

LOCAL NEWS

THE WEATHER
Toronto, Dec. 31.—The northwestern area of high pressure now extends from Saskatchewan across Manitoba and the Great Lakes to New England...

Can Solemnize Marriages.
Rev. B. J. Davis, of Pinder, and Rev. I. G. Hall, of Grand Falls, Church of England clergymen, have been authorized to solemnize marriages in this province.

Married Yesterday Afternoon.
A quiet wedding was solemnized at the George Street Baptist Parsonage yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock when Rev. I. A. Corbett united in marriage Miss Helen Hayward, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hayward and Cecil Bliss Randall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Randall, of Lincoln. They were unattended and will reside at Lincoln.

To Leave Hospital To-Day.
Ralph Eaty, the 12-year-old boy who had his right hand amputated a couple of weeks ago as a result of a dramatic explosion at his home, expects to leave the hospital to-day or to-morrow and return to his home. He was one of those present at the children's dinner last night and was conveyed to and from the hospital by automobile.

Married at Mouth Keswick.
The home of Mr. and Mrs. William Griffiths, of Mouth Keswick, was last evening at 8 o'clock the scene of a pretty wedding when their daughter, Miss Vera Sara Jewett, became the bride of Jacob Hubert Pickard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Pickard, of Keswick Ridge. The ceremony was performed by Rev. I. A. Corbett and the young couple will reside in the city.

Motor Company Incorporated.
Valley Motor Company, Limited, is the name of the company which has been incorporated to take over the business of the Valley Motor Company in this city, according to notice published in the Royal Gazette to-day. The authorized capitalization is \$30,000 and the nominal incorporators are J. F. Winslow, K. C., the company's solicitor, and two members of his office staff.

New Telephone Company.
The Fort Kent Telephone Company has been incorporated, according to notice published in the Royal Gazette to-day, for the extension of the lines of the existing telephone company of that name in Arrostook county, State of Maine, to the parishes of St. Francis, Clair and Baker Lake in Madawaska county in this province. The authorized capitalization of the new subsidiary company is \$5,000.

Entertained at Bridge.
Miss Helen Greene entertained at a bridge of five tables at her home on King street last night. Miss Greene was assisted in receiving her guests by her mother and Miss Mary Palmer and the prizes were won by Miss Betty Morrison, Mrs. E. R. Blackmer and Miss Margaret Chestnut. During the evening Miss Palmer sang several very delightful solos and at the conclusion of play refreshments were served by the hostess assisted by the Misses Maggie Jean Chestnut and Miss Roberta Irvine.

Held Community Tree.
The Women's Institute of Lower Kingsclear held a very enjoyable community Christmas tree and entertainment in the Agricultural Hall last night. There was a very large attendance and the programme began with a programme consisting of songs, recitations and dialogues, after which Coburn Williams in Santa Claus garb appeared and distributed gifts from a well laden tree, the elder members of the audience receiving tickets corresponding with tickets on the gifts on the tree while special gifts were provided for the children.

1924 FIRE LOSSES IN FREDERICTON ARE PLACED AT \$82,000

Chief Smith Estimates Loss in Morrison Building Fire at \$65,000.
FIRE DEPARTMENT HAD 203 CALLS THIS YEAR
Busiest Year in the History of the Department is Closing To-night.

Fire losses in Fredericton during 1924 were estimated at \$82,000 this afternoon by Chief Roy W. Smith of the fire department. Since May 1st there have been losses estimated at \$30,000 on buildings which were insured for \$48,000 and losses on contents of buildings during the same period were \$48,000 with \$85,000 insurance. For the period prior to May 1st Chief Smith has not yet received the official figures from his predecessor, ex-Chief H. G. Rutter; they have been included in the estimate at \$48,000 and may be somewhat more or even less. The losses are the largest in any one year in Fredericton for some time. In 1923 the insurance losses in Fredericton were \$25,192 and in 1922 they were \$54,713, while the average for a period of forty years is only slightly in excess of \$10,000 a year. But the figures for previous years were for insurance losses only, while this year's figures show gross losses. In his estimate for the year Chief Smith has placed \$65,000 as the loss by the fire last Sunday morning when the Morrison estate building was so badly gutted. The loss on the building has been placed at \$20,000 by Chief Smith and damage to the stocks of the three stores at \$45,000. The losses have not been finally adjusted by the appraisers, however, but the merchants' claims for damage to stocks are said to be at least \$10,000 more than the estimate. As a reward for the fire department's good work in saving their building from serious damage in the week-end fire, James S. Neill & Sons, Ltd., have presented the Firemen's Association with a \$200 radio set, which is being installed at the recreation room at the Central Fire Station to-day. The year which is closing will go down in the records as the busiest in the history of the Fredericton Fire Department in that there have been 203 alarms during the year; of these 66 were bell alarms, of which 33 called for lines of hose and chemicals to be used and the balance were chimney fires or false alarms, while there were 137 still alarms.

FEWER MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Vital Statistics for 1924 for Fredericton Show a Falling Off.

Fredericton had fewer births, deaths and marriages during the year ending to-day that it had for 1923, when the figures were lower than for 1922. According to the figures up to noon to-day compiled by Mrs. Annie Wheeler, secretary of the Board of Health, the vital statistics for 1924 as compared with 1923 follows:

Table with 2 columns: 1924, 1923. Rows: Births (216 vs 238), Deaths (148 vs 155), Marriages (126 vs 132). Below the table, text states: 'Of the 148 deaths recorded during the year 22 were of people from outside the city, who died while in the city temporarily, while 8 of the 22 were infants less than a week old, of the 126 deaths of residents of the city, 21 were infants.'

MID-WEEK MARKET.

Small Market at Phoenix Square With No Turkeys or Geese Offered for Holiday.
The market this morning was a very small one, not any geese or turkeys being offered for the holiday and only a limited number of chickens. There was a good offering of beef and it was offered at 6 to 9 cents, pork at 12 to 14 cents, chickens at 35 to 40 cents and eggs at 60 to 65 cents. Prevailing prices were as follows: Butter, per pound, 40 cents. Eggs, per dozen, 60 to 65 cents. Chickens, per pound, 35 to 40 cents. Pork, per pound, 12 to 14 cents. Beef, per pound, 6 to 9 cents. Lamb, per pound, 15 to 20 cents. Veal, per pound, 8 to 12 cents. Potatoes, per barrel, \$1.25. Hay, per ton, \$12 to \$14. Wood, per load, \$6 to \$12.

HOCKEY TO-MORROW.

Chatham to Play Fredericton in First Game of Season at 8:15 p. m. at Arctic Rink.
Arrangements were completed this morning for the Chatham Hockey Club, who won from Sackville last night, to open the hockey season here to-morrow night, meeting the Fredericton team who won their first league game at St. Stephen's. Play will start at 8:15 p. m. and there will be eight bands for skating after the game.
Error.
Through an error it appeared in The Gleaner of December 29 that Mayor Bros. Ltd. had taken over the office of F. L. Cooper, Phoenix Square. This is not so. Mr. Cooper is still in his own premises, Mayor Bros. are only occupying the rear portion of his office.

FRIDAY THE 13TH WILL COME THRICE DURING NEW YEAR

Superstitious Persons Will Have Three Hazards During 1925.
EASTER WILL COME FULL WEEK EARLIER
How the Public Holidays Will Fall in Canada During the New Year.

Those superstitious persons there are still some—who tremble at the thought of a "Friday the 13th" will have three such hazards in the year 1925, which is just around the corner. There was only one Friday the 13th in 1924, in June, but in 1925 the 13th falls on a Friday in the months of February, March and October. Easter comes a full week earlier than in 1924. Good Friday is set for April 10th, and Eastern Sunday April 13th. Public Holidays in 1925. There are some other interesting angles to the 1925 calendar. May 24th, Queen Victoria's Birthday, that very popular holiday which generally heralds summer's approach, falls on a Sunday, and will probably be celebrated on the Monday after—a bumper week-end holiday. Dominion Day, July 1, and Armistice Day, Nov. 11th, both come on Wednesday in 1925. This will not have much effect on Armistice Day, as it is not an official holiday, but Dominion Day celebrations must be confined to the one day in mid-week. Of course, those week-end holidays of late summer and fall will be unchanged in 1925. Labor Day will be Monday, Sept. 7th, and Thanksgiving Day Monday, Nov. 24th.

Saturday's Fire.
Saturday's fire has caused the Royal Store Branch, 545 Queen street, to vacate their store Monday morning, Jan. 5th, to allow H. S. Campbell to open up as soon as his stock is adjusted and arranged. So, rather than remove the stock, Mr. Farrell is selling this stock at a discount of 33 1/3 per cent. for Friday and Saturday.

Canned Pimento. If you use them in Salads, etc., we can offer you a bargain. We have 100 tins of the regular 5 cent tin. We offer them at a low price— 2 Tins for 35c. FRESH SMELT, HADDIES, FRESH FILLETS, SMOKED FILLETS, FRESH HERRING. —AT— VANWART'S

A BOTTLE OF PHILADERMA Will Be Appreciated by Anyone. It is without a doubt the best, most soothing application you can apply for chaps, roughness or irritation of the skin of any kind. You can put it on the baby if you want to. Only 25 cents a bottle from C. A. BURCHILL Cor. Regent and Queen Sts.

1925 We wish One and All a Happy and Prosperous 1925, and may it be filled with Joy, Happiness and Prosperity. —AT— C. H. Burt's

To the Public Until further notice, we will have an office in the Campbell Building, Queen street, over Miss Morgan's Millinery Store, and we request that all customers who are indebted to us call and settle their accounts. Watch this space for further announcements. H. S. CAMPBELL THE SHOE MAN.

VETERAN CUSTOMS OFFICIAL TO QUIT SERVICE IN 1925

Herbert G. Winter Will Reach Maximum Age Limit of 75 During the Year.
HAS BEEN 55 YEARS IN CUSTOMS SERVICE
Has Served Under Every Minister of Customs Since Confederation.

Herbert G. Winter, appraiser for the port of Fredericton, will to-morrow commence his 56th year in the Canadian Customs Service, but the year is likely to be marked by his retirement on superannuation. Mr. Winter admitted to-day that he was expecting to retire before concluding another year's service, although he admitted that he still feels capable of carrying out his regular duties—and he is an active and busy official. But new superannuation regulations provide for voluntary retirement of Federal officials reaching the age of 65 years, and except in special cases retirement at 70 years (Continued on Page Seven.)



Gift Silver. A silver vegetable dish is sure to please the bride-to-be. At Blackmer's there are some good silver vegetable dishes marked \$12. These have end handles, making it possible to use the cover for extra dish. E. R. Blackmer OPPOSITE NORMAL SCHOOL

John J. Weddall & Son. Take this opportunity of thanking those who for 44 years have made their Place of Business their Home Store, and wish one and all a Very Happy New Year. John J. Weddall & Son

OPEN FOR BUSINESS. We have opened another optical parlor in a portion of the offices now occupied by F. L. Cooper, Insurance, on Phoenix Square, opposite market. We are ready to continue our optical practise as heretofore and give the same careful attention. All accounts may be paid here and we would thank our customers to look after this promptly at this time. It is our desire to get permanently located in business just as soon as we can. MAJOR BROTHERS, LIMITED JEWELLERS AND OPTOMETRISTS The Gift Shop FREDERICTON C.P.R. Watch Inspectors

Sporting Goods. No matter what sport you follow his winter you'll find us well prepared to supply the necessary Sporting Goods. Starr Skates, Hockey Sticks, Skis, Ski Poles, Ski Harness, Automobile Skates, Toboggans, Hockey Pads, Snowshoes, Snowshoe Harness, McPherson Lightning Hitch Hockey Boots. Jas. S. Neill & Sons, Ltd. Fredericton's Big Hardware Store.

F. B. EDGECOMBE CO., LTD. Special Prices to Jan. 1st, 1925. 300 yards of Heavy Winter Coating, regular price from \$4.00 to \$5.00, clearance price \$2.90. 200 yards Natural Pongee Silk, heavy weight, regular price \$1.20, clearance price 85c. Ladies' Cloth Coats, fur trimmed, regular prices from \$40.00 to \$45.00, only 10 left; take your choice for \$25.00. Black Paillette Silk, regular price \$1.75, clearance price \$1.25. Molton Kimona Cloth, 36 in. wide, regular price \$1.50, clearance price \$1.20. 50 Ladies' All Wool Crepe Armure Pleated Skirts in cocoa, brown, sand, navy and black, clearance price \$2.50. Ladies' Fur Coats in Hudson seal, Persian lamb, coon, muskrat and French seal, at clearance prices. 10 P. C. DISCOUNT OFF ALL GOODS NOT ADVERTISED. F. B. EDGECOMBE CO., LTD.