

**THE WEATHER.**

Forecast.

Maritime—Strong winds and gales from southwest at first, with snow and rain.

Washington, Dec. 12—Northern New England—Snow Tuesday, colder at night; Wednesday fair northwest gales.

Toronto, Dec. 12—An important disturbance has developed off the middle Atlantic coast and an area of high pressure is centered to the westward of the Great Lakes. Light snow has fallen in Ontario and Quebec, while in the west the weather has been the and rather cold.

—10—

**Temperatures.**

	Min.	Max.
Prince Rupert	34	38
Victoria	42	50
Vancouver	42	46
Kamloops	28	34
Calgary	2	24
Edmonton	6	18
Battleford	6	6
Prince Albert	6	2
Moose Jaw	5	12
Regina	5	6
Winnipeg	6	4
Port Arthur	8	14
Ferry Sound	26	26
London	26	33
Toronto	28	33
Kingston	30	32
Ottawa	4	24
Montreal	14	26
Quebec	8	22
St. John	12	26
Halifax	14	28

—Below zero.

**AROUND THE CITY**

**RECRUITING MEETINGS.**

There will be a recruiting meeting tonight at eight o'clock in the Temperance Hall, St. James street, when Rev. F. S. Porter and others will speak. A musical programme will be provided.

A meeting in the interest of recruiting will be held on Thursday night at the Temperance Hall, Carleton. Rev. W. R. Robinson and Miles E. Agar will speak.

**Assessment Commission.**

The St. John Assessment Commission held a meeting on Saturday. Statistics were considered as affecting other cities. There will be no further meetings until the new year. No definite plan has been arranged regarding the trial of members of the commission to enquire into the matter of taxation in other communities.

**Wants to Go Back to War.**

Among those who applied at the recruiting office yesterday was Ernest Clapp, of Liverpool, England. He has been at the front but was wounded and discharged. He enlisted on the 14th of July, 1914, in the 25th King's Liverpool and was with them until the 28th of August, 1915, when he was wounded. He is one of the men who went through Neuve Chapelle. He was turned down here on account of being fit for one of the steamers in port.

**Deserters Escape.**

There have been frequent reports of deserters from the 69th Battalion deserting, and some of these have been captured. Last night there were three men locked up in the guard room at the armory. About 10.30 o'clock it was discovered that the prisoners had torn down the bars of the guard house and had made their escape. The military police, as well as members of the local force are on the lookout for the deserters.

**Pleaded Guilty to Selling Liquor.**

On Monday, the 14th inst., William McAleer of Erin street was arrested on the charge of assaulting Paul Ranta with an axe. For some time Detective Barrett and Briggs have had suspicions that McAleer was engaging in the illegal sale of liquor, and after the arrest was made on the assault charge the detectives searched the premises and found a quantity of liquor. The officers also procured evidence of selling liquor and yesterday he pleaded guilty to the charge and was remanded to jail.

**Presentation to Soldier.**

Wm. W. Dorman of 20 City Road, who has enlisted in the 115th Battalion, was waited on at his home last night by his fellow employees of the McClary Company and presented with a gold illuminated wrist watch, pipe and purse. Mr. Dorman was taken entirely by surprise but made a fitting reply, thanking his friends for their kindness. He has been in the employ of the McClary Company for about ten years and has been connected with the 62nd Battalion for about sixteen years, the last seven of which he was color sergeant of H Company.

**A Musical Evening.**

The regular meeting of the Young Peoples' Association of Saint David's church was held last evening. An interesting programme was carried out under the leadership of Miss Edith Doherty. The following famous songs were sung and the history of each one told by Miss Finley. Robin Adair, Dr. Leonard; Old Folks At Home, Miss C. Baillie; Marseilles, Curcio record; Sally in Our Alley, Mrs. Barnes; Kathleen Mavourneen, Miss Williams; Hark, Hark, the Lark, Mrs. Barnes.

**Boy Flavoring Extracts made in St. John.** BRAYLEY'S.

**TENDERS ON TENDERS FOR THE ST. JOHN AND QUEBEC RAILWAY. FIRST PLACE IN RECRUITING.**

**COMPLETION OF VALLEY RY.**

**Building of sections from Andover to Centreville and from Gagetown to Rothesay to be undertaken at once—Tenders close on December 30th.**

The directors of the St. John and Quebec Railway Co. (the Valley line) at a meeting held at the Royal Hotel last night approved of a form of tender for the completion of the road. The notice calling for tenders is made public this morning.

The uncompleted portions of the Valley Railway are those extending from Andover in Victoria County, to Centreville, in Carleton County, and from Gagetown to Rothesay. The extension from Gagetown to Rothesay will be subject to diversion of route as the exact location of this end of the road has not been definitely decided upon.

President Irving R. Todd in his call for tenders announces that tenders will be received up to noon on Thursday, December 30. The tenders are to state the cost per mile for a complete line of railway without rolling stock, ready in every other respect for operation by the lessee.

**C. B. WARD HEADS PRECEPTORY NO. 62 OF BLACK KNIGHTS**

**Queens Preceptory elected officers and heard reports—Year most successful.**

C. B. Ward was elected worshipful Preceptor of Queen's Preceptory, No. 62, Royal Black Knights of Ireland at the annual session held last evening. The other officers elected follow:—J. H. Burley, deputy preceptor; R. F. Goodrich, chaplain; Alexander Millson, registrar; James Spry, treasurer; F. Pitt, first lecturer; B. Heans, second lecturer; P. McMain, first censor; George Clarke, second censor; W. Reid, first standard bearer; A. Winchester, second standard bearer; G. O. Aberley, purveyor. Committee, G. A. Earle, E. W. Rowley, James Elliott, A. Galbraith, J. K. Lawson, C. Hughes, A. Rolston.

The annual reports of the retiring officers showed that the preceptory was never in better condition. The membership has increased during the past year, and there has been an amplification of all degrees from black to the red cross on large classes.

The preceptory has a good degree team and the new year starts better than any in its history. The preceptory has three members at the front fighting for the Empire.

**FORTY MEN WAITING TO BE EXAMINED FOR ENTRANCE TO RANKS**

**Good meeting in Mill street offices—Rev. W. R. Robinson and Dr. Magee the speakers.**

While no applicants were finally passed by the doctor yesterday, there are about 40 waiting to be examined. At the Mill street meeting last night R. J. Walsh acted as chairman and the speakers were Rev. W. R. Robinson and Dr. Magee. The rest of the programme consisted of a reading by Miss Walabansong by Moore Brothers and harmonics solo by P. C. Johnson. Rev. Mr. Robinson said every day the call from the different fronts is becoming more insistent for men; we are going to win this fight but it will not be until we get more men. There is one class of men who are not getting their proper share of credit for the work they are doing in this war, that is the men of the merchant marine. They are taking all sorts of chances in order that the army may be fed and clothed and we take it as a matter of course. If there is anything that should stimulate recruiting it is the fact that a British army has had to retire before the Bulgarians and lack of men was the reason for that retirement. There is a man in one of the New Brunswick battalions 68 years old, in order to get in he gave his age as 45, if that same spirit inspired all Britain should soon end this war.

Dr. Magee said it was a great pleasure to him to try and do his little bit for the Empire. This is a war, he said, one can be proud to be engaged in, and if we all do our best it will soon be brought to an end.

**ST. MATTHEWS CALLS MONTREAL PASTOR**

**Rev. John Hardwick invited to succeed Rev. J. J. McCaskill who has gone to front.**

The congregation of Saint Matthews' Presbyterian church, Douglas Avenue, has extended a call to the Rev. John Hardwick to fill the pastorate of the church left vacant by the Rev. J. J. McCaskill, who went as chaplain in the 73rd Highland Regiment from Montreal. Dr. Hardwick has been preaching in Montreal and it is altogether probable that he will accept the call of the church.

The Young Peoples' Society of the church held their weekly meeting last night and the subject for the evening was missions. Mr. Harry Keene presided and papers on missions were read by Miss Alrd, Miss Leggett, Miss Turner, Miss Daley and Miss Keene. These dealt with the life of the Rev. Dr. Robertson, the pioneer of Presbyterianism in the Canadian west. The Rev. John Hardwick gave a pleasing address on his own missionary work in northern Ontario, in the vicinity of Cobalt. Short addresses were also given by J. Fraser Gregory and Charles Steeves and the evening was brought to a close with the national anthem.

**COMPLAINED OF VOTING CONTEST**

**Retail Merchants Association laid complaint in Court against Union St. business man.**

In the police court an official of the Retail Merchants' Association complained that H. H. DeMille & Co., who conducts a men's furnishing house at 199-201 Union street, was violating the law. Mr. DeMille was in court and explained that with every purchase in his store the purchaser was given a slip of paper registering the amount and was allowed one vote for every cent expended in the store. Every Wednesday these votes were deposited and at the end of six months the person who had the highest number would be presented with a piano. Mr. DeMille stated that he was working this plan for the Business Boosters, who had wired him to the effect that it was fully within the law. There was no game of chance or lottery in connection with it.

The Association representative stated that it was a game of chance and was contrary to the act. The court was inclined to believe that the way the matter was run by Mr. DeMille was not illegal, but would fully look into the matter and inform the complainant that a date would be set for later in the week, or after Christmas, and if the Association wished then to take out an information the case would be given a hearing. It was suggested, however, that the whole case would only rest on a technical point of law.

**PERSONAL**

Hon. J. A. Murray, minister of agriculture, was in the city yesterday and left for Fredericton in the evening.

Miss D. Colgan has returned home after a month's visit in Boston and New York.

Prester Clarke is at the Royal.

Richard O'Leary of Richibucto was at the Royal last night.

Fred S. Inglis of Shediac is at the Victoria.

Charles Jamieson, M. P. for Digby, was at the Royal yesterday.

Christmas Walets.

F. A. Dykeman & Co. have just received a lot of late arrivals, 11th Hour styles. They bought these especially for Christmas presents and they are without doubt the daintiest designs that have been shown for a long time. Made from crepe de chine, in the new pastel shades, also plaid silks, silk voile and pongee silks. The prices run from \$1.75 to \$5.50 each.

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**SLEDS**  **FRAMERS**

The presence of sled or framer among the gifts on Christmas morning sends an extra thrill of joy to the youthful heart, for in the holiday season, and indeed, all winter long, coasting is among the favorite out-of-door pleasures for the younger members of the family.

In our big, well varied array of sleds, there is none we recommend more highly than the famous FLEXIBLE FLYER which, with its New All Steel Front, Patented Steering Device (which saves rubbers, boots and overboots), and grooved, non-skid runners, is the swiftest, safest and strongest sled you can find. It comes in three sizes, at \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00 each.

"Flyer" "Board" Sleds and Framers, from 50c. to \$2.50

Baby Sleighs ..... \$2.25 to \$12.50

**BE SURE AND SEE OUR SLEDS BEFORE YOU DECIDE.**

**SPORTING DEPARTMENT, SECOND FLOOR, MARKET SQUARE STORE**

**Market Square—W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD.—King Street**

**Macaulay Bros. & Co., King Street, St. John, N. B.**

Saturday our stores will be open until 10 p.m.; open at 9 a.m.; close 6 p.m., excepting Saturday 10 p.m.

**Useful Presents For Men, Youths and Boys**

Warm Scotch Knit Gloves.	Men's Umbrellas, \$1.00 to \$8.00 each.
Mocha Leather Lined Gloves in Tan or Grey.	Initial Linen Handkerchiefs, \$1.25 for box of six handkerchiefs.
Underwear, Shirts and Drawers, 50c. to \$2.85 a garment.	Thousands of Four-in-Hand Silk Neckties to select from.
All-Wool Sweaters for Youths or Boys, \$1.50 to \$2.25 each.	Men's Extra Fine, Pure, All-Wool Sweaters, \$3.50 to \$4.50 each.
	All Ties, Gloves, etc., put up in new designs for this season of fancy boxes.

**MACAULAY BROS. & CO.**

**The Ideal Gift**

HANDSOME, HANDY and USEFUL for every member of the family. One of the handiest applications of electricity you ever saw.

VEST POCKET FLASH LIGHTS	85c. to \$1.65
PISTOL FLASH LIGHTS	\$1.65
TUBULAR FLASH LIGHTS	\$1.00 to \$2.65
CONDUCTOR LANTERNS	\$2.75
PORTABLE FLASH LIGHTS	\$3.50 to \$4.50
EXTRA BATTERIES	35c. to 85c. each

There is no greater convenience or protection than an Ever-Ready Light.

**Emerson & Fisher Ltd.**

STORES OPEN 8.30. CLOSE AT 6 O'CLOCK. SATURDAYS 10 P. M.

**In the Christmas Show Room Are Now Innumerable Suggestions For Busy Gift Seekers**

**Mechanical and Instructive Toys, Dolls and Dolls' Furniture**

**MECHANICAL TOYS**—In Fire Engines, Hook and Ladder Trucks, Dump Carts, etc.

**MODLWOOD TOYS**—In Fire Engines, Automobiles, Delivery Cars, etc.

**MECCANO**—Every boy should have a Meccano outfit, for, in addition to the models shown in the instruction book, he will soon be able to build other models of his own invention.

**TINKERTOY**—"The wonder builder" for making a thousand different, marvellous moving figures, such as Merry-go-rounds, Giant Tops, Swings, Ferris Wheels, Wind Mills, Airships, Automobiles, Towers, Bridges and hundreds of other things.

**DOLLS**—A splendid assortment of attractive Dolls with unbreakable heads and all sizes. Also Schoenhut (all-wood) Perfection Art Dolls.

**DOLLS' BEDS**—In Mahogany, Mission and Enamel finishes.

**DOLLS' FURNITURE**—In Mahogany and Enamel finishes.

**TEDDY BEARS**—In different sizes; also Dogs, Cats, etc., in stuffed and mechanical toys.

**Sterling and Plated Silver**

**IN STERLING SILVER**—There is an especially inviting exhibit of just such pieces as would be appreciated as gifts. Trays, Adans and thread patterns in Teaspoons, Tablespoons, Dessert Spoons, Forks, Cream Ladles, Sugar Stiffers, Sugar Spoons, Olive Forks, Bon-Bon Tongs, Sugar Tongs, Butter Picks, etc.

**PLATED SILVER**—In Entree Dishes, Scallop Dishes, Casseroles, Sugar and Cream Sets, Spoon Trays, Trinity Sets, Bread, Trays, Bon-Bon Dishes, Vases, etc.

**Sparkling Cut Glass**

**CUT GLASS**—A very choice array of pieces in intricate and beautiful new patterns. Nappies, Bowls, Comfords, Sugar and Cream Sets, Spoon Trays, Vases, Pitchers, Water Bottles, Tumblers, Frappe Glasses, Lemonade Tumblers, etc.

**Handsome New China**

We have ready a most comprehensive showing of Dainty China to interest Christmas shoppers. In the popular Limoges China we offer a complete stock of standard patterns. Also a good assortment of Odd Pieces in Minto, Wedgwood and Coalport China.

**Fine Exhibit of Brassware**

**BRASSWARE** is offered in large variety of things of utility and decoration, such as Jardinieres, Umbrella Stands, Desk Sets, Smoking Sets, Ash Trays, Serving Trays, Baskets, Book Rests, Candle Sticks, Tie Racks, Pipe Racks, etc.

**New Electric Portables**

**DESK AND TABLE LAMPS**—All sizes, brass and mahogany, with glass, metal or wicker shades, in various designs and colors.

**ALSO BRANCH LIGHTS** for Newel Posts.

**Also in the Millinery Salon Are Exquisite Displays of New Cut Glass, Paperies, Perfumes and Toilet Waters**

**Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited**

**Funerals.**

The funeral of Samuel D. Hamm took place from his late residence 354 Main street, yesterday afternoon. Rev. B. H. Noble conducted services, interment took place in Cedar Hill.