

The last Saturday of the year is always a good one with us.

Tomorrow we want extra big business so have prepared

Two Specials

All Winter Hats at most tempting clearance prices. Hats for Ladies, Misses and Children. Also sport hats, tams and scarves.

Mid-Winter Dress Hats of Metallic Cloth or Satin. An endless variety of approved styles, priced most moderately.

Marr Millinery Co. Limited

Sport Sweaters Boys, Men's, Ladies

In the V and Roll necks, All Wool, Coat and Pull-overs. Colors in White, Grey and Red, Royal and White, Oxford and Camel, Red and Camel, Heather and a great many more shades.

BOYS' \$2.50 and \$3.00. MEN'S \$2.50 to \$6.00

LADIES' \$5.00 to \$6.50.

F. S. THOMAS
539 to 545 Main St.

Dance in '24 at "The Royal"

Monday evening next will be marked by a New Year's Eve Dance and Dinner in the Main Diningroom of the Royal Hotel, beginning at 10 o'clock. Tickets \$1.50—and already going fast.

SECURE YOURS NOW
ROYAL HOTEL

Toboggan Parties

Will Spring to Popularity
Ee'r Long

Good tobogganing snow is not as far away as you suspect; and better be ready for it when it comes. The jolly tramp to the steep, snow-clad hills—"all aboard!"—the "swish" on the long downward journey, the wind almost catching your breath. Real joy on moonlit winter nights. And have a good toboggan while you're at it. Our

CANADIAN MADE TOBOGGANS

have the smooth, slick underneath finish, the flexibility, strength and toughness to stand the hard strain of many a winter. All sizes, with and without cushion. Come in and look them over.

SPORTING DEPARTMENT
Take the Elevator.

W. H. Thorne & Co. LIMITED
HARDWARE MERCHANTS

Store Hours: 8.30 to 6. Open Saturday nights until 10.

SILAS McDIARMID DIES SUDDENLY

Was Prominent Druggist, in Business Here for Many Years.

The sudden death of Silas McDiarmid, proprietor of the Royal Pharmacy, and since 1873 one of the best known druggists of the city, occurred about three o'clock this morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Harold W. Rising, Leicester street. News of his passing came as a great shock to his many relatives and friends. Although for the last two years Mr. McDiarmid had not been in the best of health he was around on Monday and received several visitors. On Christmas Day, however, he was confined to his bed, but there was no indication that the illness would be fatal. When his daughter went to his room early this morning, however, she found that he had passed away quietly while he slept.

Silas McDiarmid was born at Mascoene, near St. George, in Charlotte county, about 70 years ago, of the late Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McDiarmid. In 1872, when he was about 20 years of age, he came to St. John and entered the employ of E. J. Mahoney, who kept a pharmacy in Indian town. After serving about four years with Mr. Mahoney, Mr. McDiarmid went into business for himself, establishing a drug store at the corner of Charlotte and Duke streets, which he transferred after four or five years to Hazen J. Dick, who was married to Mr. McDiarmid's sister-in-law.

Mr. McDiarmid then opened a store in the Royal block at the corner of King and Gernall streets, in the same building as the present business, but located on the street corner, now occupied by the C. N. R. ticket office. He also established a wholesale business in the same building, but later removed that part of his enterprise to Market Square, where it was known as the McDiarmid Drug Co., and was later taken over by the National Drug and Chemical Co., when that company was formed. Mr. McDiarmid then confined his whole attention to the retail business in the Royal block.

Last winter, however, Mr. McDiarmid was taken ill and since that time he had been in the store only at intervals, the business in the meantime being under the direction of Mr. Dick.

Leaves Seven Daughters.

Mr. McDiarmid is survived by seven daughters—Mrs. W. H. Hayward, Mrs. Harold W. Rising, Mrs. Fred S. Smyth, Mrs. Kenneth A. Wilson, Mrs. Louis A. Titus and Mrs. Donald W. Armstrong, all of St. John, and Mrs. Lewis McCoy, of Truro. Mrs. McDiarmid died last April. Mr. McDiarmid was an active member of Gernall street Baptist church. He was well known in the city and highly respected by a large business connection and many friends. Much sympathy will be extended to the bereaved family.

PRESENT PURSE TO REV. H. E. THOMAS

Exmouth Street Church S. S. Gathering Proves a Happy Event.

The Christmas tree and entertainment of the Exmouth street Methodist Sunday school last night was a very successful event. The scholars gave a fine musical and literary program appropriate to the occasion, there were moving pictures and there was a tall tree, gaily decorated and laden with gifts which were distributed with the "claus." A pleasing incident in the programme was the presentation of a purse to Rev. H. E. Thomas, the pastor of the church. The presentation was made on behalf of the men's Bible class, of which Mr. Thomas is the teacher.

E. E. Thomas, the superintendent of the Sunday school, presided. In the opening part of the programme there were recitations by Jean Young, Dorothy Macfarland, Grace Johnson, Margarette Riddick, Armour Brown, Grace Adams, Lillian Belyea, Harold Campbell, Evelyn Northrup, Cora Crossman, Jean Orr, Ada Bickley and Oliver McCartney. Duets were sung by Dorothy Handron and Isabella Carr and Ronald and Gordon Case, and a solo by Ronald Crawford. Miss Cooper's class and Mrs. O. B. Bickley's class each gave an exercise and Miss H. Sleep's class gave a boys' chorus.

The motion pictures which opened the second half of the programme, were obtained through the kindness of F. G. Spencer, who loaned a machine, and Mr. Toole, who was the operation.

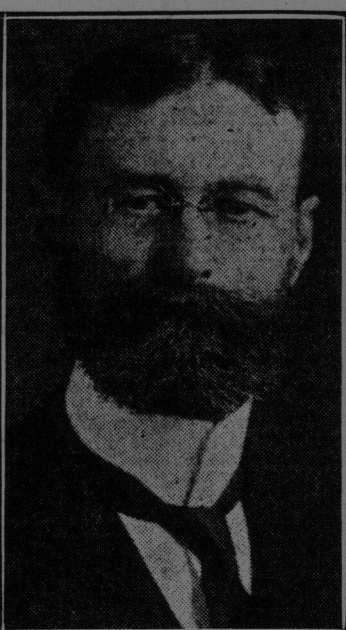
When the important event of the tree stripping arrived, Fred Withers acted as Santa Claus. Mr. Withers also made the presentation to Rev. Mr. Thomas. At the close of the programme oranges and candy were distributed to all of those present.

K. S. DAVIS WINS HIGHER POSITION

Is Promoted to Winnipeg by T. H. Estabrooks & Co., Ltd.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth S. Davis will regret to learn they are leaving St. John this afternoon to make their home in Winnipeg. Mr. Davis, who has been representing "Red Rose tea" on the road in western and northern New Brunswick, has been promoted to the office staff at Winnipeg. He has been heartily congratulated on his rapid success. His banking experience before going overseas is largely responsible for his move at this time. Mrs. Davis will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends with whom she was immensely popular. All join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Davis a pleasant trip and a happy, successful career in the west.

Well Known Citizen Dead



SILAS McDIARMID.
ALMANAC FOR ST. JOHN, DEC. 28.

A.M. P.M.
High Tide..... 2.40 High Tide..... 8.55
Low Tide..... 8.57 Low Tide..... 10.23
Sun Rises..... 8.02 Sun Sets..... 4.42

LOCAL NEWS

HYDRO REPORT.

A total of 1,817 meters, 36 of them on the West Side, have been installed to date. It was reported this morning at the office of the civic power commission.

TO AWARD CONTRACT.

A meeting of the Civic Power Commission will be held this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Among other matters to come up is the awarding of the contract for the water and sewerage system at the sub-station.

WARN'S MOTORISTS.

W. H. McQuade, provincial inspector of motor vehicle licenses, warns all drivers of automobiles that the license plates for 1924 must be in use after January 1. All who neglect this will be liable to prosecution.

WAS TAKEN ILL.

The ambulance received a hurry call about 11.20 on Wednesday night to Queen street, where Policemen Corvee and Hatt had found that Charles Scullion had taken ill. The man was taken to the General Public Hospital and later to his home in Britain street.

IS LEAVING STAFF.

Ronald Currie, night orderly, who has been on the staff of the East St. John County Hospital, was remembered kindly by the "boys" of the institution at Christmas. Mr. Currie is about to leave the institution. He did considerable decorating and was a favorite among the patients and staff in general.

LIKED THE ORCHESTRA.

The patients at East St. John County Hospital were treated to a very pleasing programme of popular dance numbers on Christmas afternoon by the "Peerless Five." This orchestra is a recent acquisition to the musical life of the city, and gives promise of becoming quite popular among those who dance. Geo. Stewart is the director, and the other members are Hal Pitt, Joe Sam and Myer Jacobson.

A WORD OF THANKS

The Evening Times-Star is indebted to two local photographers for interesting photographs published this week in connection with events appearing in the news column Robert Melrose, of J. M. Roche & Co. took the well made photographs of the Whiteside home and of Constable Osmon, in connection with the murder of Mrs. Whiteside, while the excellent picture of the Mahoney quadruplets, published yesterday, was from the camera of F. A. McKay, of the Lugin studios.

JAN. 1 AT THE POST OFFICE.

Tuesday, January 1, will be observed as a public holiday by the post office, as for the first time in the history of the city, the letter carriers will be on duty. The money order branches will be closed; the general delivery, registration and stamp windows will be open from 9 to 10 a.m. and 6 to 7 p.m.; the street letter boxes and parcel receptacles will be collected by team as usual. Mails will be despatched at the regular hours.

PLAN COMFORT STATION.

The plans for the proposed comfort station and waiting room in Market Square have been prepared by G. G. Hare, city engineer, and will be laid before the council next week. Two types of construction are shown, tapestry brick with red tile roof and red pressed brick with slate roof. The proposed building is 54 by 23, with the comfort station located in the basement.

WEST SIDE WORK.

Among the work on the West Side which will probably be recommended to the council by Commissioner Bullock for the year 1924 will be a new bulkhead in Union street from No. 4 to No. 5 berths, repairs to the trestles at No. 2 berth to the north side of No. 5 berth. The bulkhead was recommended last year but the order was not passed by the council.

DELIGHTS WITH PLAYING AT THE COUNTY HOSPITAL

Miss Gladys A. Dykeman, organist of St. Jude's church, West Side, gave a very pleasing recital on the piano at the county hospital last evening. This was the first time she has played the different numbers in excellent manner, although she is not quite sixteen years of age. Miss Dykeman, who is a pupil of Bayard Currie, did not confine her offerings to any stated programme, but played as requested, classical numbers by noted composers, Indian love lyrics, several numbers by Carrie Jacobs-Bond, and many popular ballads and dance numbers.

The patients voiced their appreciation by hearty applause, and invited Miss Dykeman, who was accompanied by her mother, to come soon again.

KENNEBECASIS WAS FROZEN OVER

Six and Seven Below Outside City—Live Moth Brought to Times.

Although eight above zero was the lowest temperature recorded at the meteorological observatory here during last night, reports received from suburban districts indicate that the mercury dropped below the cipher. The unofficial reading at Hampton was six below, while at Sussex the temperature was one degree lower. For the first time this winter Kennebecasis River was covered over with skim ice from shore to shore. Although the air was very frosty, there was very little wind.

The thermometer remained steady during the greater part of the night in the vicinity of eight above in the city, but soon after daylight the mercury started to rise and at 9 o'clock it stood at 11 above and was still climbing. The indications were that either snow or rain would result.

Moth on Dec. 28.

In spite of more winter-like atmosphere, unusual demonstrations in connection with plant and insect life continue to be reported. Yesterday afternoon Mrs. E. Vey, 8 St. Andrews street, brought to the Evening Times office a delicately tinted green moth, which she had captured in her home. The insect was imprisoned in a small jar with a perforated paper cover; when the cover was removed it flew gaily about the office, this morning finally settling on one of the windows.

Ferry Tied Up.

The Maggie Miller yesterday ran around Millidgeville to Indian town and tied up for the winter. Captain White, her owner, made the move just in time for this morning he found the river frozen entirely over. Yesterday he made a trip to Summerville, thereby establishing a record for navigation on the Kennebecasis, but before leaving Millidgeville was compelled to break through considerable ice near the dock.

At Blackville.

The official minimum temperature recorded at Fredericton early today was six below zero. Blackville, Northumberland county, with 12 below zero, was the coldest point in New Brunswick this morning. At 10 a.m. it had moderated to zero here and the temperature continued to rise.

WANT CHINA TO BE REPUBLIC

Interpreter of Canadian Society is in City—Talks of Objects.

George Hum, of Montreal, interpreter of the Chinese Nationalist Society of Montreal, is in the city and will leave tomorrow for Montreal. Seen this morning at the Royal he said the aim of the society was to foster reform in China and open up that country to trade and commerce. They were behind Sun Yet Sen in his efforts to establish a republic as they believed that was the only way in which to open up the country.

Speaking of the sending of the warships to Canton, he said the society felt a mistake had been made by countries involved as it was felt Dr. Sen was justified in attempting to seize the customs to finance the campaign. The country had been throttled by the archy and progress held back. It was the intention of the republic to adopt a public school system and to have all the boys and girls educated, as the war had been the ending of the war because of lack of protection for the workers by the central government.

Mr. Hum said that a large majority of the Chinese in Canada were in Montreal, in the city and will leave tomorrow for Montreal. Seen this morning at the Royal he said the aim of the society was to foster reform in China and open up that country to trade and commerce. They were behind Sun Yet Sen in his efforts to establish a republic as they believed that was the only way in which to open up the country.

As Hiram Sees It

"Well," said Mr. Hiram Hornbeam to The Times reporter, "hev you got over Christmas yet?" "I hope to be myself again in time for New Year's," said the reporter. "Well," said Hiram, "he's one thing you'll miss New Year's." "What is that?" queried the reporter. "In the old times," said Hiram, "an' it ain't so many years, nuther—they used to make New Year calls. A feller got on all his good togs an' started out. He hed to take a drink every place he went—fer treatin' was the New Year custom. By the time he hed through makin' calls he hed a coach."

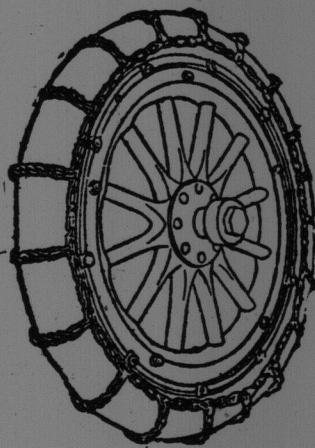
"Did everybody get pickled?" queried the reporter. "You couldn't pickle some," said Hiram. "They hed a holler leg." "And you think the old New Year habit has been abandoned—do you?" asked the reporter. "Why, sure," said Hiram, "haint we got prohibition?" "We have," said the reporter. "Oh yes—of course—we have prohibition. But when would you like to have your coach?" Hiram gazed at the reporter for some moments before he replied. "Till hev the inspector tend to it fer me," said Hiram.

Weed Tire Chains

BRING A FEELING OF SECURITY WHEN DRIVING THAT YOU'LL APPRECIATE

We carry Weed Chains in all popular sizes and at very moderate prices.

A Full Line of Auto Accessories in Stock.



'PHONE Main 2540 **McAVITY'S** 11-17 King Street

Only Two Yuletide Days Are Left AND THE BIG BARGAINS ARE GOING FAST

Here are Two New Offerings from the Bargain Basement that will go fast Tomorrow, so come early.

Gingham Apron Dresses

New crisp Gingham, open at back with half belt, three-quarter sleeves, neck, pocket and sleeves piped with white. Colors are light and dark blue, grey or pink, in wide or narrow stripes, and the price is tremendously low..... \$1.19

BARGAIN BASEMENT

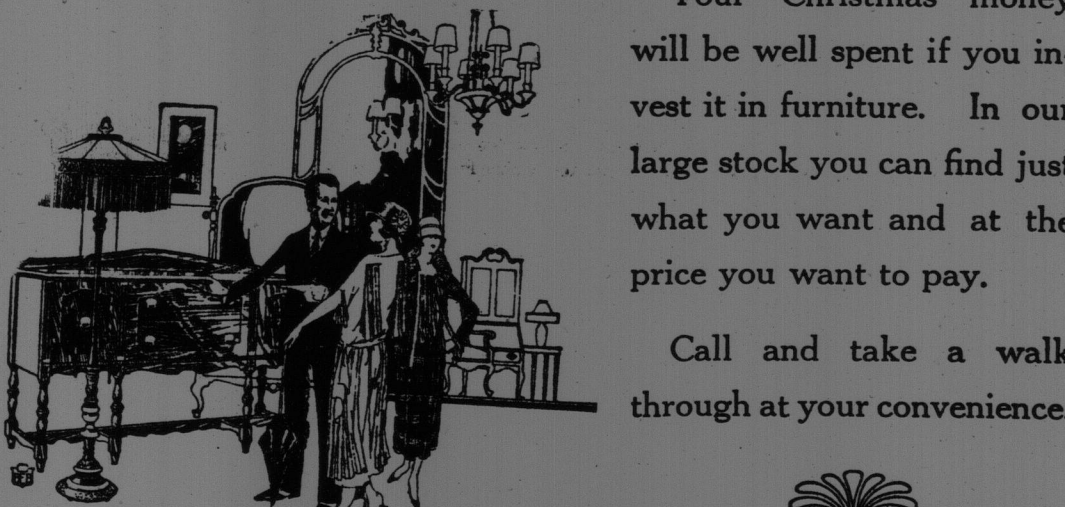
YULETIDE SALE
Watson's Fine Ribbed COMBINATION UNDERWEAR For Men. Medium weight, \$2.65 Soft finish... Street Floor.

YULETIDE SALE
WOMEN'S COATS \$25 Velours, all-around belt or loose back. Navy, Copen, Reindeer. Also Heavy Plaid Back Tweeds. \$38 Bolivias, full lined, wrap around style. Velours, fur trimmed. 3rd Floor.

YULETIDE SALE
MEN'S HOSIERY All Wool Ribbed Worsted Socks, in navy, grey, fawn, brown... MEN'S SWEATERS All Wool coat style, shawl collar, brown, maroon, oxford, \$3.20 Street Floor.

YULETIDE SALE
RUBBERS FREE With every pair of Shoes \$9 or over. Men's Fine brown or black calf Boots, rubber heels, single sole. Regular \$7... \$5.45 Street Floor.

OAK HALL - SCOVIL BROS., LTD. KING ST. GERMAIN ST.



A. Ernest Everett
THE HOUSE FURNISHER
91 CHARLOTTE STREET.

"RELIABLE" FUR COATS

MODISH GUARANTEED COST A TRIFLE BE COSY AND COMFORTABLE

One NUTRIA COAT, worth \$450..... For \$235.00	One ELECTRIC SEAL COAT, worth \$150, For \$120.00
One MOLE COAT, worth \$625..... For \$300.00	One ELECTRIC SEAL COAT, worth \$175, For \$155.00
One HUDSON SEAL COAT, worth \$400..... For \$285.00	One BLACK PONY COAT, worth \$150... For \$130.00
One HUDSON SEAL COAT, worth \$425..... For \$290.00	One MUSKRAT COAT, worth \$250..... For \$145.00
One HUDSON SEAL COAT, worth \$375... For \$235.00	One MUSKRAT COAT, worth \$175..... For \$135.00
One HUDSON SEAL COAT, worth \$425... For \$265.00	
One RACCOON COAT, worth \$175..... For \$140.00	
One PERSIAN LAMB COAT, worth \$225, For \$168.50	
One PERSIAN LAMB COAT, worth \$300, For \$230.00	

D. MAGEE'S SONS, LTD.
MASTER FURRIERS SINCE 1859. ST. JOHN, N. B.