

THE WEATHER

Forecast
Maritime—Strong north and northwest winds, fair, not much change in temperature.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—An important disturbance is situated near stable island, moving rapidly northeastward, and the pressure remains decidedly low over the northwestern portion of the continent. Local snow has occurred today in the Georgian Bay region, and snow is falling tonight along the Nova Scotia coast.

Temperatures

	Min.	Max.
Dawson	2	4
Prince Rupert	34	40
Victoria	48	50
Vancouver	42	50
Kamloops	34	46
Calgary	24	42
Edmonton	0	36
Medicine Hat	3	30
Battleford	8	12
Prince Albert	8	12
Moose Jaw	9	21
Regina	1	31
Winnipeg	4	18
Port Arthur	5	28
Perry Sound	5	28
London	17	25
Toronto	20	29
Kingston	19	28
Montreal	18	24
Ottawa	14	24
Quebec	14	24
St. John	20	22
Halifax	36	30
Below zero		

Around the City

Captain J. B. Morehouse Ill.
Many will be sorry to hear that Captain J. B. Morehouse, of Queen street, is seriously ill in a sanitarium of River Junction, Florida. His condition is causing his wife, family and friends much anxiety.

Officers Installed
The annual meeting of Vernon Lodge, L. O. L., was held in Orange Hall, Germain street, last night when officers for the coming year were installed by D. M. Waring. The reports of the retiring officers showed the lodge to be in a flourishing condition.

S. A. Christmas Fund
About the same number of pots suspended from tripods in charge of Salvation Army men is now to be seen on the streets as in former years, but it is thought that the money contributions placed therein for Christmas fare for the poor have not up to the present time been of such generous proportions as formerly.

Flowers as Christmas Gifts.
With so much sadness and depression everywhere, cut flowers or potted plants seem to be the most suitable of all Christmas gifts. We suggest that you send to your mother, wife or sweetheart a beautiful Azalea, cyclamen, potted tulips, hyacinths and ferns, a box of cut flowers, roses, carnations, violets, narcissus. These can be found in all varieties and at reasonable prices at K. Pederson Ltd., Market Building, Charlotte street.

Halifax a Foggy City?
Taber D. Bailey has returned from a visit in Halifax and other places in Nova Scotia on business. Mr. Bailey found the city enveloped in a disagreeable brown fog and much smoke following the almost universal employment of soft coal about the city. The city is full of soldiers and every line of industry connected with the manufacture of munitions is running at full blast. Extra barracks and detention camps have been erected to take care of the thousands of soldiers who are quartered there as garrison and on their way to the war.—Bangor News.

Christmas Treat.
Yesterday afternoon the primary class of Main street Baptist church held their annual Christmas treat and supper in the vestry of the church. About 100 of the children were present with their parents. The class had as their guests 16 of the smaller children from the Protestant Orphan's Home. Dr. Hutchinson was present and said a few words to the children after which they carried out an informal programme. About five o'clock supper was served after which Santa Claus arrived on the scene and made each child happy with a bag of candy. Miss Ella McAlary was in charge assisted by the teachers of the primary department.

Compliments 104th Band
A gentleman from Montreal and a good judge of music was in the city on Monday and while in conversation with The Standard spoke in highly complimentary terms of the music furnished by the 104th Battalion Band as it marched through the streets heading a detachment of the 104th Battalion. The Montreal critic said that in his opinion this band was easily rated among the best in Canada. The 104th Band, which is under the able leadership of Bandmaster Murray Long, is now thirty-seven members strong, the majority of them belonging to this city, while others enlisted from different parts of the province. With hard work rehearsing every day the band is attaining a high standing. The members of the band are called to meet at one o'clock this afternoon at the band room for the purpose of heading the men of the 104th Battalion who are going out for a route march.

TREAT FOR SOLDIERS' KIDDIES PROVED UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS

Ladies of Soldiers' Wives League hosts to more than 900 little ones in Knights of Columbus rooms yesterday afternoon — Christmas tree and entertainment—Many Toys provided through agency of Standard's Children's Corner.

The large hall of the Knights of Columbus in Coburg street was crowded yesterday afternoon by more than 900 children, who had been invited to participate in a treat provided under the auspices of the Soldiers' Wives League. It would be difficult to describe in a limited space how much the kindly thoughts and action of others were appreciated by the young people. With happy faces and childish excitement they provided a picture that none but a misanthrope could fail to appreciate. Some of them were little more than babies, but the arrangements made for their comfort and entertainment had been so carefully prepared that all were well cared for and there was no hitch in the proceedings throughout.

In the centre of the hall was placed a large Christmas tree resplendent with bright and attractive decorations so dear to the heart of the young folk. Bonbons, tiny stockings and other things that suggest the great annual festival were hung on its branches and the whole was made additionally pleasing by miniature electric lights. On one side of the hall the boys were placed, the girls being on the other; seating accommodation was provided for all. After a few opening remarks by His Lordship Bishop LeBlanc and Rev. W. H. Barralough all joined in singing the National Anthem and Mrs. E. Atherton Smith then described in appropriate language the many animals pictured on a screen by means of a lantern operated by Rev. Mr. Barralough. Ice cream and cake were then distributed. The cones of cream disappeared with remarkable rapidity, but the ladies had provided for a large demand, no less than sixty gallons having been sent in for consumption.

In course of the proceedings Mrs. Curran sang patriotic songs and a feature that gave much pleasure was the ambulance display given by No. 1 troop of the Boy Scouts of Waterloo St. Baptist church. The scouts also helped, with six comrades from the St. James' church troop, to keep order and assist in many ways to add to the success of the gathering. Each boy received a large red stocking filled with toys, fruit and candy, and each girl was given a large white stocking similarly filled. The little ladies also received a dressed doll, Miss Helen Sidney-Smith being the kind-hearted Santa Claus.

ST. JOHN WILL BE AFFECTED BY COAL FAMINE

United States threatened with great strike and shutdown in March, it is claimed.

St. John dealers said yesterday that it was too early to predict with accuracy what effect an anthracite and bituminous coal famine would have in St. John. New York, Philadelphia and Boston despatches state that New England manufacturing centres and in fact the entire eastern states are threatened with the greatest shortage since the Civil War. Should such a situation develop, as predicted, in a few months or so many thousands of people will be thrown out of work by the closing of industries.

St. John imports anthracite coal from the United States to the amount of about 50,000 tons annually, valued at about \$400,000. Local dealers are stocked up for the winter months. Should there be a famine, this city and province can use more Nova Scotia soft coal and import coal from Wales and Scotland, if the war office permits exporting. During the last great coal strike in Pennsylvania much coal was imported by the United States from Great Britain.

The operators and wholesalers declare that the predictions of a coal famine do not originate with them in the hope of forcing up prices by frightening the public. Several reasons are advanced, namely, the scarcity of miners, due to thousands of foreigners leaving the mines to enter the armies of Europe, a pronounced shortage in the coal and coal carrying vessels, an enormous consumption of coal by the steel making plants engaged on war orders and the strong probability of a general strike in the anthracite and bituminous regions of the Eastern United States on March 31, when agreements between operators and miners expired. The miners, it is said, will demand substantial increases in wages which the operators will refuse.

C. P. Anderson, a Boston coal operator, who has just returned from a month's trip to the Pennsylvania coal fields, says New England faces the greatest shortage of coal in its history and that there is a possibility of a complete shut-down of manufacturing plants and of privation on the part of citizens. He says: "On March 31 the agreement between the miners and the coal operators will terminate, and if there is a strike or a suspension it will tie up the entire market, and a most serious situation will confront the household and the manufacturer."

Other factors enter into the situation, which, curiously enough, are due directly to the unprecedented prosperity in the manufacturing and steel trade. During normal times only about half of the cars carrying coal are cars built for that purpose. The rest are cars intended for use in transporting pig iron, limestone, steel and the products of steel mills, which are available for coal carriage because of the fact that under normal conditions the steel mills are working overtime, running as one might say to more than 100 per cent. capacity, and all the cars built for other merchandise are in use. Mr. Fowler declined to accept the appointment, and the board held a two hour session late yesterday to consider a list of about 35 applicants for the position. The proceedings of the previous meeting were reviewed, and at times the discussion was animated. W. S. Fisher and several other members of Mr. Fowler on the ground that he was a man of experience and first class qualifications. Magistrate R. J. Ritchie wanted a delay for six days, but his amendment to that effect was lost on a close vote. Some of the governors desired a local man appointed. Their desire was practically fulfilled last evening by the appointment of Mr. Brittain. Mr. Brittain resided in the United States for some time. During the past three or four years he has been engaged in farming and gardening in Westfield. He was highly recommended for the position.

Nickeled and Copper Chafing Dishes

Coffee Pots—Tea Pots—Hot Water Kettles

An attractive, well-ordered table is the joy of the housewife who welcomes, at Christmas especially, some pleasing and useful addition to the family board. In our Nickeled and Copper Tableware section you will find all the most recent patterns and novelties in Chafing Dishes, Hot Water Kettles, Tea Pots, Coffee Pots and Coffee Percolators at the following range of

PRICES:

Chafing Dishes, nickeled	\$5.40, \$7.00, \$7.50, \$10.25
Chafing Dishes, copper	\$7.50, \$10.10
Percolating Coffee Pots, nickeled	\$2.00, \$2.50
Tea Pots, nickeled	85c., \$3.85
Coffee Pots, nickeled	\$1.00, \$3.50
Table Kettles, with Spirit Lamps, Nickeled	\$2.65, \$7.90 and \$8
Separate Kettles, Nickeled	\$1.25, \$3.50

MARKET SQUARE—FIRST FLOOR.

OPEN EVENINGS TILL CHRISTMAS

Market Square — W. H. THORNE & CO., LTD. — King Street

Macaulay Bros. & Co., King Street, St. John, N. B.

Saturdays our stores will be open until 10 p.m.; open at 8 a.m.; close 9 p.m., excepting Saturday 10 p.m.

Every Department is Well Stocked With Most Useful Articles for Men, Women and Children

Our trade during the first part of this month has demonstrated that our stock for variety, lowness of prices for qualities has met with the public approval.

You can find in all departments goods for gifts that will please every age.

MACAULAY BROS. & CO.

YOU FATHERS, AND MOTHERS

An INGERSOL WATCH for Christmas makes a happy boy or girl. A Plain Practical Timepiece, so plain that A DOLLAR buys it—so practical that millions of people carry it.

MAPLE LEAF	\$1.00
MIDGET	2.25
JUNIOR	2.25
ESSEX	4.50

WRIST WATCHES \$5.00 to \$9.00

—THE WATCH THAT MADE THE DOLLAR FAMOUS—

Emerson & Fisher Ltd

Stores Open Tonight Until 10 o'clock

Every Department is Bright With Christmas Gift Things

SHOP in the Morning

IN COSTUME SECTION
Suits, Coats, Afternoon and Evening Dresses, Sweaters, Silk and Saten Underskirts, etc.

IN SILK AND FUR DEPTS.
White Lingerie, Crepe de Chine, and Jap Silk Blouses, Feather Boas, Fur Coats, Fur Pieces, etc.

IN CHRISTMAS SHOW ROOM
Brassware, Silver-Plated Ware, De-pose-Art Ware, Mechanical and Building Toys, Dolls, China, etc.; also Cut Glass, Paperstems, Toilet Waters and Perfumes in the Millinery Salon.

IN ANNEX AND FRONT STORE
Hand Bags, Purses, Card Cases, Leather and Silk Belts, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Linen or Lace Centrepieces, Silk Hosiery, Silk Work Baskets, Neckwear, Blankets for Bath and Dressing Gowns, Ribbons, Needlework Novelties, Bandeaux and Hat Pins, Waist Lengths in Novelty Wash Fabrics, etc.

IN WHITEWEAR DEPT.
Dressing Jackets, Long Kimonos, Boudoir Caps, Nightdresses, Skirts, Corset Covers, Combinations, Children's Dressing Gowns, Children's White Dresses, Infants' Robes and Long Coats, etc.

APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR MEN AND BOYS IN THE CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS DEPTS. HUNDREDS OF PLAYTHINGS GIFTS FOR KIDDIES IN THE FURNITURE DEPARTMENT.

Christmas Gifts in Carpet Department

HASSOCKS—A large assortment in round or square, any color. Special from 60c. to \$1.00

NEW RUGS, Mats and Hall Runners, something very attractive in plain centres with darker band borders in rose, blue, brown, grey or green. Each \$3.25 and \$5.75

ALSO RUNNERS, 2 feet 3 in. or 3 feet wide and 2 1/2, 3, 3 1/2 or 4 yds. long. From \$5.75 to \$13.50.

Appropriate Christmas Presents in the Millinery Department

Gifts for Women

TRIMMED HATS, Each	\$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$9.00
BLACK OSTRICH PLUMES, Each	\$2.40 to \$7.50
WHITE OSTRICH PLUMES, Each	\$3.00 to \$7.50
WHITE OSPREYS, Each	\$14.00 to \$24.00
BLACK OSPREYS, Each	\$10.00 to \$20.00
PARADISE FEATHERS in Black, White, Natural	\$10.00 to \$37.00
KNITTED HOODS AND CAPS, in white, Saxe blue, scarlet, grey, old rose, tan, navy blue, from 50c. to \$2.25.	

For the Young Girl

KNITTED CAPS for skating or snow shoeing, in sky, white, cardinal, navy, blue, grey, from 75c. upward.

TRIMMED FELT HATS in red, navy, Copenhagen 75c. to \$2.00

For the Baby

WHITE ANGORA AND ICELAND WOOL HOODS, White Cashmere and Silk Bonnets, from \$1.65 to \$3.00.

Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited

GIRL BADLY INJURED; NOW IN HOSPITAL

May Littlefield hurt by jumping from taxi-cab in King Street — Unconscious at midnight

As a result of a Ford jitney running away on King street yesterday afternoon about one o'clock Miss May Littlefield, of the Marsh Road, is lying in an unconscious condition in the General Public Hospital, and reports at a late hour last night were to the effect that her condition is critical. The jitney is owned by the St. John Taxicab Company and the chauffeur in charge was William J. Foster of Gilbert street. Chauffeur Foster states that he had been engaged at the Haymarket Square by the woman who carried a large parcel and was directed to proceed to the Dominion Express office on King street. He stopped at the express office, and leaving the woman in the cab went into the office with the parcel. While he was away the car started and, without a driver, ran down King street. Eye witnesses of the accident said that the car was proceeding down the street at about fifteen miles an hour. The girl screamed and a man who realised the danger attempted to jump on the front seat and steer the car into Canterbury street but he missed his footing and fell to the street. Miss Littlefield was seen to open the door of the rapidly moving automobile and in jumping out was thrown to the pavement striking on the back of her head. She was picked up in an unconscious condition and carried into S. McDermid's drug store in the Royal Hotel building, Dr. Cleghorn of Toronto, a guest at the hotel, and Dr. Emery attended the injured girl and ordered her removal to the hospital. Continuing down King street the jitney collided with an electric light pole, glancing off and finally struck a pile of paving stones and upset. The front axle, hood, mud and wind shields were smashed, and the car was badly damaged.

WESTFIELD MAN CHOSEN HEAD OF THE BOYS' HOME

W. R. Brittain appointed Superintendent of Industrial Home—His wife will be matron.

The vacancy in the superintendency of the Boys' Industrial Home at East St. John, was finally filled last evening by the appointment of W. R. Brittain, of Westfield. Mrs. Brittain will be matron of the Home. Earlier in the month Assistant Superintendent Fowler, of the Strawbridge Home, Quebec, was elected after a close decision by the board of governors. Mayor Prink casting the deciding vote. Those who opposed Mr. Fowler were under the impression that he was not chosen. His Worship, however, declared that the election was legal. Mr. Fowler declined to accept the appointment, and the board held a two hour session late yesterday to consider a list of about 35 applicants for the position. The proceedings of the previous meeting were reviewed, and at times the discussion was animated. W. S. Fisher and several other members of Mr. Fowler on the ground that he was a man of experience and first class qualifications. Magistrate R. J. Ritchie wanted a delay for six days, but his amendment to that effect was lost on a close vote. Some of the governors desired a local man appointed. Their desire was practically fulfilled last evening by the appointment of Mr. Brittain. Mr. Brittain resided in the United States for some time. During the past three or four years he has been engaged in farming and gardening in Westfield. He was highly recommended for the position.