

AROUND THE CITY

Wire Trouble Affects Lights.

The electric lights in the eastern section of the city went out for a few minutes last evening owing to a defective wire. The trouble lasted about ten minutes.

Appreciation of Salvage Corps.

Capt. K. J. Macrae, of No. 1 Salvage Corps Company, has received \$25 from J. Fred Fisher of the F. Fisher and Co., also a letter thanking the corps for the careful manner in which they protected the firm's property during the fire early Sunday morning.

The First Real Sleighing.

The fall of snow yesterday provided the city with the first real sleighing of the season and many were out yesterday afternoon and evening enjoying the pleasure of sleighing. The tooting of horns and the singing of merry carols last night showed that the parties with the four horse sleighs had commenced their season of pleasure.

Big Shoe Warehouse About Finished.

The large new Ames-Holden-McCreedy building on the corner of Duke and Canterbury streets is practically finished, the only work now being done is putting on the finishing touch. Yesterday the New Brunswick Telephone Company finished installing an up-to-date intercommunicating system. The building is now one of the finest in the city.

Builders Exchange.

At the meeting of the St. John Builders Exchange held last evening, the following officers were elected for the year: president, Hon. J. E. Wilson; 1st vice president, H. L. McGowan; 2nd vice president, J. Thomas; secretary, R. M. Thorne; treasurer, J. Hurley; sergeant-at-arms, J. Bernard Holmes; trustees, S. A. Thorne, W. A. Steiper, J. Sprout and J. Donald.

At the Every Day Club.

The work of the Every Day Club this winter is proceeding in a satisfactory manner. Last evening about 150 boys and young men gathered at the club room and spent a very enjoyable evening. C. H. Piewelling was present and entertained the gathering by showing a large number of interesting pictures. Addresses were delivered by T. M. Belding and Geo. Scott, after which the boys amused themselves by singing a number of patriotic choruses.

Will Not Hold Inquest.

Coroner D. E. Berryman stated last evening that he would not hold an inquest into the Silver Falls case where a few bones had been found in the ruins of the mill. The coroner said there was very little, if any, evidence that there had been a human being buried in the bar, and after he had made a thorough investigation he was satisfied that an inquest was not at all necessary.

Sokoito Had Rough Time.

The Elder-Dempster liner Sokoito which docked at the Long Wharf yesterday had a rough time of it coming up the bay. She was a little to the southward of Seal Island when she ran into Friday's reef, and was obliged to heave to for some time. Although the steamer suffered no damage from the heavy seas the false deck on the pilot house was blown away, and the binnacle containing the standard compass was badly injured. The officer in command said that at times the wind blew with hurricane violence, and that during the heavier squalls it was impossible for a man to stand on the deck without holding on to something with both hands. The Sokoito has a cargo of sisal from Mexican ports.

BURGLAR ALARM

BROUGHT POLICE;

"NOTHING DOING"

Bank Montreal Alarm Sounded; by Accident Yesterday - Crowd Collected but "Burglars" Kept Under Cover.

The sounding of the burglar alarm in the Bank of Montreal caused considerable excitement about the foot of King street yesterday afternoon. In a few minutes a group of people collected at the corner of the bank entrance with interest, apparently expecting a band of highwaymen with revolvers in one hand and bags of gold in the other to emerge and make a break for the tall timbers. At any rate they left a pathway to the door.

Soon Sergeant Baxter came running along, Prince Williams street and forcing his way through the crowd ran into the bank. A few seconds afterwards Detective Killen came springing down King street and disappeared into the bank. The crowd waited breathless, but nothing happened. A clerk in the bank had accidentally set off the burglar alarm. However the bank management were gratified at the prompt appearance of the officers of the law.

WOODSTOCK NEWS.

Special to The Standard. Woodstock, Jan. 8.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Boyer, of Victoria, this country, left St. John last night for Grandmere, Bermuda, via New York, where they will spend a month or more with Hon. H. P. and Mrs. McLeod. A. H. M. Hay, manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, at Welland, Ont., who has been here for a few weeks on a visit to his father, W. W. Hay, will leave tomorrow for home.

SPAIN WILL RESUME RELATIONS WITH VATICAN.

Madrid, Jan. 8.—Count Alvarado Romanos, the premier, announced in an interview today, that the government had decided to resume formal relations with the Vatican. The cabinet is now engaged in selecting an ambassador to the Vatican.

CITY WILL HAVE SURPLUS OF \$30,000 ON THE YEAR

Assessment for Coming Year not Likely to be Much Heavier than in 1912--Some Properties will Pay More, and Wage Earners will get Measure of Relief.

After the meeting of the city commissioners yesterday afternoon it was said that the report in the evening papers that the taxes would be increased 15 per cent was somewhat premature. The commissioners yesterday went into the financial position of the various departments, and came to the conclusion that the surplus for 1912 would be considerably larger than during the last year. The old council had charge of affairs. While the accounts for the year just closed have not been all made up, it is understood that the commissioners expect to have a surplus of between \$30,000 and \$40,000, made up of the unexpended balances of the different departments and the increases in general revenue and the economies of the water service.

While the estimates for this year will be considerably larger than last year, it is said that owing to the surplus on hand the amount to be assessed for will not be very much larger than last year; certainly there will be no increase in the assessment at all corresponding to the increase in the market value of property in the city during the last year.

About the only increase of importance in the appropriation will be for the departments of public works and public safety.

The public works department is asking for an increase of about \$10,000 for general purposes, and is carrying over about \$10,000 on account of the macadam pavement laid on King street.

The public safety department is asking for a considerable increase on account of the police service, it being understood that the commissioner proposes to raise the pay of the policemen about 25 cents a day. The appropriation asked for the fire department is not much larger than last year.

The tax rate of St. John last year was \$1.96, and an act of legislature fixes the maximum tax rate at \$1.98. Any considerable increase in the taxes could only be obtained by raising the assessment of property. It is said there is not likely to be any material increase in the assessment of property generally, but it is probable that many properties, which have been paying on an unduly small assessment, may be assessed for more taxes this year, and that some relief will be given to the wage earners who have usually been taxed to the limit.

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ASKING FOR DATA ABOUT WINTER PORT

St. John's Possibilities as Manufacturing Centre Subject of Enquiry

Requests for Information Reach Offices of Board of Trade--Every Effort Made to Give Replies.

That the possibilities of St. John as a manufacturing centre are attracting increasing attention, is shown by the fact that the number of inquiries at the office of the board of trade has been steadily increasing. The inquiries received recently have come from any considerable number of the United States and Great Britain, and have been of a diverse character. The information sought by parties seeking sites for new industries is of a very varied nature, some embracing questions spread over several large sheets of paper. The officials of the board of trade try to answer these inquiries as fully and quickly as possible, but the work of supplying the information asked for is often difficult, and means that a great deal of time is consumed gathering the information, which is often of a special character.

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Mantles - Grates - Tiles

It will be found advantageous to inspect our stock get our prices before purchasing any of the above.

Tiles for Floors, Vestibules, Bathrooms, Walls and Grates

W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD. MARKET SQUARE & KING ST.

GET THEM AT THE RIGHT TIME

The Right Time to Buy Hockey or Skating Boots is just now when you have the whole winter season before you, and you might as well have them now as later.

We have a special line of Lightning Hitch Hockey Boots that are the last word in skating comfort and the prices are just about what you planned on paying for them.

WE WILL ATTACH YOUR SKATES FREE OF CHARGE.

MEN'S \$2.75, \$3.00 BOYS' \$2.25 WOMEN'S \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50

THE SLATER BOOT SHOP, KING STREET

"Hustler" Ash Sifters

If you want to make a saving in your winter's coal bill buy the HUSTLER. It will save you coal, time and labor, as well as keep the dust down. It will save its cost in a single season.

Price \$5.50 each GALVANIZED ASH BARRELS Price \$2.50 each. In lots of 6 or more \$2.25 each.

EMERSON & FISHER, LTD., 26 GERMAIN STREET

January Opening of Dainty New Whitewear

COMMENCING THIS MORNING. The annual exhibit of delightful Whitewear has always been of great importance to the ladies of St. John and vicinity. When you come just observe the splendid workmanship, the excellent materials, the distinctiveness of these fascinating lingerie styles. Such a splendid showing is not the result of chance, but of careful planning, of placing orders months ago—and all who aim to have first choice ought not to be far off when the doors swing open.

NIGHT DRESSES—55c. Cambric, low neck, short sleeves, edged neck and sleeves lined lace, ribbon heading and ribbon.

70c. Cambric, low neck, short sleeves, embroidery trimmed neck and sleeves \$1.00 Nainsook, imitation hand embroidery, low neck, short sleeves edged with lace.

\$1.10 Nainsook, low neck, round yoke of new punch embroidery, neck and sleeves edged lace.

\$1.50 Nainsook, high neck, long sleeves, plain tucked yoke, neck and sleeves edged with Hamburg embroidery.

\$1.25 Nainsook, French style, imitation hand embroidery.

\$1.50 Nainsook, V neck, prettily trimmed with cluny lace, heading and ribbon.

\$1.50 Nainsook, low neck, prettily trimmed with cluny lace, heading and ribbon.

\$1.50 Nainsook, square neck, prettily trimmed with cluny lace, heading and ribbon.

\$1.75 Nainsook, low neck, fancy yoke, one row Val lace insertion, neck edged lace, fancy sleeve Val. insertion and lace.

\$1.85 Nainsook Novelty Stripe, neck and sleeves edged fine embroidery.

\$2.25 Nainsook, high neck, tucked front, neck and sleeves edged fine Swiss embroidery, heading and ribbon.

\$2.50 Nainsook, low neck wide Swiss insertion and ribbon, lining lace insertion, edged with linen lace, narrow ribbon heading and ribbon.

\$3.00 Fine Nainsook, fancy front of Val. insertion with lace medallions, fancy short sleeves, edged neck and sleeves with lace.

\$4.25 Nainsook, low neck wide Swiss insertion, two rows real cluny lace insertion and shadow lace, large ribbon rosettes.

\$4.65 Nainsook, fancy front open net insertion, cluny lace insertion, sleeve to match trimmed with dotted satin ribbon.

\$4.85 Mercerized Lawn, fancy front of cluny lace insertion, French hand embroidery, heading and ribbon.

\$5.95 Fine Flaxon, fancy front medallion, heading and ribbon, Val. lace insertion, neck edged lace insertion, lace heading and ribbon, fancy trimmed sleeves.

\$6.45 Flaxon, fancy front cluny lace, medallions and Baby Irish lace, heading, narrow ribbon, large ribbon rosette.

\$7.50 Flaxon, fancy front shadow lace, two Swiss medallions, fancy sleeve, lace, heading, ribbon, large bow ribbon.

\$9.70 Flaxon, handsome fancy front of French embroidery, real Val. lace insertion, sleeves to match, ribbons PRINCESS SLIPS in large variety, latest effects, narrow and with the fashionable straight lines, very dainty materials, embroideries and lace trimmings 98c. to \$10.80

GORET COVERS, all sizes from 32 to 44 bust.

30c. Cambric, trimmed with linen