital, the proceeds of which he remitted as an additional subscription to the funds of the Posen Committee. —Tit-Bits.

Only One "BROMO QUININE." To get the genuine call for full name LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature of E. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in One Day. 25c. dec15,17

## Frightfulness in Roumania

(From a Letter of Eleanor Jay Chapman in the N.Y. Tribune.)  
The following is an extract from a letter which I have received from a friend in Roumania:

November 17.  
This time it was the Queen and her children that the Germans tried to murder. They bombed her home in her country home just out of town, Buxta, Prince Strub's place. I was with the Queen, who was in town for the morning, when the telephone message came. "Children safe." Seven bombs within ten yards of the house; every window blew in as they rushed to the cellar. Three men were killed in the garden and ten wounded. Miss Milne (the governess) told me that it was awful. The King, of course, is living with the staff; also the Crown Prince; so it was a deliberate attempt to murder the Queen and her daughters. It was supposed that the Germans did not know where she lived, but, of course, they did. Words fail.

## From Cape Race.

Special to Evening Telegram.  
CAPB RACE, To-Day.  
Wind S. light, weather fine. Bar, 29.60, ther. 44.

## ROOFINGS!

All Kinds Carried in Stock.  
CERTAIN-TEED ROOFING  
Is Guaranteed 15 Years.

Our Prices are the Lowest in the Country.

GEO. M. BARR.

## The New Water System

Mayor Gosling Presents Report—Thinks Improvements Justify a Reduction of Fire Insurance Rates.

Owing, probably, to the hour at which it was called, the meeting yesterday afternoon at the Board of Trade, in which the Mayor presented his statement of the improvements effected in the water service and showed a case for a reduction of existing fire rates, was not very well attended. Mr. Gosling explained to the meeting his object in calling it, which was to point out the effect that the improvements in the water service must necessarily have upon the question of fire rates. He stated that when the late Commission took office, one of their first acts was to engage the services of Mr. F. F. Longley, an expert in water, to examine the existing system of water supply, and to report upon it, which was so inadequate for the purpose of fire protection. His report was adopted and acted upon, and all the most important parts of his recommendations had been carried into effect.

The capacity of the system had been increased to allow the maximum rate of 15,000,000 gallons, or a total of 15,000,000 gallons, to be available for fire fighting from 5,000 to 7,000 gallons per minute. Added to this great improvement was the utilization of George's Pond, on Signal Hill, as a reservoir, with a supply of 32,000,000 gallons. A 20-inch main connects it with the city, and the system is as arranged that the Pond is kept filled at normal times, but empties itself when an unusual drain of water takes place, as for a large fire, so that the pressure is automatically maintained. The Pond further offers a 6 days' supply of water in any case of emergency.

There are two distributive systems, the low level system leading to Rawlin's Cross, supplied by the 16 inch and new 20 inch mains, and the high level system, 16 inch main, going to Merrymeeting Road. The two systems can be thrown into one by the more opening of the separating valves. Mr. Gosling proceeded to show how greatly these improvements had increased the water pressure since 1913 and 1914, by a rate varying from over 100 per cent, and how the increased supply served to keep the pressure up. Thus, George's Pond can be kept full even when the valve on the 20 inch main at Sunnyside is nearly closed, this latter being therefor able to be used as a reserve. It was intended as soon as possible to have tests made simultaneously at different localities and from different mains, which would be in a practical manner the ability of the system to fight several large fires at a time.

The total cost of the work will be about \$175,000, of which an annual interest of \$10,000. This is not a high price to pay for such increased security. "So far as water will avail," said the Mayor, "we need never be in fear of another conflagration."

He then gave figures in detail of the new piping that had been laid and of the work that remained to be done, which should be completed during the coming summer. He spoke of the new 36 inch intake now installed at Windsor Lake, which produces 180 feet beyond the old breakwater and 20 feet below normal level of the Lake. He mentioned also that a Venturi Meter and other devices will be installed by means of which leaks can be at once detected. Tests will be made in May and October of every year by the engineering staff, and it is hoped to reduce the leakage, which amounts to some 3 or 4 million gallons daily, by at least one-half.

Mr. Gosling then proceeded to show the grounds for his contention that these improvements should effect a reduction of the fire rates that obtain in the city. He showed that after the fire of 1892, rates almost doubled, and also that the premiums paid had risen from \$100,000 in 1892 to \$225,000 in 1915. Altogether about \$4,000,000 had been paid in premiums since 1892, and on the best information now more than \$1,500,000 had been paid to losses by the companies. This undeniably showed that handsome profits had been made by the Fire Insurance Companies in the last twenty-five years, and in his opinion the greatly improved conditions of fire protection justified a reduction in the rates of at least 25 per cent.

In conclusion, Mr. Gosling mentioned several measures that are contained in the proposed Civil Charter, all tending to a further minimising of the risk of fire, which it was expected the Legislature would make to the satisfaction of the public. He did not base his claim for a reduction of rates on these measures, however, but solely upon the improvements effected in the water service.

In addition Mr. Gosling presented a tabulated statement showing the improved water pressure throughout the city and the efficient water system since the installation of larger pipes.

The Prime Minister then spoke supporting the views of the Mayor and moved this resolution:  
WHEREAS It has been demonstrated beyond question that the extension of the Water System, now nearly completed, has very materially improved the fire hazard of the City.

BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of the report on the same submitted to the meeting, be forwarded to the Board of Fire Underwriters, with a request that the rates of Fire Insurance be hereafter adequately reduced for all parts of the City affected by the improved water supply.

Mr. C. F. Farn seconded the resolution, and in doing so thought that, comparatively speaking, excessive rates were being charged here, and that a case in which insurance could be effected at 35 cents for \$450, as there were getting 20 per cent. commission and this he considered too high. He believed that by the operation and support of citizens generally the rates would be reduced considerably, and he hoped that personal consideration would not prove an obstacle.

Mr. F. W. Bradshaw paid a tribute to Mayor Gosling for his services to the city and to the late Hon. J. H. Harris for his interest in the water system. In the event of any doubt arising in the minds of any one as to

the water system he suggested that a practical demonstration be made to set all minds at rest. Because of that doubt likely to exist he did not think it the proper course to take to pass the Premier's resolution. He said Insurance Companies should have an Inspector to look after their interests for the examination of hydrants, also that the Underwriters should get an expert to make an independent report on the whole matter.

Mr. J. L. Slattery told of the work of the respective Council Boards from the time of the first Mayorality down to the present time. To the late City Commission he said, belonged the credit of the improved water supply.

Mr. A. J. Harvey, who spoke on behalf of the Underwriters, said he believed the companies would give every consideration to the request of reduced rates. He regretted that the report had been submitted before a practical test had been made to prove the efficiency of the service.

Mr. J. Browning suggested that the resolution moved by the Premier should not include a request for any special reduction as it was apparent from the Mayor's statement that 25 per cent. was a very small amount. Mr. Teasler, Hon. J. Harvey and others spoke on the matter. The resolution of the Premier was then adopted, and the appointment of the Committee to act further in the matter being left to the Mayor, the meeting adjourned.

## Obituary.

It is with regret we chronicle the death of Patrick, the son of Mrs. Mary C. Forriest, of Gussett's Cove, who died on the 2nd inst. Despite a delicate constitution he had been enjoying fairly good health until within a few hours of his death. His gentleness of manner, and kindly disposition endeared him to all, though called away from the bloom of manhood, he is gone to the eternal reward of a short but well spent life, replete with the virtues of purity, humility and patience with resignation to the Divine Will in every affliction. Deceased was 31 years of age and leaves a grief stricken mother, one brother, sister and grandmother and many friends to mourn him. — R. I. P.

## Here and There.

Ayrshire Bacon and Scotch Beef Ham at ELLIS'.

ALMANAC. — We beg to thank Messrs. Bishop, Sons & Co., Ltd., agents for the Abdulla Tobacco Co., for a very handsome and patriotic desk almanac.

PERSONAL. — Mr. Antoni Michael left by to-day's express for the United States, where he will purchase his spring stock of dry goods and jewelry.

BOWRING'S SHIPS. — The Prospero left Greensand at 10.30 a.m. to-day and is due here to-morrow morning. The Portia left Hr. Breton to-day, coming east.

SCARLET FEVER. — A case of scarlet fever was reported to the Health Authorities to-day from Brasili Square. The patient, a little girl, is being treated at home.

SMALL PERCENTAGE. — Out of ten young men who were medically examined at Recruiting Headquarters yesterday, two were pronounced physically fit.

IN HONOR OF WEDDING. — Bunting is being displayed to-day at the premises of Messrs. Job Bros and the Royal Stores, Ltd. in honor of the marriage of Miss Nellie Job, which event takes place this afternoon in New York.

GOT LUCRATIVE POSITION. — Gerald Byrne, ex-pupil of St. Bon's College, and for the past four years of the Royal Stores, Ltd., left here last evening en route to the United States where he has secured a lucrative position. He is the son of Detective Sergeant Byrne of this city.

T. A. JUVENILE TREAT. — The lady friends of the Juvenile T. A. and B. Society held a meeting at the Armoury last night to arrange for the annual treat. It was decided that the affair be held on Tuesday afternoon of next week, to be followed by a dance for the adults at night. Another meeting will be held to-morrow night when matters will be finalized.

GRAND OPERETTAS IN AID OF THE W.P.A. — Under the distinguished patronage of His Grace the Archbishop, the pupils of the Mercy Convent, Military Road, will produce the charming Operettas, "The Hours" and "Cinderella in Flowerland," in the Archbishop's Library on Friday, Jan. 12th, at 8 o'clock. Tickets—30c. each—for sale at the Atlantic Bookstore.—jan9,31

LAST DAY OF "BLACKBIRDS." Those who have not seen the "Blackbirds" have only to-day to do so. There was a large audience last night and nearly every number received an encore, the plantation dance coming in for encore after encore. There is a complete change of programme on Thursday, when costumes, songs and dances. There is a beautiful machine daily and two shows nightly. On Saturday League holds a great reception and the Hoovers will provide the fun. All members and their friends will meet and there will be a special entertainment on that occasion. Pansy herself will be there, her three babies will be there, a parrot will sing a French patriotic song and a London ditty. Pansy will sing through several very clever tricks; Pansy's sweet little misand and Daphne Darretson will also help to make the day a great success for the Pansy League.

WARD'S LINIMENT USED BY THE LANC.

## Stock-Taking Sale

Stock-taking over, we find owing to late arrival of some goods far too much on hand, so we have decided to have a Clean-up Sale and give our Customers and the Public the benefit of same. Considering that it is the goods for everyday use, we predict a ready response as prices will be reduced in some cases to half and everything reduced some. We list a few of the many bargains offered:

## LADIES' &amp; GENTLEMEN'S MACKIN.

TOSHES, from \$5.50 to \$10.00. Now offered at \$4.95 each.

MEN'S OVERCOATS, \$6.50, 11.95, 14.95. Now \$5.95, \$9.95, \$12.95.

MEN'S SUITS, \$6.95, \$8.50, \$9.50, \$12.50. Now \$5.95, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$10.95.

MEN'S NEGLIGEE SHIRTS, with cuffs attached, 1.55. Now \$1.10.

MEN'S NEGLIGEE SHIRTS, 75 and 85c. Now 68c.

MEN'S HALF HOSE, now 10c.

MEN'S TIES, asstd. Your choice 10c. ea. Now \$3.95, \$4.95, \$5.95.

MEN'S CAPS from 25c. each up.

MEN'S UNDERWEAR at Special Prices.

SPECIAL.—3 only one-piece Dresses, suitable for parties. Reg. \$8.50. Now \$6.50.

Just a few one-piece Dresses, Fancy Muslin, \$2.95. Now offered \$1.75.

MISSSES' BLACK SKIRTS, \$1.00 value. Now 50c.

A lot LADIES' SKIRTS, including Black and Navy Poplins, Serge, Cashmere and both latest American styles; limited

number. Values from \$5.50 to \$10.00. Now offered at \$4.95.

3 only LADIES' CARACUL COATS.

Values \$9.00. Now offered \$6.95. Special prices on other Coats.

LADIES' WHITE SILK BLOUSES up to \$3.00. Now \$1.75.

LADIES' WHITE LAWN BLOUSES, trimmed with insertion and embroidery, \$2.50 value. Now \$1.50.

Lot of Assorted BLOUSES. Values up to \$3.00. Your choice for \$1.00.

LADIES' KID BUTTONED BOOTS, \$3.50 value. Now \$2.95.

Lot of BOYS' FLANNELETTE SHIRTS, 45c. Now 25c.

BOYS' SUITS, \$4.50, \$3.85, \$5.00, \$5.75. Now \$3.95, \$3.25, \$4.25, \$5.25.

SPECIAL TO THE CHILDREN.—We will sell balance of our Toys, &c., at cost and under.

SPECIAL BOOKS as the Queen Mary Gift Book, Painting and Drawing Books, Picture Books, &c.

## THE FAIR.

The C. L. March Co., Ltd.  
Cor. Water & Springdale Sts.

## American BLOUSES

CHARMING STYLES.  
CONVINCING VALUES.  
LOW PRICES.

## A Big Lot of Travellers' Samples

for 1917, which we were fortunate to secure.  
BLOUSES among the lot up to \$2.50 each.  
Your choice for

\$1.20 each.

See Window.

S. MILLEY.

## Airplane Rises 2 000 Feet a Minute.

Details of the latest aerial developments and the work of the Royal Flying Corps along the battle front in France were given yesterday by Flight Lieutenant Lloyd Paulkner, Royal Flying Corps, who was recently invalided after being shot down near Abbeville in the Ypres salient. He told also of a new aeroplane for which great things are claimed by the Allied armies.

The machines used on the battle front are much in advance of any used here," he said. "Our battleplanes weigh two and a half tons and are driven by two Rolls-Royce motors of 250-horse power each. They have twin

propellers, and can make more than 100 miles an hour. Their motors are water-cooled. Other big planes have 300-horse power motors driving one propeller.

"The smaller machines, which carry only a pilot, are much faster. The Sopwith 'pup' makes 138 miles an hour; the Newport 'bullet' 135 miles; the Spat 140 miles, and the new machine, whose name may not be mentioned, makes 133 miles an hour. This is the great surprise. It is only a riving at the front now. It can ascend straight up without banking, and has reached 15,000 in seven and a half minutes. This makes it the ideal machine for Zeppelin work as it can get high quickly enough to catch the dirigibles. This unnamed machine is the greatest fighting machine in the world and will guarantee that we

maintain the supremacy of the air so necessary in this war."—N. Y. Times.

## Reids' Boats.

The Argyle left Burin at 8 p.m. yesterday, outward.  
The Home left Three Arms at 3.30 p.m. yesterday.  
The Kyle reached Port aux Basques at 7.45 a.m. to-day.  
The Meigle reached Placentia at 6.30 a.m. to-day.  
The Sagana left Port aux Basques at 12.45 a.m. to-day.

BRITISH TOURNEY.—The British Society are going to run off another card tournament at their rooms to-night.

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