

THE WEATHER

Toronto, Dec. 15.—A pronounced disturbance is developing over the plateau region while pressure is rising over Canada and along the Atlantic coast. Weather is turning much colder in the Western and Maritime Provinces. Weather has been fair and cold in other parts of the country.

AROUND THE CITY

THE PRIZE WINNERS
The prize-winners at the "Prentice Boys' Fair" last evening were as follows: Door prize, H. G. Gibson; bean-bags, Fred Campbell; ten-pins, Walter Wright; nine-pins, Roy Campbell; ring-toss, A. V. Duffy.

INSPECTING LINES
A. Price, general manager of the C.P.R. eastern lines, arrived in the city yesterday in his private car. He was accompanied by Mr. J. LaFontaine, which was attached to the Montreal train. He went through to Fredericton in the afternoon on an inspection trip.

THE FAIRVILLE LINE
The Board of Management for the Parish of Lancaster, via Councillors Golding, Campbell and O'Brien, will hold a conference this morning at ten o'clock with the Manager of the New Brunswick Power Company in connection with the resumption of the street car service on the Fairville line.

A 'BUS LINE.
Application for a license to operate a bus line between the central portion of the city and Lily Lake has been received at City Hall. The applicant expressed the opinion that in as much as he would not be competing with any other concern, he should not be bound by schedules set down in the city by-laws regarding bus services.

CLAIMS OF SOLDIERS.
G. Earle Logan yesterday received from Dominion Secretary Macneil notification that Dec. 31 has been fixed as the final day for receiving applications from ex-imperial soldiers for refunds of transportation paid in coming to Canada from the British Isles. This also applies to applications for the free passage to Canada on behalf of dependents of ex-imperial soldiers now settled in Canada. All claims should be forwarded immediately to General Secretary Macneil, Ottawa.

C. P. R. SHOPS CLOSED.
Montreal, Dec. 15.—The Canadian Pacific Railway's Angus shops are closing down this evening for nineteen days. Lack of work is given as the reason. The Angus shops, when working at full capacity, employ 3,000 men.

ALEXANDRA TEMPLE LADIES' AUXILIARY
The Ladies' Auxiliary of Alexandra Temple held an "at home" last evening for the benefit of the members of the Temple, and they provided splendid refreshments. The evening was pleasantly spent in games of various kinds and a short musical programme was carried out. At the close of the evening refreshments were served.

Investigation At Municipal Home

Evidence Heard Regarding Charges of Ill-Treatment Preferred by Mrs. Gladys Blanchard.

The investigation into the charges made by Mrs. Gladys Blanchard, an inmate of the Municipal Home, who claimed that she was ill-treated by the superintendent of the institution, was resumed yesterday afternoon. The investigation took place at the home and was held by W. E. Scully, M. L. A., Commissioner Green and Campbell. The witnesses called were Warden T. H. Bullock, acting Mayor, County Secretary J. King Kelly, Police Matron Miss C. Ross, Miss Hoyt, representative of the Travelers' Aid; Rev. Father Young, besides witnesses from the home. The charges were denied.

Hydro-Electric Fully Discussed

Local Engineers Had Under Discussion "What Can St. John Do With Musquash Power?"

The St. John Branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada, held a largely attended meeting in the Orange Hall, German street, yesterday evening. President F. P. Vaughan acted as chairman, and the subject under discussion was "What can St. John do with the Musquash Power?" The matter was carefully and critically discussed, and while the subject has by no means been exhausted by the members and no resolution was passed in respect to this problem, the general tenor of the remarks was that the New Brunswick Power Company were the logical people to effect distribution of the power, under an arrangement with the city, which would provide an adequate protection for the consumer.

The President pointed out that the subject was one of vital interest to the community; and the matter of obtaining cheaper power was not so simple as it might superficially appear. It must be regarded from a large number of divergent angles and given careful consideration before an equitable solution could be obtained. W. G. Chace stated that St. John, the natural outlet for the power developed at Musquash, owed it to the province to make the best of the situation. The development of 8,500 horse power at \$2.50 per H. P. was an extraordinary high price, due to the fact that the work took place when the costs were high. The high cost of development would mean a high cost to the consumer relatively; but it would not be reasonable to compare this small undertaking with such a gigantic project as the Niagara Falls. In regard to the utilization of the power, this city was faced with several alternatives. St. John was now served by a company, which did not reach the whole market, and large consumers were not attracted for the reason that steamer development was relatively cheaper. The New Brunswick Power Company did, however, sell light and power to nearly the whole population of the city; and the income of the company was not large as it had no huge individual consumers.

The basis of cost for hydro-electric plant was in distribution, while the basis of cost in a steam generated electrical plant was the cost of coal and labor. The distinction was an important one. The city might buy the power on any one of the following five methods:

1.—The city can itself buy the energy and build its own transformer station and erect distribution lines on all streets.
2.—The city can take over a portion of the block of energy and distribute it to a few selected industries at the lowest possible rate.
3.—The city can take part of the energy offered and build only a few distribution lines, can dispose of that part to large consumers of energy not now consumers of the company.
4.—The city and the company may unite in a contract with the power commission, the energy being purchased for distribution by the company.
5.—The city might take over all the utilities and necessary properties of the New Brunswick Power Company at a price to be fixed by negotiation.

The first method would mean the destruction of the company, and the city would be faced with the cessation of street railway and gas services. Both these services, according to the Kemist report, were conducted at a loss; and St. John would ultimately be at a cost to the citizens have to recreate these services. In regard to the second method it would mean the distribution over a very small number of lines to a small number of large consumers. This might eventually have the effect of bringing new industries to St. John, and it would also give the benefits of cheap power to a few, but would be invidious and impolitic. The fifth option was not an acceptable one for various reasons.

Most Successful Tea And Sale Held

Affair in Waterloo St. Baptist Church Under Auspices of Women Workers of Church

A highly successful tea and sale was held by the Women Workers of the Waterloo Street Baptist church yesterday afternoon from 4.30 to 7 o'clock. A considerable sum was realized and will be devoted to general church purposes. Those who assisted were: Fancy Work Table—Mrs. Amos Gibbs Mrs. John Frodsham. Candy Table—Mrs. Hebert Hoyt, Mrs. H. E. Hoyt. Conductor of Tea—Mrs. Sherman Hoyt assisted by Mrs. P. A. Smith, Mrs. Fred Wright, Mrs. H. W. Parlee, Mrs. S. B. Gregg, Mrs. Fred Potter, Mrs. Betty McKim, Miss Florence Kierstead, Miss Malda Hoyt. The ladies wish to express their thanks to the George E. Barbour Co., who kindly supplied and demonstrated their Orange Pekoe tea, and to W. H. Thorne & Co., who demonstrated the decided saving over the price charged generally.

Rev. H. A. Cody Was Elected President

St. John Branch of Canadian Authors' Assn. Organized Last Night.

The Rev. H. A. Cody was elected president of the St. John branch of the Canadian Authors' Association at a meeting which was held in the Board of Trade rooms last evening for the purpose of organizing a local branch. Mr. Cody was elected chairman at the outset of the meeting, and briefly outlined the purpose of the meeting and reviewed the circumstances which led up to the formation of the national organization and the good results obtained by the conference of all-Canadian authors held recently in Montreal. From the national organization the idea of forming provincial and local branches had evolved, and the purpose of the entire association being to promote the reading of Canadian literature by Canadians, and the improving of the style and scope by a free interchange of ideas amongst the author members of the association. Mr. Cody also explained that the membership was not confined to writers only but all who were imbued with a love of literature and who desired to promote the growth of Canadian literature especially, were eligible and would be heartily welcomed.

The election of officers was then held and resulted as follows: President—Rev. H. A. Cody. Vice-president—Mrs. E. Atherton Smith. Treasurer—Miss A. Ward. Secretary—Miss K. Bell. Executive—A. M. Belding, E. V. Father Daley, Miss Mary Flett, Mrs. Hober-Vroom, W. F. Hatheway. It was decided that a copy of the by-laws of the national association be secured and considered by the executive, after which a public meeting of all those interested will be called with the purpose of enrolling members. The association hope to be able to bring leading writers and speakers of Canada to St. John to address the association after it has been completely organized.

Presentation of A Thanks Badge

On Receiving a Union Jack from Mrs. Frank Stewart, Boys Scouts Presented Her With Gold Brooch.

A very pleasing event took place in the school room of the First Presbyterian church, West St. John, last evening, when No. 4 Troop, Boy Scouts, of that church, assembled for the purpose of presenting to Mrs. Frank Stewart a "Thanks Badge." The troop under command of Troop Master W. W. Allingham, came to attention in horseshoe formation when Mrs. Stewart was called to the front and presented with the badge which is in the form of a gold brooch. There is a pretty little story in connection with the presentation, which proves very interesting. A few years ago Frank Stewart (now deceased) presented to his son, Ross Stewart, a Union Jack and staff. At that time Ross was too young to become a member of the Boy Scout Troop No. 4, but now Ross has been taken into the ranks and is one of the most energetic members of the troop. Mrs. Stewart, realizing the interest that her young son has in being a member of the scouts, presented to No. 4 Troop the flag, and for this reason the troop showed their appreciation of her kindness by making the presentation of the Thanks Badge to her.

On receiving the much valued present Mrs. Stewart made a brief but appropriate reply, wishing the Scouts every success.

About every member of the troop was present, including Assistant Scoutmaster J. S. Williamson and all the other officers. The members are attending all meetings in good numbers and are reported to be taking more interest than ever in their work under the careful guidance of their troop master, who is a veteran of the great war.

TO OUR READERS.

Dear Sir or Madame: Remember the perplexed Christmas shopper who was asked why she did not send a book to a girl—and the reply—"Why, she has a book!" This often is the attitude of many puzzled Christmas buyers. You yourself may have hesitated about sending records as a gift, feeling that it would be foolish for you to send records already owned by the person your present is intended.

We have solved this problem for you. If the person to whom they are sent desires, these records can be returned on the Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday after Christmas, and other records can be selected in place of them. This is a new feature you'll appreciate. We have thousands of beautiful VICTOR RECORDS on our shelves waiting for you. Here's an ideal "last minute" gift. We're open every evening till 10.00 p.m. Call here for value and superior service. THE PHONOGRAPH SALON, LTD., King Square, St. John, N. B.

An Appeal To The Unemployed

Meeting of Clergymen and Others Held—Public Works Should be Started—Registration for Unemployed.

At a meeting held yesterday of clergymen and others interested in the question of unemployment in the city the conclusion was reached that the problem created was one which could be solved only by the adoption of some extraordinary measures. It was felt that the responsibility of providing employment lay with the civic authorities and that representation should be made to them to undertake some public work which would furnish adequate relief to the situation. In making any such representation to the Mayor and Commissioners it was thought wise to make available as definite information as possible, and that a registration should be made of persons now out of work. Therefore it is requested that all persons now unemployed and anxious to obtain work should report at once to the following places:— All City Churches and Missions. G. W. Y. A. Salvation Army, 26 St. James St. Seaman's Institute, Prince Wm. St. Trades and Labor Council, 160 Prince Wm. St. D. S. G. R. It is requested that in making registration mention be made by each person of the number of his dependents. Registration to close Monday evening next. It is requested that all persons interested kindly aid in making this registration as complete as possible. The committee is composed of: Rev. H. E. Thomas, Rev. Father Duke, Rev. A. L. Tedford, Rev. E. E. Styles, Rev. G. D. Hudson.

PERSONALS

Miss Lillian Sweeney, who has been visiting in Montreal at the home of her sister, Mrs. O. McIntyre, has returned to the city. J. McMillan, Montreal, manager of the C. P. R. Telegraph, is in the city on an inspection trip, accompanied by J. B. Mitchell, traffic superintendent of the eastern lines. Dr. W. W. and Mrs. Waite returned yesterday afternoon from Toronto, where the doctor attended a meeting of directors of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Fred Price, general manager of the C. P. R., reached the city yesterday afternoon from Montreal. Brig-General Macdonell, Lieut-Col. A. H. H. Powell and Lieut-Col. H. C. Sparling have returned from Montreal, where they had been attending the war games held on Tuesday evening.

Ottawa Clinician: Judge W. W. Waite has returned to Ottawa from New York, where he spent a fortnight. Montreal Gazette: Mrs. William Pugsley, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, arrived in Ottawa on Tuesday for a few days' visit. Advocate, Newcastle: Arthur McLaughlin has returned home after spending the past week in St. John. George R. Crosby left yesterday afternoon for Christmas at his home in Toronto.

Rev. A. V. McLaren, of Upham, was a guest yesterday at the Royal Hotel. D. W. Kyle, of Moncton, registered yesterday at the Victoria Hotel. C. A. Currie, of Fredericton, was an arrival yesterday at the Duferin Hotel. Mrs. John Black, of Fredericton, was a guest yesterday at the Royal Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Marks, of Moncton, registered yesterday at the Victoria Hotel. John Henderson, of Miramichi, was an arrival at the Victoria Hotel yesterday. G. K. Campbell, of St. George, was a guest yesterday at the Duferin Hotel.

J. C. Jones, of Petticoat, was registered yesterday at the Victoria Hotel. A. S. Geddes, of Moncton, was a guest at the Victoria Hotel yesterday. J. J. Hughes, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., was an arrival yesterday at the Royal Hotel. S. D. Budd, of St. Stephen, was a guest at the Victoria Hotel yesterday. Among the arrivals yesterday at the Royal Hotel were: S. Staines, of Hamilton, Ont.; J. E. Hickey, of Vanover, Me.; and B. M. Robinson, of Oshawa, Ont.

At the Victoria Hotel the guests included: C. E. Colwell, of Halifax; H. R. Moase, of Summerside, P. E. I.; and T. H. Earl, of Beausville, Ont. Those registered at the Duferin Hotel included: A. M. Armstrong, of Maitland, N. S.; and W. H. Moore, of Halifax.

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Clifton House, all meals 60c.

Santa Claus at Thorne's Tomorrow
Afternoon at 4.30
The merry old fellow will be on hand, with a cheery smile and a joyous welcome for every kiddie in St. John, and HE WANTS TO SEE EVERY BOY AND GIRL IN TOWN, as he said in his message which you read here yesterday and the day before.
BE SURE TO COME
and be on hand as near to half-past four as you possibly can. This will be just one big, jolly kiddie's carnival. Old Santa will show how to get the most fun from the hundreds of Toy Novelties in our Big, Bright Toy Department. Remember the time—4.30 O'clock in the Afternoon at our Prince William Street Window
ALL DOLLS AT HALF PRICE
THE GREATEST BARGAIN OPPORTUNITY IN DOLLS you have ever known. In our exceptionally large stock of Dolls, you'll find the finest exhibit of the kind ever shown here and, while the former prices represented particularly good values, the present REDUCTION TO HALF PRICE gives you the BEST VALUES IN DOLLS your money can buy.
There are Beautifully Dressed Dolls from 8 inches to 18 inches high, Baby Dolls from 8 inches high to life size, Undressed Dolls of all sizes, Kewpie Dolls of every size. But they're selling rapidly and, to ensure the widest range for choice, you will be wise to
COME IN AND MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS NOW.
TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE TOY DEPARTMENT.
W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED
Store Hours—8.30 to 6. Open Saturday Evenings until 10.

Gifts Practical and Enduring
are much favored this season, especially household goods.
Richly Cased 2-Piece Carving Sets, 3-Piece, \$2.50 to \$15.00
Buckhorn, Stag and Celluloid Handles.
Stainless Table Cutlery.
Will not tarnish or rust.
EMERSON & FISHER, LTD., 25 Germain St.

Make Her Christmas a Happy One
She will appreciate one of these new gowns more than anything else you could give her, and as they are moderately priced, you will appreciate the value yourself.
Some very smart models have just arrived in the new colors, and are cleverly trimmed in most attractive effects.
These new models warrant your consideration, and we know their attractiveness will appeal to you.
The Store of Practical Gifts
Macaulay Bros & Co. LIMITED
Always Pleased to Serve You.