MC2289

POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING PAPER The Times MOST PEOPLE READ

The Evening Times.

LAST EDITION

THE WEATHER.

Moderate southwest shifting to northwest gales, some local showers, but mostly fair. Saturday strong northwest winds, cooler. Frost on Sunday morning.

ONE CENT

VOL. IV, NO. 17 ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1907.

EDMUNDSTON HAS BIG FIRE; LOSS IS $30,000

Several Buildings Were Burned at Early Hour This Morning.

Started in Hebert's Hotel and Burned It and Murchie & Burpee's Store Adjoining---No Fire Protection---Dynamite Stopped Fire.

EDMUNDSTON, N. B., Oct. 19 (Special)—At four-thirty o'clock this morning cries of fire were heard and it was learned that the American Hotel, owned by Thadee Hebert, was all ablaze.

The fire was so far advanced that the large crowd that congregated was unable to save much of the contents. In less than half an hour the building was burned to the ground, and in another hour the large store of Murchie & Burpee and the dwelling of Mrs. Exile Michaud had been consumed.

It was only with the continuous work of the crowd that other nearby buildings were saved. In order to check the progress of the fire the dwelling owned by James Murchie & Sons was dynamited and here the fire stopped.

Edmundston has no fire protection, but for the past year has been figuring on one, and hope by next year to have a fine system installed.

This is the first fire in seven years, so the town has been rather fortunate, but with good protection both this and the last one could easily have been avoided.

The property of Thadee Hebert was insured for $3,000, loss about $5,000.

Murchie and Burpee, with a loss of about $23,000, had only $8,500 insurance, and Mrs. Michaud has $500 insurance, while her loss amounted to over $1,000.

A detailed statement of the insurance in the Edmundston fire shows the following held in St. John:

Murchie & Burpee, $2,000 in the Atlas Insurance Co. on their building, and $1,000 in the Atlas, $2,000 in the Ontario, $1,000 in the London, $1,000 in the London Mutual, $1,000 in the New York Underwriters, and $1,000 in the North America on their stock. Total $8,000 on building and stock.

Thadee Hebert, $2,200 on the hotel and contents in the British America.

J. R. & J. Michaud, $500 in the Queen on the building.

THE TELEPHONE COMPANY TOOK PROMPT ACTION

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. has taken prompt measures in connection with the destruction of trees by the man who was doing their work along the Westfield Road. The man has been discharged and owners of trees destroyed or damaged have received satisfactory assurances that the company will repair the damage done.

As soon as the president of the company received a complaint he sent J. E. Marshall, superintendent of construction over the route to investigate. Mr. Marshall was seen by a Times man today and said he had driven over the line from St. John to a point about seven miles above Westfield and he found that the trimming of trees to make way for the wires, was not done in a workmanlike manner, particularly in front of the residences of S. S. McAvity and George R. Ewing, at Woolastook. Here the trees were badly trimmed and several cut down. It was not so much the damage done, said Mr. Marshall, as the manner in which the work was performed. The brush was left lying about and there was every evidence that proper care had not been exercised. These two properties were the only ones about which a complaint had been made.

Mr. Marshall said that the man employed on this work had been told to get permission of property owners before trimming or cutting down any trees, but as there was no one in these houses, he went ahead and did the work on his own responsibility.

As soon as he found the state of affairs he wrote to the man telling him his services were no longer required as the work was not according to instructions.

The work will be continued by other men in whom full confidence can be placed and residents of that vicinity are assured that there will be no recurrence of the destruction complained of.

The Times called up S. H. White, of Sussex, president of the New Brunswick Telephone Co., by telephone this morning, and Mr. White stated that the policy of the company was very pronounced on this question of the destruction of trees. When he heard of what had been done near Wetfield he if possible felt worse than the people directly affected. He recognized the sentimental as well as the practical value of trees, and all employes of the company had strict orders not to cut or destroy any tree, especially ornamental trees. Whenever a complaint is made a man is sent at once to investigate, and where damage is done it is paid for at once, so far as the company can compensate for the injury done. In the case lately reported the damage was done by an employe who was promptly discharged when reported. Mr. White said that often there were complaints about trimming trees, which were not well-founded, and the company thus suffered damage through unfounded criticism. He desired to state with all the emphasis possible that the company gave explicit instructions to its employes not to destroy trees, and any such acts were a distinct disregard of orders.

W. H. Wetmore and Mrs. Wetmore came in on today's Boston train.

Ralph Bonnell of Scovil Bros. Ltd., came in on today's Boston train from New York were he has been buying novelties for his firm.

COMMISSIONER COOMBS IN TOWN

Commissioner Coombs, commander of the Salvation Army in Canada, accompanied by Mrs. Coombs, together with his private secretary, Staff Captain Morris, passed through the city at noon today on his way to Charlottetown where he will spend the week end holding special meetings. Also accompanying the commissioner were Col. Pugmire, Col. Sowton, general secretary for Canada and territories and Brigadier Turner. From Charlottetown they will go to Halifax where the annual fall council of the officers of the maritime provinces will be held Monday night. Staff Captain Miller, the army's architect who has had charge of the building of the new citadel said today that he is considering changes in the rescue home building.

The staff-captain said that the army have a considerable amount of building operations under way. They have just completed fine halls in Toronto and contracts are let for 2 more brick structures, remodelling the rescue homes at Hamilton and London and building new wings on each; remodelling rescue home and children's home, Ottawa, also the large citadel in Quebec for immigration purposes. They are building three citadels in Toronto, and four mission halls. In Montreal contracts re let for a building; a six room normal school in St. John's, Nfld., has just been completed, and the commissioner is going there to open.

WILL BE LARGER THAN LUSITANIA

HAMBURG, Oct. 19—The giant steamer that English shipbuilders are to construct for the Hamburg-American line will be named the Europa. She will be of 48,000 tons as against the 32,500 of the Lusitania. Incidentally, it is stated that the Europa will probably be the last German line steamer to be built in Great Britain, as the new Vulkan yards, which are to take this work, will be completed before the construction of the proposed sister ship of the Europa is authorized.

COULDN'T STAND NAME OF COWARD

TORONTO, Oct. 19—(Special)—Max. Krapner, a German Jew, from Cincinnati, committed suicide by swallowing carbolic acid in his room at the Vendome hotel in Toronto yesterday.

A few hours before he had received a letter from his wife in Cincinnati reproaching him for running away from his creditors, leaving her alone to fight his battles. The letter accused Krapner of being a coward. It is supposed he took poison in remorse.

KIPLING IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA, Oct. 19 (Special)—Rudyard Kipling arrived here this morning and drove straight to Rideau Hall, where he will be a guest of Lord Grey during his stay in Ottawa. Kipling received the press correspondents at Rideau Hall this forenoon. He had little to add to what he had said at othr points on his way to and from the coast.

MONTREAL STOCKS

MONTREAL, Oct. 19—(Special)—The liquidation in stocks was renewed today. Brokers were compelled to carry considerable lines over to dispose of as best they could as soon as the market showed some signs of strengthening. This liquidation is now in progress and was the principal feature in the weakening of prices today. There was a big lot of Dominion Steel thrown on the market which sold at 16 1-2 to 16, preferred going for 40. The heaviest break was in Montreal Street to 168 from 174 yesterday. This is ten points below the level touched the day of the Detroit United panic and is now the low level in several years. The balance of the list showed lesser signs of weakness.

Rio was an exception showing further recovery to 31. Canadian Pacific sold at 155 1-4; Lake of the Woods Milling, 69 1-4; Montreal Power, 89 3-8 to 88 3-4; Twin City 84; Detroit, 39; Dominion Coal, 44 1-4 and Havana, pfd. 71.

FIFTEEN YEAR OLD BOY KILLS MOTHER BY ACCIDENT

NORTH BATTLEFORD, Sask., Oct. 19 —(Special)—A shocking accident occurred yesterday at the home of Charles Moore, a farmer, about 18 miles northwest of this place. Percy, Mr. Moore's 15 year old son, came in from duck shooting and having forgotten to remove a loaded shell began to wipe the gun to hang it up, when the weapon went off and the bullet striking his mother killed her instantly.

SAW MOOSE ON THE TRACK

Passengers on the Boston train coming in this morning, tell of seeing a large moose at the edge of the woods about a mile the other side of Fredericton Junction. The animal did not appear to be disturbed by the train, but simply threw up his head, with a splendid spread of antlers, and went on munching the vegetation. When Fredericton Junction was reached, the engine driver told a couple of residents about his lordship and they started on his trail with a couple of rifles.

AUCTIONS

At Chubb's Corner today Auctioneer Lantalum sold at auction, under and by virtue of certain mortgages, the river steamers Elaine and Hampstead and ten small boats and the leasehold interest of the Hampstead Steamship Company, Ltd. in the Porter Wharf (so called) at Indiantown. Alexander W. Baird was the purchaser for $10,000.

The land and building situated at the northeast corner of Duke and Prince Wm. streets was offered at auction by Auctioneer Lantalum but was withdrawn at $4,200.

JAPANESE IMMIGRATION

VANCOUVER, B. C., Oct. 19 (Special) The steamer Indraveli has been chartered by Senator Chillingworth, of Honolulu, to bring two thousand Hawaiian Japanese here in January. The same gentleman on behalf of a Honolulu boarding house keeper, has chartered another steamer to load Japanese from Honolulu for Brazil in March.

MAJ. GORDON'S CASE UP IN POLICE COURT TODAY; ADJOURNED TO MONDAY

Some Interesting Exchanges Between Judge Ritchie, Hon. H. A. McKeown and Sergeant Ross---His Honor Asks About New Attorney General.

Charged with flourishing a loaded revolver yesterday afternoon and threatening to shoot men who were working driving piles in Union Street, west end, Major J. J. Gordon, proprietor of the Gordon Nail works, appeared in the police court this morning and after a short hearing was further released in $50 bail until Monday at 11 a. m. Sergeant Ross, who made the arrest, and was in court, expressed the opinion that the recorder should be present to represent the city. Judge Ritchie, in the course of his remarks said he had some doubt if the crown should not be represented and with apparent innocence asked Hon. H. A. McKeown, who represented Major Gordon, if an attorney general had been appointed yet. On the defendant's counsel replying that he was not aware of any appointment, his honor innocently added that he thought Mr. McKeown might know.

Early yesterday afternoon men who are employed by the city driving piles in Union street were ordered to begin work preparing for the main track of the street railway. The track is planned to run along the western side of the street and some thirty feet of the property formerly under lease to the Gordon Nail Works is required for the purpose. It was when the men attempted to commence work on this property that Major Gordon interfered.

After warning the men, he produced a revolver and, it is said, threatened to shoot the first man who set foot on his property. Sergeant Ross was sent for and on arrival says that Mr. Gordon produced the revolver and threatened he would shoot anyone interfering with his property.

Having arrested Major Gordon on the charge referred to, Sergeant Ross conveyed his prisoner to the central police station and returned to Carleton. The police magistrate presided at a preliminary hearing at 5 p. m. and accepted bail in $50 for the appearance of Major Gordon at 11 o'clock today.

When the case was called on this morning Sergeant Ross on coming forward to give evidence suggested that in justice to the city the recorder should be present.

His Honor: "Don't you think I'm fit to try the case?"

Sergt. Ross:—"The city has expropriated Major Gordon's land."

His Honor:—"What has the land got to do with it? Have you seen the recorder?"

Sergt. Ross—"It's not my business."

His Honor—"It's not your business to raise the question."

Sergt. Ross—"It's the recorder's business to be here to represent the city."

His Honor—"Well I'm not going to see him. You made the arrest. If you're sorry you can apologize."

Sergt. Ross—"I like to se other officials do their duty. I'm not sorry."

Mr. McKeown—"Perhaps Mr. Ross need not go on the stand. Is this a charge under a city bye-law."

Mr. Henderson—"Under the criminal code."

Mr. McKeown—"Perhaps as Mr. Ross says other officials should do their duty and as he thinks he has done his duty he has no desire to press the charge. There is some dispute as to this property your honor."

His Honor—"So I have seen in the papers."

Mr. McKeown—"There has been no breach of the peace. What the city should do is to eject Mr. Gordon by legal process not forcibly."

His Honor—"What were the workmen doing?"

Mr. McKeown—"They were starting to drive piles. If the city claims the property there is no justification in sending a crowd of workmen to take it. The recorder as I understand advised the men to go and push Mr. Gordon off, although in conversation we agreed previously that the proper course was ejectment. I fancy the recorder won't come up and face it.

Sergt. Ross—"It looks like it."

Mr. McKeown—"Mr. Gordon is a respectable citizen, and was not making a fuss for the purpose of making it. He has legal rights, but of course there are other ways than the course he took. I understand Mr. Ross was not there."

Sergt. Ross—"I was there the second time, and asked Major Gordon to put the shooter away—

Major Gordon (interrupting)—"Think again, Sergeant, I gave the revolver to another man and the sergeant got it."

His Honor—"Was it loaded?"

Sergt. Ross—"Yes, in five chambers."

His Honor—"He had no business to have that at all. I can let the case stand until Monday. Perhaps the recorder will read of these proceedings in to-night's papers and come up then. Or I can go on today. However smal the case is or however good a man's rights he can't take and flourish a revolver. There must be no color to any collusion on my part because the man is a respectable citizen. The man was arrested. The sergeant states the city ought to be represented. Perhaps so. What am I going to do, dismiss the case? I have cases of all kinds here every day and I am supposed to shut my eyes and not know the defendants. I can't let the matter stop on a technicality."

Mr. McKeown—"I don't ask for that."

His Honor—"Maybe some amicable settlement can be arrived at, unless the crown is interested. By the way, Mr. McKeown, is there an attorney general?"

M. McKeown—"I've not heard of any being appointed."

His Honor—"I thought perhaps you might be able to tell me. We had better not go into this thoroughly until Monday unless you press it."

Mr. McKeown—"I agree."

His Honor—"What about witnesses?"

Sergt. Ross—"I only see one here."

His Honor—"Perhaps one with you will be enough. We don't want to take men from their work. I will adjourn the case until 11 o'clock on Monday."

As the court rose Major Gordon addressing his honor said he wished to state that the charge was correct.

NEWS FROM FREDERICTON

FREDERICTON, N. B. Oct. 19—(Special)—Six lots of land on University Avenue belonging to the Temple estate were sold at auction here this morning by the direction of H. R. Grosvenor, administrator of the estate of the late Vesta E. Forester. One was knocked down to James A. Roger for $250 and others went to F. B. Edgecombe at prices ranging from $130 to $210. The lots were sold subject to protest from J. H. Barry, actifg for the minister of railways who claims that the property was transferred to the crown under the foreclosure of a mortgage dated October 12th, 1887.

Architect Fairweather of St. John was here yesterday looking over Bottreaux house with view of having alterations and repairs made. It will likely be occupied as a residence by Bishop Richardson.

Thomas Billing, student secretary for Canada, will address the college Y. M. C. A. tomorrow afternoon.

Judge Gregory who has been on a trip to the Old Country for the benefit of his health will arrive home next week by the Empress of Ireland.

The creditors of the estate of John A. Humble, of Stanley, will meet on Monday to wind up the business and declare a dividend. It is believed that the creditors will receive about twenty-five cents on the dollar.

At the Cathedral, tomorrow evening, Bishop Richardson will preach a special sermon to the students of the University.

The nuptials of Miss Grace Hazen, of this city, and Frank Harris, of Sackville, will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Thursday next.

Partridges were quite plentiful in the market here this morning, and sold readily for seventy-five cents a pair. A man named Davis undertook to buy up the lot for shipment to St. John, but he was stopped by Policeman Phillips. He will likely be proceeded against for forestalling.

BERNHARDT WANTS TO DIE IN HARNESS

PARIS, Oct. 19—Sarah Bernhardt, in denying a rumor that she is soon to retire from the stage, said that she will play till she dies. She said: "This may, of course, be my last season, as rumor says, for I am an old woman and my life is in God's hands, but I shall play until my death, and the fate I hope for is the death Sir Henry Irving died."

ST. JOHN HIGH SCHOOL BEATS FREDERICTON

Snappy Game of Football on Victoria Grounds This Morning.

The St. John High School defeated the Fredericton High in a fast and clean game of football this morning on the Victoria Grounds by a score of 6 to 0. The game started at about 10.30 o'clock with Thos. E. Powers as referee. The teams lined up as follows:

Fredericton		St. John
Jonah	full back	Finley
	halves	
McDonald		W. Willis (Capt.)
McKay (Capt.)		F. Smith
McConnell		Lynch
Bailey		Hamm
	quarters	
McGibbon		McGowan
Brown		Peterson
Gunter		McKinnon
Jewett		March
Vavasour		F. Willis
Cass		Morrissey
Baird		Anglin
Carter		Young
Dixon		Hannaberry
Hoben		R. Smith.

The local boys had the better of the game all the way, and forced the visitors to touch for safety many times. The game was snappy and both teams showed a lot of fine material. The first half ended with no score. In the second Capt. Willis and F. Smith scored in close succession, neither touch was converted.

For the visitors Capt. McKay and McDonald played a fine game at half, while McGibbon at quarter was always conspicuous by his nice tackling and snappy work. Capt. Willis for the local lads and F. Smith excelled among the halves. Both forward lines did good work, but the local team had the advantage, McKinnon being a tower of strength to the team.

SLIGHT FIRE IN WEST END

An alarm was rung in from box 116, about 12.25 o'clock today for a slight blaze which occurred in the blacksmith shop of James Gordon's nail works on the west side. The fire was started by a pipe which fell from the forge, and was extinguished by a couple of buckets of water before the fire department arrived. Very little damage was done.

LEPREAUX IRON MINES

HALIFAX, N. S. Oct. 19—(Special)—The Lepreaux iron mine company's directors met at Sydney this morning when the proposition to lease their iron areas to the D. I. & S. Co., was received and was accepted. The lease will be for eight years and the D. I. & S. Co., will commence prospecting at once.

The steel co. will pay 25 cents royalty on all iron taken out and must work the mine continuously. They will take treasury stock for their development work at 25 dollars per share, the par value to be one hundred. Not more than two thousand shares will be given in any event no matter how much money is spent in developing. The directors are C. V. Wetmore, president, F. A. Crowell, vice-president, J. S. McLennan, Jas. F. Robertson, of St. John and F. P. Jones, general manager of the steel works. The meeting was represented by three-fourths of the stock.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

A correspondent who does not send his name sends this complaint to the Times:—

"There was a letter sent to me from Boston with a special delivery stamp on it which reached St. John today (Friday 18th inst.) at one p. m., but which was not delivered to me until 6 p. m. same day. Now Mr. Editor, a letter which has a special delivery stamp on it is supposed to be delivered as soon as it reaches its destination. Is it not? I would like you to answer this question through the medium of your paper for the benefit of others as well as myself who may have occasion some time to use one of said stamps, or in other words to know if they do use one of them that the stamp is as good as its name implies."

Interviewed relative to this complaint, Postmaster Hanington stated that if the writer would send his name or the envelope in question full enquiry would be made. Further than that he could say nothing at present.

GAS MAKING MACHINE KILLS TWO EMPLOYES

NEW HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 19 —A machine used in the manufacture of illuminating gas from petroleum, in a small structure on the Farmington River in the upper village, exploded with terrific force this morning, and Thos. O'Connell, the maker of the gas, and his assistant, Michael Donovan, were instantly killed, and George Gagnon was seriously hurt. The building was wrecked . Only the three men mentioned were in the building. The cause of the explosion is not apparent.

THE TIMES NEW REPORTER

DEPENDS ON THE BRAND.

The Times new reporter has received the following communication:—

The Times New Reporter:

Sir,—Last evening while enjoying the picture entitled "Liquid Electricity" now being shown at one of the moving theatres the thought occurred to me, what a blessing it would be to your city if "Liquid Electricity" could be injected into your city council, the board of trade, the heads of your city departments, and in fact your citizens. Then your wharves would be finished, your city would be booming with industries, a competent council would be in charge, and if a dose of the same stuff were administered to your "$100,000 beauty," visitors to the city would not have a chance to laugh, but would envy St. John as a place to live in. For the benefit of those who have not seen "Liquid Electricity," I will say it is simply energy.

A FREQUENT VISITOR.

[The particular brand of liquid electricity to which this correspondent refers may not be running free in St. John; but the brand in common use, and to which it is claimed we are indebted for the $100,000 beauty, is found in great abundance. This brand is converted into energy of the most strenuous character, requiring sometimes three policemen on the safety valve.

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MORE TROUBLE

A petition from the mill-owners has been sent to the city council as a result of the encounter between Wun Gondy and a saw-log in the harbor yesterday. The mill-owners state that if the city puroposes to convert the ferry steamer into a saw-mill they will refuse to pay their taxes. Wun Lung is still in Rodney hospital, but the Ludlow has been taken to Hilyard's blocks to undergo special treatment.

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AN ATTACK MEDITATED

FREDERICTON, Oct. 19—(Special)—As a result of Hon. Dr. Pugsley's visit yesterday a war-balloon will be sent to make a map of the stronghold of the King of the Nackawick. One of the St. John Valley balloons will be utilized for the service. The rumor that an attorney-general would direct the balloon is without foundation. There is a shortage in this branch of the service.

ST. JOHN IS THREATENED WITH SOFT COAL FAMINE

MORE ABOUT THE WEIGHT OF BUTTER

Mr. C. W. McDougall, dairy superintendent, writes to the Times to correct a statement made by another correspondent relative to the percentage of water, etc., in butter. Mr. McDougall says:—

"Butter is composed of fat, water, salt and curd. The water, salt and curd comprise what is known as orerrun, and in weight represents the difference between the weight of the fat in the butter and the weight of the butter. If we adopt the maximum legal percentage of water (16 p. c.) in butter, that means 16 in 100, not 16 on a 100, as given by your correspondent (16 in 100 is 20 on 100). Then he has confused the moisture content with the moisture, salt and curd content—an average of the salt and curd content would be about 4 p. c. of the butter—3 p. c. salt and 10 p. c. curd. Again he cites an analysis of Canadian butter on the English market of 10 to 12 p. c. water—"not much chance of shrinkage there;" of course there would not be much chance of shrinkage in the shrunken.

"In our work in Ontario last year, we submitted 262 samples of creamery butter to the O. A. C. for analysis. The average water content was 14.1 p. c. The determination I have made of N. B. butter since coming here exceeds this percentage. The determinative of water is quite simple.

"About the matter of shrinkage, let me say that this could only come from the loss of brine by leakage or loss of water from the brine by evaporation, the salt being left behind. An open granular butter, other things being equal, would permit of a greater amount of leakage than a close greasy butter. Amount of pressure in transit on the print would also be a factor in addition to the brine exuding from the force of gravity.

"Now as to the loss from evaporation. It will depend upon amount of moisture present in the butter, amount and quality of wrapping paper used, area of print exposed, temperature of air in which exposed, dryness of the air, and length of time exposed. The greater any or all of these the greater the evaporation.

"In Ontario we advised that a 56 lb. box be packed with 57 lbs. of butter, and that the printer be adjusted to deliver 16 1-2 ounces of butter for the print trade No two successive churnings give butter of the same density, and it is practically impossible to make every print of identically the same weight, so we advised that ample butter be put in to allow for inequalities and shrinkage. I like the print and printer used in Ontario much better than those common in New Brunswick. The printer was more easily adjusted and the print had less surface exposed per unit of weight.

"Some of best Ontario creameries put a guarantee on the wrapper saying that "This package is guaranteed full weight (specified), and of best quality when it left the creamery."

"We must stand by the principle that the consumer is to get what he pays for, and in these times of high prices he will need to be watchful in many lines."

"It is just possible that some of the short weight prints, especially the farmers' prints, would show a normal amount of fat and low water content. If any maker were entitled to leniency it would be the farmer, as he is not in the weighing business in the same sense that the creamery man or produce dealer is."

THE WEST SIDE DISPUTE

To the Editor of the Times:

Sir,—The west side of the city, or as it now appears on railroad maps, West St. John, seems to be providing all the sensations of the town just now.

In endeavoring to regain possession of the property leased by the corporation of St. John to Sleeth, Quinlan & Co. and Major Gordon a disposition has been shown in some quarters to gain the desired end at any cost, even the deprivation of the west side of two of its most important industries. While the board of trade is making a bid for new industries the common council by its attitude on this matter exhibits a desire rather to close up than foster an existing industry. If the property leased to these two firms is required for the development of the winter port trade it would have been a comparatively simple matter for the council to have offered another site for the factories. Instead of doing this they have endeavored to repossess the corporation by force.

At the present time the two firms interested in the leases are contesting in the courts against the award of Judge McLeod in the first expropriation proceedings for the thirty-foot strip as it is called. This appeal is due to the fact that the decision deals only with the erections above ground and not with the foundations on which they rest. For the same reason the two firms mentioned have declined to accept the award of the arbitrators who were appointed to value the property on the expiry of the leases.

Major Gordon and Sleeth, Quinlan & Co. have also made a claim against the city for damages arising out of the closing of Union street in front of their premises which has greatly hampered their business. None of these matters had been considered by the council when an attempt was made by the city to obtain possession of a further strip of the property for the use of the street railway.

It looks very much now as if the city would have to face expensive litigation because of the policy of the council to let all matters drift.

RATEPAYER.

THE INDIANTOWN MARKETS

The quantity of country produce coming down to Indiantown has not increased to any great extent. There is a slight change for the better on potatoe prices, $1.25 to $1.35 being the figure. Carrots are quoted at $1.25, and turnips at 60 to 70 cents at the boats. Butter and cheese continue high, dairy selling at 24 to 26 cents at the boats, and cheese about 14c. The indications are that with fine weather vegetables will be much cheaper, but butter and cheese prices are not likely to improve. New hay is selling at from $16 to $20.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Armstrong have returned from New York where they have been on an extended visit.

The Springhill Strike is Principal Cause of the Local Shortage.

American Soft Coal Being Imported to Fill Dealers' Bins ---Prices Have Decided Upward Tendency --- Situation Worse Now Than For Years

In addition to prevailing high prices in foodstuffs, St. John people may be called upon to face a soft coal famine this winter. Prices have a decided upward tendency, and already it has been found necessary to import American soft coal.

Talking with the Times today, a prominent local dealer said that the shortage is accounted for by the fact that no Springhill coal has been distributed anywhere since the strike. Added to this the demand on the St. Lawrence has been heavier than usual this year, and the Nova Scotia and Cape Breton coal companies have had all they could do to supply their regular contracts without making up the shortage caused by the Springhill strike.

The situation, he adds, is worse now than for a number of years, and the supply in St. John of soft coal has been very low for some time. As a matter of fact there is scarcely any in the city today, outside of that in the consumers' bins. It has been stated also that the Dominion Coal Company have been unable to take anything outside of their regular contracts in St. John for some time and their big pocket at the end of the North wharf is today pretty nearly empty. Should anything happen to prevent the arrival of one of their coal steamers within the next few days, consumers may have to face a serious situation.

The I. C. R. is practically out of coal at a good many points and the shortage is being felt in all the small towns in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

A cargo of West Virginia coal arrived today by schooner Lady of Avon, for Gibbon & Co. This is the first cargo of American soft coal that has been brought here for fully ten years, and a duty of 60 cents on the ton, added to the freight charges, will bring the price pretty high. The only consolation is that the quality of this coal is said to be better than that mined in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.

In the British market also soft coal is $1.00 to $1.50 higher than in other years, and American soft coal is higher than usual and still has an upward tendency.

The I. C. R. asked for quotations on American soft coal but deferred ordering pending a settlement of the Springhill strike.

Dealers have been feeling the shortage of Scotch anthracite also; their orders having been short shipped by steamers that arrived recently at this port. Some of them got about half what they had ordered, others received none at all.

The stoppage is at the mines and is caused principally by the heavy demand on the other side of the Atlantic. It is also stated that the American fleet required 113,000 tons of Welsh smokeless coal and this has probably increased the demand for Scotch coal of that character.

Messrs. Starr when communicated with today would give out practically nothing beyond the statement that the supply in the big coal pocket at the end of the north wharf, was as it usually is at this time of year and that there had been a big demand for soft coal on the St. Lawrence. In reply to a query as to whether the Dominion Coal Company here had been unable to take anything outside of their regular contracts Mr. Starr said: "Well, I don't propose to give anything about that to you or anyone else. That's our own private matter."

LATE LOCALS

Tomorrow Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held in St. Luke's church.

The attention of the proper authorities is called to an overflow of water across the sidewalk at the head of Harrison street.

Rev. W. B. Higgins, a returned Baptist missionary from India, will lecture in the Main street Baptist church Monday evening on his work among the natives.

There was a flutter of excitement along the harbor front this morning when the Ludlow was seen to steam out of Rodney slip and head across the harbor. It was at first feared she had decided to go on the route, but such was not the case. She was merely on her way to Hilyard's blocks to have necessary repairs made.

Twelve deaths were reported at the office of the board of health for the week ending today, as follows:—tuberculosis, two; bronchitis, asthenia, paralysis, senility, meningitis, gastric ulcer, carcinoma of liver, cardiac dilatation, phthisis pulmonaris and cholera infantum, one each.

The old schooner called the Hornett in command of Captain Coffell now in the Market Slip was the one used at the Centennial of the landing of Champlain, she was then called L'Acadia. The scow shaped schooner is now under the United States flag.

While the tug Neptune Captain Clarke was going up through the falls last Thursday night some one on the suspension bridge threw stones down on the steamer's deck almost striking one of the crew. This has occurred several times with other vessels. The caretaker should keep a sharp lookout for the guilty parties as it is a dangerous practice.