

THE WEATHER. Toronto, Jan. 31.—Pressure is abnormally high on the continent except in British Columbia, and highest to the northward of the St. Lawrence Valley. A few light falls of snow have occurred in the Ottawa and Montreal. Elsewhere the weather has been fair, and for the most part quite cold.

AROUND THE CITY. A RECORD STRING. George Garnett of the Railway Mail Clerk's team has made a record for this year on the Victoria Alloys with a string of 149.

RENFORTH PRIZES. The drawing for the prizes in the Renforth Athletic Association lottery took place yesterday morning. The winners were as follows: 1st prize, \$100; 2nd prize, \$50; 3rd prize, \$25; 4th prize, \$10; 5th prize, \$5; 6th prize, \$2.50; 7th prize, \$1.25; 8th prize, \$0.625; 9th prize, \$0.3125; 10th prize, \$0.15625.

SAND POINT ACCIDENT. A longshoreman named Cadger sustained a painful accident yesterday morning. He was engaged in unloading cargo from the S. S. Holbrook, at No. 4 wharf, when a heavy case fell on his foot, which was quite badly strained. After receiving treatment at the C. P. O. S. Emergency Hospital, he was able to go to his home.

ODDFELLOWS AT SMOKER. Pioneer Lodge, No. 9 and Siloam Lodge No. 29, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, held a smoker and entertainment in their lodge room on Germain street last evening. The entertainment consisted of songs and speeches by D. D. G. M. Robinson and others. Frederickson Lodge No. 19 and Golden Rule No. 46 with their friends were invited guests.

CURLERS' BUSY WEEK. Many interesting curling competitions are scheduled to take place this week. The Thistles are going to Fredericton on Wednesday with six rinks; while Yarmouth is coming to St. John tomorrow to play St. Andrew's in the evening. Yarmouth will also play Carleton on Thursday afternoon and Thistles on Thursday night.

MISS RICHARDSON GUEST. A largely attended meeting of the Girls' Branches of the Anglican Women's Auxiliary was held last evening at Trinity school-room. Mrs. George F. Smith presided, and the chief speaker was Miss Helen Richardson, Fredericton Girls' work secretary. Mrs. Kubring gave a report of the W. A. annual meeting held in Winnipeg. All the city churches were represented.

OFF TO SACKVILLE. Mrs. Robert Fitz-Randolph, president of the Provincial Chapter, I. O. D. E. and Mrs. Helen Vroom, Regent of the Loyalist Chapter, I. O. D. E., left this morning for Sackville, where they will address a meeting of the Sackville, Dorchester and Fort Elgin Chapters, I. O. D. E. Mrs. Fitz-Randolph and Mrs. Vroom are both members of the I. O. D. E. War Memorial Committee. On Wednesday they will go to Moncton, where they will meet with the chapter there.

PRISONER FROM CARLETON. One drunk six protected, and a prisoner brought in by Sheriff Foster at Carleton county, were booked at the Central Police Station last evening. The man from the upper part of province, Harry Smith, was sentenced to a five year term in the Dorchester penitentiary for poisoning cattle. Sheriff Foster leaves with his prisoner this morning for the prison.

TUXEDO COATS. The 20th Century Brand Tuxedo is in every way a distinctive garment. Few makers, custom or other, succeed in imparting the same style, fit and tailoring. We have several left and have included them in our February sale of ready clothing. They sold at \$50. If your size is here you may now have it for \$40. New Evening Dress Suits were opened yesterday for which some have been waiting. They're \$65, and compare favorably with those that sold at a much higher price. Gilman's, 68 King St.

CARNIVAL A SUCCESS. Dominion Lodge No. 445, I. O. G. T., held a very successful carnival last night on the Carleton open air rink. There was a large costume crowd in attendance, and prizes were awarded as follows: Ladies, 1st, Mrs. Amber Sheffield, "Morning"; second, ladies, Mrs. C. Charters, "Night"; 3rd, Miss Ola Jennings, "Gypsy"; Gentlemen, 1st, H. Sherwood, "Knight"; gentleman, second, B. K. Bounieff, "Clown"; gentleman, 3rd, Roy McAndrews, "A Mason". Judges: Mrs. Herbert Lodge, Mrs. S. A. Minner, Mrs. T. B. Brown, William Berman, Harold Bolton.

Your Grocer will be Pleased to Send You one of St. John's Best Products—"Perfect" Baking Powder. CLIFTON HOUSE, ALL MEALS 90c.

Landlord Objects To Big Increases

Fifteen and Twenty Per Cent. Jumps Today Unreasonable at Present Time. Are increased rents justifiable this spring? Ask the man on the street and in some cases you will convert an apparently complacent individual into a real Bolshewist. After he has given vent to his wrath in the most emphatic adjectives, his vocabulary commands he will calm down sufficiently to declare that of the 15 to 20 per cent. raise that he has been facing every spring for the last three or four years, this year's is the last straw. Sooner than submit to being robbed in the city he proposes to look to some suburban point along the line.

Some Are Fair. Others will answer the question in milder tones. They question whether the rents are altogether called for, but are willing to admit that their landlords have always used them square; that in many cases their first increase did not come until the close of the winter in some cases even later, and so they have not much to complain of. The viewpoint of the flat-man depends largely on the rate of the increase. One of the city's largest landlords, who has a reputation for doing the square thing by his tenants, stated last evening that his company were increasing the rents on their buildings on the basis of the revenue they should return for the money invested in them. He thought such an increase justifiable and warranted, but a fifteen and twenty per cent. increase he considered unreasonable.

Repairs Are Dearer. As to the more moderate increases, he said that the cost of repair was higher than in the past, that other things the revenue the buildings brought in was 10 per cent.—was always allowed for repairs. At the present time twenty per cent. was required on mortgages at the rate of five per cent, now commanded seven. To the tenant's plea that the assessments were lower this year, he took exception. He claimed that fifty per cent. of the properties are assessed at higher rates than their value justifies, while others would justify still higher rates than those now obtained.

How to Assess. In his opinion the Board of Assessors should be composed of practical men who have a knowledge of the real value of buildings, such as builders and contractors. As an example of the present ill of the system, he referred to the fact that in many cases a wooden building is assessed at a rate as high as brick one. The repairs a landlord is required to put on a wooden tenement, housing a number of tenants, are much greater than that called for on a self-contained brick house such as favored by the more affluent citizens, and the depreciation of the wooden buildings is not receiving the consideration it should from the assessors.

Some Lumber Cheaper. A number of lumber manufacturers when asked their opinion as to the cost of repairs, stated that the cost of some building materials, such as spruce or B. C. fir, were lower by from 10 to 15 per cent. than they were last year. But as for clap-board and such material as were needed in outside finish and which largely consisted of pine, the costs are as great as last year, in some cases higher. Labor also, he said, was just as high if not higher. However, talking the cost of general repairs, they figure it lower by 10 per cent. They all agree that a man can build this spring for less money than he could last.

Direct Canadian Representation

Some little time ago the Board of Trade called attention to the complaint made by a number of merchants that English concerns were doing their business through American agents rather than direct through Canadian firms. Yesterday a communication was received from the department of overseas trade stating that they found the great majority of English exporting houses were doing business through Canadian agents and in the few cases in which American agents were used the connection was a long-standing one. They had pointed out to them, however, the advantages of having direct Canadian representation.

REV. DR. BORDEN TO SPEAK HERE TONIGHT

A reunion of all former Mount Allison students at present living in St. John or the immediate vicinity will take place at Bond's restaurant at 8:30 tonight. An excellent musical programme has been prepared. Many have already signified their intention to be present for the occasion to pay honor to their Alma Mater. The Rev. Dr. B. C. Borden, president of Mount Allison University, will be the guest of the evening. In addition to a number of other prominent speakers. Several well known entertainers are included in the programme, and the choir will be occupied by Chloé Justice H. A. McKeown. Tickets may be procured at the entrance to the dining room at the price of 75 cents.

ENJOYED BEAN SUPPER. A bean supper at the Plaza, East St. John, ended a pleasant sleigh drive for 75 members of the St. Paul's Young People's Association last evening. The party in two sleighs met at the Sunday school hall and drove to Brookville, returning later to East St. John. The chaperons were Mrs. F. W. Lovison, Mrs. Percy Woodley and Mrs. Hunter.

Teachers Decide To Keep School

Watchful Waiting Will be Their Policy Until Fate of Salary Application Decided. Over one hundred teachers representing all the schools in this city held a mass meeting yesterday afternoon at four o'clock in the assembly room of the High School. President H. C. Reicker occupied the chair, and after considerable discussion it was decided by the teachers that they would continue their labors for the present and await developments. This action was decided upon, it was stated, in order to see what stand will be taken by the Trustees of the School Board.

Joy Riders Paid For Their Fun

Collision and Auto Badly Smashed. A valuable horse owned by J. W. Kierstead, of Rothesay, was seriously injured, and a light sedan car badly damaged, in what might have been a fatal accident on the Marsh Road near Brookville. Mr. Kierstead was driving towards Rothesay when the car, going at a rapid rate of speed, swerved past another which was coming towards him and was but a short distance away, and crashed into him. The car hit the horse in the breast, the force of the impact being such as to drive it right across the road to the opposite side. The sled it was hauling was loaded with coal and so escaped being badly broken up. The shafts, however, were shattered. The horse was badly cut.

Escape With Minor Injuries. The four occupants of the Sedan, all young men from the city, escaped with minor injuries. One of them received a number of cuts about the face and head from flying glass. The car itself had its radiator stove in; all the glass in the auto was broken. The joy riders made good all the damages in a very handsome manner and the matter was hushed up.

Japanese Wedding Was A Delight

Big Crowd at Centenary Hall When Oriental Play Was Cleverly Presented. Under the auspices of the Centenary Epworth League, was played, "A Japanese Wedding," was presented yesterday evening in Centenary Hall. The audience packed the hall to the doors and the talent exhibited by the cast of characters was of an exceptionally high nature. The subject of the playlet surrounded scenes in Japan, which were admirably produced. The costumes were well chosen, and the present enjoyed the offering immensely.

St. Stephen Will Enter N. B. Circuit

The following comprised those who appeared in the various parts: Miss Margaret Seely, Miss Alice Henry, Miss Annie Tall, Miss Rheta Britain, Miss Louise Seely, Miss Alicia McAvour, Miss Marion Winchester, Miss Bessie Winchester, Miss Estelle McAlpine, Lawrence Sparling, Harry Boyer, Stanley Goodwin, Gordon Adams, Edwin Gunn.

Permission For Boxing Bout

Contests Planned for Y.M.C.A. A. on Feb. 5—Many in the "Y" Classes. The Y.M.C.A. have received permission from the A.A.U.C. to hold the City Boxing championships. The bouts are scheduled to take place Saturday evening, February 5th. The exhibition held at the "Y" last Wednesday evening brought a lot of promising material to light, and a good programme is promised for the championships. Between twenty-eight and thirty have attended the boxing classes this winter, so that candidates will be entered into every weight. All the equipment of the ring has been secured and the bouts will be conducted in the most approved fashion.

MRS. R. E. PLUMPTON HEADS COMFORT CIRCLE

At the annual meeting of the Comfort Circle of The King's Daughters, held at the Guild yesterday afternoon, the report of the secretary showed that the circle has lived up to its name and that many cases of suffering have been relieved. Donations have been made to many local charities. The treasurer, Mrs. S. K. Smith, reported that \$102.53 was raised during the year. The circle will have a charge of apron table at the sale to be held in February for the benefit of the Paralytic Home, and Mrs. R. E. Plumpton, Mrs. G. A. Dickson and Mrs. E. W. Paul were appointed conveners. The election of officers resulted as follows: Mrs. R. E. Plumpton—President, Mrs. G. A. Dickson—Vice-president, Mrs. E. W. Paul—Second Vice-president, Mrs. John Lelaheur—Secretary, Mrs. S. K. Smith—Treasurer.

ROTARIANS, ATTENTION! South End Boys' Club opening Thursday evening instead of Tuesday evening.

Coal Prices Not Likely To Drop

High Freight Rates and Wages Paid Miners Prevent Decline in Claim of Dealers. There is little likelihood of a reduction in the price of either hard or soft coal, as far as the St. John market is concerned until spring, according to the opinion of several of the local dealers. Montreal expects a drop of \$4 any day now. Hard coal at the present time is quoted at from \$21 to \$25 a ton, and is scarce. The high freight rates are blamed by the dealers for the heavy cost of anthracite. Coal could be had in the city at something less than \$20 a ton, they say, if the suppositions would hold good, namely, if seagoing could be chartered in New York at lower freight rates than those quoted by the railroad, and if the coal could be secured in the American metropolis. To do this, they say, is practically impossible, as New York itself is short of coal. The slackness in shipping warrants the assumption of low water rates, however.

Mines Close Down. The closing down of industrial plants prevents them disposing of this material at the high cost of labor does not warrant the continuation of operations. A number of the Cape Breton collieries have been closed down in the hopes that when the miners have disposed of some of their old earnings, they will consent to go back at a lower wage schedule. The dealers even then do not look for a scale of prices as low as those of the pre-war days, as their own operating costs have doubled. But they say coal is to be \$5 or \$6 lower than it is at the present time.

Clothes Baskets. You'll like these Clothes Baskets; they're made of bright, clean wood splints—light, strong and durable, with good sturdy handles. They come in three sizes at \$2.15, \$2.40 and \$2.65 each. Take the Elevator to the Second Floor. W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED. Store Hours:—8.30 a. m. to 6 p. m. Close at 1 p. m. Saturdays during January, 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. SHOWS NO LAPS. ABSOLUTELY SANITARY. 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. STORES OPEN 9 A. M. CLOSE 6 P. M.

FINAL PRICE REDUCTIONS ON Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats. Here are real opportunities for big savings on Suits and Overcoats of high character. It is the final selling of the winter season. Prices have reached the lowest levels. A chance for every man and boy to replenish their depleted wardrobes, and at a much smaller cost than for a long time. SUITS IN THE BEST STYLES. There are many different models, many different fabrics, but every one is good. They are the product of leading makers; the fabrics are dependable; so is the workmanship. Suits for men and young men, tailored to a high standard of quality in a comprehensive variety of the very newest styles. Regular Prices \$37.50 to \$67.50. Sale \$29.95 to \$53.95. FINAL REDUCTIONS ON OVERCOATS. You will find these Overcoats above the average in quality; away out of the ordinary in value. Every little detail of tailoring has been carefully attended to. Chesterfields, Belters, Ulsters, Ulsterettes, Slip-ons, French models, and all other fashionable models are included in these reduced prices. Regular Prices \$34.00 to \$64.00. Sale \$25.90 to \$48.00. CLOTHES FOR GROWING BOYS. If you want your boy to have a Suit or Overcoat that is warm, clothes that will make him look well dressed, that will keep in shape and give lots of wear—get him one of these values. We are showing just the sort that boys like to have; the sort mothers like to buy. Stylishly built of dependable fabrics. The prices during this final clearaway are very low. (Men's and Boys' Clothing Section, Second Floor.)

Manchester Robertson Allison & Co. KING STREET GERMAIN STREET MARKET STREET. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. For these three days we have cut the price away down on the following articles, and they are exceptional bargains. NEAR SEAL COATEES. HUDSON SEAL COATEES. 2 only, \$95.00. Were \$150.00. 2 only, \$225.00. Were \$350.00. 1 only, \$250.00. Was \$350.00. HAIR NUTRIA COATS. 1 only, \$300.00. Was \$400.00. \$100.00. Were \$200.00. LARGE WOOL SCARFS. 2 only, \$17.00. Were \$24.00. 4 only, \$9.50. Were \$12.50 to \$18.50. D. MAGEE'S SONS, LTD., 63 King Street.