

THE WEATHER.

Toronto, Feb. 4.—Pressure is low from Texas to the Great Lakes, also in Northern Pacific States and in British Columbia, and nowhere much above the normal. Snow is falling locally in Manitoba and in the Northern portions of Ontario, and in the vicinity of Lake Erie and Ontario otherwise fair weather prevails.

AROUND THE CITY

MORE HIKERS Two more trans-continental hikers are reported to be setting out from Nova Scotia for the Pacific coast. The last pair to get the fever are said to hail from Sydney.

CITY HALL PAY DAY.

The fortnightly pay for the laborers in the city departments was handed out at city hall yesterday morning. The amounts paid were as follows: Public works, \$2,840.30; water and sewerage, \$2,240.31; harbor, \$1,429.75; ferry, \$266.85. Total, \$8,067.31.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN.

Before His Honor Chief Justice McKeown yesterday morning an application was made by D. Mullin, K.C., in behalf of George Chatterton for the custody of his children. The children are with their grandmother in White street. An affidavit was read by W. M. Ryan in behalf of their mother, Mrs. Beulah Chatterton, and the matter was postponed for two weeks when evidence will be taken viva voce, the children being given in the custody of the mother in the interim.

UNVEIL MEMORIAL WINDOW

On Sunday at the eleven o'clock service at St. James Church, a window is to be unveiled which is to do honor to the men from St. James' congregation who served in the war. Of the large number on the Honor Roll, sixteen paid the supreme sacrifice and to commemorate their sacrifice a brass plate bearing their names will also be unveiled tomorrow. Another tablet, with a complete list of names will be placed on the walls later. Rev. H. A. Cady will preach the sermon and appropriate ceremonies will attend the unveiling of both window and tablet.

PROBATE COURT.

In the matter of the estate of Hannah Moran, late of Hampton, Dr. J. R. Campbell, K.C., was appointed administrator; personally \$6,308. R. A. Davidson was proctor. The will of John T. Browne was proved appointing C. W. Byles executor; realty \$800, personally \$30,000. G. E. Logan was proctor. Mary Etta Robinson was appointed administratrix of the estate of Marcus Wellington Cox, personally \$1,482.78. K. A. Wilson was proctor. The estate of James F. Robertson was probated at \$628,500, of which \$26,500 was realty and \$572,000 personalty. Josephine A. Robertson, T. E. G. Armstrong, H. P. Puddington and the Eastern Trust Company were confirmed as executors.

SEAT SALE TODAY

The reserved seats for the Moncton Singers presentation of "The Chimes of Normandy" opens at the Imperial this forenoon. The show is to be Tuesday afternoon after the first picture exhibition and at night also after the first show. Night prices 50c and \$1.00; Matinee (unreserved) 50c and 75c. Telephone orders will be filled after the box office visitors have been served.

CORNMEAL RATES BY CARLOAD IS DECIDED

The Trade and Commerce Committee of the Board of Trade in conjunction with some of the milling interests of St. John, have been corresponding with Board of Railway Commissioners in regard to an alleged discrimination against this port to several Nova Scotia ports and yesterday received from the Board a schedule of rates on cornmeal in car lots which is very satisfactory to them as it places this city more on a par with competing places. The rates which are in effect from January 1st last, are as follows: Middleton . . . . . 23.12 Kingston . . . . . 23.12 Weymouth . . . . . 21.12 Yarmouth . . . . . 18.12

Bible Leader Is On The "Empress"

Rev. Dr. Ritson Arrived Here Last Night to Start Series of Trans-Canada Conferences.

Among the passengers who arrived on the C. P. O. S. liner Empress of Britain which docked here last night was Rev. John H. Ritson, D. D., of London, England, General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

When interviewed after his arrival Dr. Ritson said it was his fourth visit to Canada. His first trip was in 1894 and in that year the Canadian Bible Society, which is a federation of all auxiliary British and Foreign Bible Societies in Canada stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with headquarters in London, was organized.

The present is the first trip which he has made since the outbreak of the war, and it was thought that he would materially assist in consolidating the work by making a flying visit to Canada this winter. A series of conferences have been arranged to take place throughout Canada at St. John, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver in the order named, and he hopes to return to England on the Empress which sails from this port on February 28. It was stated by him that the organization in London is working at a high pressure and it is a difficult proposition to spend a long time away from England as there is a vast quantity of work to be accomplished. He mentioned that he was in Eastern Europe last Autumn, and also in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria-Hungary and Germany in connection with the reorganization of the Bible Society. This work has not yet been fully completed, however, but it was impossible to do this in view of the prevailing conditions. These were of an economical and industrial nature, and the shortage of coal hampered the railway facilities considerably.

War Did Not Stop

In all the countries, and in fact in every part of the world, the work of the society was continued throughout the war. No Bible houses were closed and this even applies to the countries at war in Europe.

He declared that the members of the society realized that there is no part of the British Empire that is more loyal to the organization than Canada, and splendid help is received from this country.

In regard to the economic situation of America and Germany, he declared that there is no doubt but that in the former country and Hungary the conditions are just as bad as it can be, but Germany is much better off. The most flourishing country is Czechoslovakia, where the Bohemians predominate; but among the Austrians and Hungarians there is a good deal of suffering and in some cases famine.

The two last mentioned have not much money and what they have of this commodity has no purchasing value.

Rev. Dr. Ritson mentioned that he had found in every country a great readiness to receive the Bible Society and an anxiety among the people to get the Bible. This is a hopeful factor. He expects to have a very busy time in Canada during his short stay in view of the many large conferences which have been arranged to take place in such a short period of time.

Trades And Labor Council Is Active

The meeting of the Trades and Labor Council was held in the Labor Hall on Union street last night with President F. A. Campbell in the chair. C. F. Stevens, of the Rotary Club addressed the council on the boy life survey of the city and urged the council to appoint a committee to cooperate with the joint committee. This was appointed as follows: Vice-president Felix McMillin, Forest Hamilton, A. E. Heichle, who will take the matter in hand.

President Campbell and J. T. Gignac reported being in attendance at a meeting regarding vocational training. The council went on record for the continuation of the vocational education; also against the principle of daylight saving for the reasons they gave a year ago.

The following resolution was adopted in regard to profiteering and rent: "Whereas, The attitude of the majority of landlords in the City of St. John in boosting rents out of all proportion, particularly during the last few years, is inflicting a great hardship, especially on the working people of this city; and

"Whereas existing civic by-laws or provincial legislation do not provide any relief to the tenants against the exorbitant rent of the profiteering landlords who attempt to justify present exorbitant rentals on the ground of increased taxation, valuation, etc.

English Boy Was Bom On Steamer

Extra Passenger on Empress of Britain Arriving Last Night.

The C. P. O. S. liner Empress of Britain, in command of Captain E. Griffiths, arrived in this port from Liverpool about ten o'clock last night and docked at No. 2 and 3 berths. She carried a total number of 821 passengers, in addition to 2,745 bags of mail, 719 parcel post and 410 tons of general cargo.

Passenger List

The passenger list included 62 first class, 325 cabin and 634 third-class; while the cargo consisted of woollens, cottons, silks and fine goods. About thirty per cent. of the mail received is addressed to points in the Maritime Provinces, a large quantity of which was put ashore last night.

Rev. Dr. Ritson

Among the passengers on board were Rev. Dr. Ritson, general secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, with headquarters in London, Eng.; Major J. B. Peters, Quebec, and Captain E. F. Boyle, Vancouver. Over ninety per cent. of the third-class passengers are British, the majority of whom are headed for different parts in Canada. A comparatively few in number are going to the United States. The birth of an English boy was recorded in this trip.

The Voyage

Chief officer A. H. Nottley, one of the most popular officers coming into the port of St. John, declared that the steamer left Liverpool on Friday, January 28, and came here direct. During the first two days of the voyage the weather was very bad and storms and heavy winds prevailed. For the succeeding part of the trip the liner encountered moderate weather, but the last two days were exceptionally fine for this time of the year.

As An Oil Burner

Great satisfaction was expressed by the officers of the liner of the comfort of sailing her as an oil burner; and the C. P. O. S. purpose to operate several more steamers as oil burners. The Empress will return to Liverpool on Friday next via Halifax, where she will load over 3,000 gallons of oil which are intended for the purpose of taking her across the Atlantic and return to St. John.

Charge Theft of Cold Storage Chick

Main Street Plant Said to be Scene of Unusual Crime Recently.

Another alleged chicken thief has been rounded up and lodged in the police station. His methods differ slightly from those employed by the last man against whom that charge was preferred. The last was wont to visit neighbor's hen roosts in the stillness of the night and slip the plumpiest half dozen or so of the sleeping birds into a large bag which he carried for the purpose.

The man arrested last night did not bother walking all over town in search of hens, it is alleged. Not wishing to be so embarrassed, he visited the cold storage on Main street and helped himself, the charge declares. So it is that the charge of the theft of a chicken has been placed against Edward Richards by the C. N. R. police.

AUTO DRIVER STOPPED TRAFFIC

Delayed Street Car Near Corner of Sydney and Union Streets.

An automobilist, in a cranky frame of mind, delayed street railway traffic on the West St. John route, twenty minutes the early part of last evening. He was coming down Sydney street to Union and was in the path of a West St. John car about to take the switch from Union onto Sydney to make the loop. The auto driver stopped his machine and failed to get out of the way. After being urged by the motorman to give him a chance, the automobilist moved his automobile, only to back a short distance up Sydney street, stop his car on the rail path and "stay put."

Again the motorman argued for the right of way, but could not prevail upon the auto driver to move. After fifteen minutes of parrying a phone was sought and help from the police station summoned. The automobilist thought it time to get a move on and he did. The detective force is now after the autoist.

REMEMBERED BY BOAT CLUB MEMBERS

A large delegation of members of the St. John Power Boat Club waited last evening on Main St. Logan, 79 Kennedy street, who has lately joined the ranks of the benedicta. The secretary in the absence of the commodore, extended to Mr. Logan the hearty congratulations of the club and presented him with a solid oak leather covered rocking chair. Although taken by surprise, the recipient delivered a very nice reply in which he thanked his fellow club members for their kindness.

The evening was pleasantly spent with music, after which refreshments were served; and the gathering broke up after wishing Mr. and Mrs. Logan a long and happy married life.

CLIFTON HOUSE, ALL MEALS 60c. INDECENT ASSAULT Lesley Warner was arrested by the detective department here evening on suspicion of an indecent assault on Lulu Smith.

Valuable Donation To Natural History

Mrs. G. Ernest Fairweather Presents 861 Lantern Slides from All Parts of World.

One of the most acceptable and valuable donations ever given to Natural History Society has recently been received from Mrs. G. Ernest Fairweather. It consists of 861 lantern slides, a remarkably fine collection.

The slides were formerly the property of G. Ernest Fairweather, the well known architect, whose work is well commemorated in this city by the Free Public Library, which he designed.

Mr. Fairweather made the collection of lantern slides a hobby, and bringing his genius of the artist and beautiful to bear on his favorite amusement, amassed a collection of slides of an excellence that would be hard to duplicate.

Beautiful Travelogue

The slides, many of which are beautifully colored, include travelogues of all parts of the world. The famous old cathedrals and churches of the Middle Ages, the grandeur of whose architecture has never been surpassed, are especially well represented. In addition to the grand old piles, there are scenes of the beauty spots of all the European countries, as well as the every continent. The Canadian and American views are most pleasing.

Work of Old Masters

The work of the old Italian, Flemish and Spanish masters, as well as those of the more modern English and French artists, the art treasures of Rome and the Vatican comprising the finest of Grecian sculpture, are all comprised in the collection.

The society already possesses over two thousand slides and the remarkable feature of the new addition is that while it rounds out the old collection, there are very few duplicates. In nearly every case the slides will form an extension of a series.

The two most comprehensive sections of the collection, and having the greatest attraction for art lovers, are the slides which duplicate with a remarkable truthfulness of detail, the art treasures of Italy and the famous old paintings.

In the Italian section are included views of the scenery and architecture of Venice, Florence, Naples and Genoa. The views of Rome are very extensive and comprise the ruins of the Empire, the notable churches and the buildings of St. Peter's and the Vatican.

The slides of the Vatican's collection include: Raphael's "Moses," Father Time, "The Fall of Man," the Laocoon group, David, and many others.

The works of the great painters include specimens of the art of Rembrandt, Rubens, Raphael, Botticelli, Vermeer, Reynolds, Meissonier, Poussin, Guido, Boucher, Bonheur, and in fact at least a few of every painter of any consequence.

Chief William McInosh is deeply gratified with Mrs. Fairweather's generous gift and the members of the society and the general public as well may look forward with pleasure to the occasion that will mark their screening in the society's rooms.

Police Force On Hunt For "Torts"

Big Angora Vanishes from the Station Without Leaving a Trace.

The guard room and court room at the police station scenes of mourning the last few days. One who was wont to gladden both places, who was considered a thing of beauty and a joy forever, by the dispensers of the law, was for almost twenty-four hours of the day might be seen carefully inspecting the police register, or glancing with regal eyes upon the wretched culprit in the dock is doing so no longer; "Torts," the beloved police cat, has disappeared.

Whether she has fallen a victim to the amorous advances of some dashing but dissolute male admirer of her species, or whether a cat fancier has added the stately Angora to his collection, is not known, but some units either, if they are discovered! All the men on the force are keeping a lookout for "Torts."

Dykeman's are now selling Fur Coats at half price and less.

Recent advices from Montreal indicate an upward trend in the prices of furs. The extraordinary low prices quoted today are merely the result of extremely unsettled conditions. They cannot last. Keen buyers with an eye to the future will be quick to pick up snags such as are now being advertised by this store.

One only black Russian Pony, length 26 inches, prettily marked skin, has very heavy collar and cuffs of conchshell, Pease Willow line, was \$425; now offered for quick sale at \$200.

One only Hudson Seal, 33 inch, deeply furred Alaska Seal Collar and Cuffs; was \$260, now on sale at \$165—many other just as cheap.

CHIMNEY FIRE. The burning out of a chimney in the King Edward Hotel at 7.30 last night caused some excitement. It burned with such vigor as to brighten up King square and give evidence of a mighty fire. The blaze was killed by the use of chemicals.

Shopping Baskets Priced Attractively. Style, strength and surpassing value are perfectly expressed in the Shopping Baskets composing this particular lot. They came to us direct from the Indian camps, and only the best selected wood splints have been used in the making. They are roomy, yet light, and are provided with strong, flexible handles. The color combinations are fashionable and very pleasing. The price represents exceptional value. Only \$1.00 Each. SEE OUR MARKET SQUARE WINDOW. W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED. Store Hours:—8.30 a. m. to 6 p. m. Close at 1 p. m. Saturdays during February and March.

How About Your Walls and Ceilings? Do they suit you in their finish and color effect? Try MURESCO—In White and Tints. With it you can finish your Walls and Ceilings satisfactorily and artistically. Many master painters consider it the best Wall Coating made. EASILY APPLIED. ABSOLUTELY SANITARY. SHOWS NO LAPS. We will be glad to confer with you on re-finishing your Walls and Ceilings, whether your requirements are large or small, and feel indebted for the privilege. Emerson & Fisher, Ltd. - 25 Germain Street.

SALE OF BEST QUALITY Silk Poplins and Eoliennes. Saturday morning we will place on sale the balance of our Best Quality Silk Poplins and Eoliennes in brown, dark green, Burgundy, plum, wisteria, Belgium blue, French blue, old rose, tawpe, sand navy and steel grey. These beautiful fabrics are very serviceable and especially desirable for dress frocks for Misses or Women. Widths 36 and 42 inches. Only \$1.75 yd. to Clear. Sale in Dress Goods Section, Ground Floor. Big Bargains in Whitewear Section on Saturday.

Two Big Corset Bargains. No. 1—Low Bust Corset with four supporters. Made from heavy coutil, strongly reinforced. Size 19 to 27 in. Regular \$2.50 quality, For Saturday, \$2.39. No. 2—Medium Bust Corset, Made from extra quality coutil. Four supporters. Sizes 19 to 24 in. Regular \$3.50 quality, For Saturday, \$2.75.

Manchester Robertson Allison & Co. KING STREET - GERMAIN STREET - MARKET SQUARE

Muskrat Coats At Pre-War Prices. \$125.00 \$150.00 \$175.00. We have just received some Muskrat Coats in smart styles—31 to 40 inches long—some seal trimmed—large shawl collars and cuffs—they will sell for the above prices. BUY NOW FOR NEXT YEAR. D. MAGEE'S SONS, LTD., 63 King Street