

THE WEATHER.

Maritime - Moderate to fresh northerly winds; fair and cold. Toronto, Dec. 22.-The weather today has been generally fair and moderately cold throughout the Dominion, but some snow flurries have occurred in the Western Provinces and Northern Ontario.

Table with 2 columns: Location, Min Max. Includes Prince Rupert, Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops, Edmonton, Battleford, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Moosejaw, Qu'Appelle, Winnipeg, Port Arthur, Parry Sound, London, Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, Halifax, and Below.

AROUND THE CITY

Decorating for Christmas. In St. Mary's church, last evening, a band of workers were engaged decorating the church for Christmas.

Keys Found. Officer Clark found two keys on King street yesterday. The owner can secure the same at Central Station.

Band at Queen's Rink. The cold weather has again made a beautiful sheet of ice in the Queen's rink and tonight will be the first night of the season. The season tickets are selling in large numbers and intending purchasers should not delay.

Home for Christmas. A paragraph in the Calgary News reads as follows: Dr. and Mrs. Frankum of Alberta, who have been in the city visiting friends, will leave tomorrow to spend Christmas with Mrs. Frankum's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bates, St. John, N. B. On the following day they will leave for Halifax where on December 27th they will take passage for England, where Dr. Frankum will take a post graduate course.

Big Cut Expected. Robert Connor, manager of the Pelebecot Lumber Company, who was in the city yesterday, said his company would get out between 5,000,000 and 7,000,000 lumber and five or six million feet of pulp wood. Mr. Connor said the operations of the company had not been inconvenienced so far by the lack of snow, but they hoped that after the New Year they would have plenty of winter weather. The company ships its pulp wood to Bath, Me., but is going in more and more for lumber.

Foreigner Arrested. Trouble among the foreign residents of Peter street about ten thirty last evening, resulted in the arrest of one man charged with drunkenness, and much excitement for many citizens who happened to see the fray. About half past ten a telephone call was received at Central Station that a fight was in progress on Peter street. Officer O'Neill, who has been on duty, hurried to the scene, being joined on the way by Officers Kane and Anderson. When the patrolmen were in sight the fighters fled, one being captured. The prisoner, whose name could not be obtained last evening, it is understood, is employed on sugar refinery construction work.

PERSONAL

A. B. Willnot came in from Fredericton last evening. C. J. Driscoll, formerly a train dispatcher in the I. C. R. station here but now with the Steel Company of Canada, is spending the holidays in the city.

B. Reade, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, who is leaving for Summerside, P.E.I., today, was given a farewell dinner at Wannamaker's last evening by a number of his friends.

Arthur Dearness, who has been stationed in the West in the employ of Gaults Limited, Winnipeg, has arrived home to spend Christmas with his parents in the city.

Clifford Wilson, of Winnipeg, arrived home yesterday to spend Christmas at the home of his father, A. A. Wilson, Carmarthen street.

Hon. J. D. Hazen arrived on the Boston express last evening. Kenneth and Roy Wilson, who have been attending Acadia College, have returned home for the Christmas vacation.

CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED

Yuletide Festivities in Our Great-Grandfather's Time. Years ago at this season our great grandfathers went out into the forest and chopped down and dragged home Yule Log to furnish warmth and comfort for the Xmas or Yuletide festivities. Think of the labor necessary to get fuel in this way. How different conditions are today? You merely telegraph for a load or two of the fuel best suited to your needs, and it is furnished by the Consumers Coal Co., without the least effort or trouble on your part. The Consumers Co. carry a large stock of all kinds of household fuel and can furnish Yule Logs in the shape of hard and soft coal, hard wood or kindling. Whatever you buy, it will be the very best obtainable. The Consumers Coal Co. will see to that. Truly conditions have changed.

PRINCE WILLIAM HOTEL.

Interior of the Market



Brisk Business Recorded in Market and Merchants Expect Banner Christmas Trade - Handsomely Decorated and Presents Neat Appearance.

With an increased supply of Maritime Province beef and other local commodities the country market is doing a brisk Christmas trade, equal if not superior to that of former years. The interior has been decorated with trimmings of green and flags bearing the word "welcome," and indeed the market presents an appearance, which is proving a great inducement to the public to buy.

A prominent merchant of the market in conversation with The Standard yesterday expressed the opinion that the Christmas trade this year will surpass that of former seasons, and advanced the increased population and general prosperity, in spite of the financial stringency as the cause. Yesterday afternoon the most casual observer could not help but notice the improved appearance and general signs of prosperity about the building and the continued ring of the cash registers told in no uncertain manner of the steady buying in progress.

All varieties of produce and meats appeared in plenty, as along each side of the building rows of sides of beef, mutton, lamb and pork showed that they were expecting a land office business.

Maritime Province beef was largely in evidence, and indeed late reports told of prize joints and roasts from this source coming in. American beef was also in generous quantities, while a falling off of western beef was noticeable. Vegetables and all the Christmas specialties were in abundance. The house wives of St. John will have little difficulty in securing the materials for their Christmas dinners.

The St. John Conservative Club is probably the banner organization of the party in St. John in so far as the number of members and social activities go. The commodious quarters of the club in the Market building are open every evening, and billiard and pool tables and other sources of amusement give the members and their friends an opportunity to enjoy a pleasant evening. Although with the approach of Christmas other attractions and duties present themselves, the club rooms for the last few evenings have been as well attended as if there was a meeting of some importance in progress. The club during the present year has paid off a considerable debt and put in a billiard table worth \$140, and developed a bank account. As an indication of its activity and the increasing popularity of the Conservative government it may be mentioned that within a short time fifty new members mostly young men have joined the club.

The executive committee is working out a programme for the winter which it is expected will increase the prestige and membership of the club. While no definite arrangements have been made as yet it is hoped to have George Fowler, M. P., address a meeting of the club after the holidays and Hon. J. D. Hazen later on.

ADDRESS BY HON. MR. HAZEN

Minister of Marine and Fisheries will Speak before North End Conservative Club. Hon. J. D. Hazen will address a public meeting, to be held under the auspices of the North End Conservative Club, in the Temple of Honor hall on Monday evening, December 29. A meeting of the North End Conservative Club was held last evening to make arrangements for the meeting. John Thornton, the president, being in the chair. It is some time since Mr. Hazen has spoken in the North End, and it is expected there will be a large attendance. In addition to the address by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, it is planned to have brief speeches by Senator Daniel and Senator Thomas, and a musical programme of considerable excellence.

Recent Charters. Freighters are opening at the present time at fifteen shillings lower than last year. A steamer of 1650 standard tons has been fixed to load at Grimsby Island for the West Coast of England at 40 shillings. A steamer of 1600 standard tons has been chartered loading from the Miramichi at 40 shillings. These are the first spring charters announced and both are for the month of May.

PRICE INCREASE REQUEST AN

Petition that Officers be Paid 25 Cents a Day Extra Turned Down by Council.

At the meeting of the city council yesterday the petition of the policemen, praying that they be paid the twenty-five cents a day increase for which an appropriation was made in January last, was turned down. The petition which was signed by a large number of officers, stated that in view of the increasing cost of living, the men found it difficult to support their families properly, and needed the money, especially for Christmas.

Com. McLellan simply presented this petition as a medium, I have no recommendation to make. The mayor said the money had been voted, and was ready to be paid the men, but he understood the commissioner of safety's position was an awkward one.

Com. Agar said the extra pay was appropriated on the understanding that the force was to be reorganized, and he did not see that they could do anything without the recommendation of Com. McLellan.

Com. Wilmore said he was of the same mind. "It is not important," he added, "I would like to ask the commissioner of safety whether he considers the force was to be reorganized, and he did not see that they could do anything without the recommendation of Com. McLellan."

Com. McLellan said it had never been his intention to pay the twenty-five cents a day extra until some changes had been made and the force put on a different footing. The changes had not been made.

Com. Wilmore in that case, the only thing to do is file the petition. This motion was adopted.

CURTAINS CAUGHT FIRE, COUPLE BADLY BURNED

Mr. and Mrs. Harry P. Williams, of 24 Harrison Street, had narrow escape. What would have resulted in a bad fire occurred early yesterday morning in a bedroom at the residence of Mr. P. Williams, carpenter and contractor, at 24 Harrison street, when the curtains on the window were discovered blazing, and in an attempt to extinguish the flames both Mr. and Mrs. Williams were badly scorched about the hands and face. They consider, however, that they are fortunate in not having received more serious burns.

It was about 5:30 o'clock in the morning when the fire was found burning. An occupant of the house had occasion to go out to the kitchen to light the fire in the range sometime previous, but it was rather difficult to understand how the fire had caught in the bedroom. When Mrs. Williams noticed the curtains in flames she attempted to beat out the fire, and it was while attempting to do this that the flames caught her night gown, inflaming slightly. Her husband, who was in the room, was rather difficult to prompt action of Mr. Williams prevented serious injury, seizing a quilt from the bed he smothered the fire and succeeded with difficulty in rescuing his wife from danger.

In attacking the fire Mr. Williams himself had his moustache burned and his face scorched.

PRENTICE BOYS IN ANNUAL MEETING

King Edward's Lodge Elects Officers - Grand Chaplain Gooderich Conducts Ceremonies. The annual meeting of King Edward's Lodge, Protestant Association of Prentice Boys, was held last evening. The election of officers which was conducted by the Grand Chaplain, Robert Gooderich, resulted as follows: L. Ed. Rolston, W. M.; John Appleton, Deputy Master; W. J. Smith, P. M.; S. J. Griffiths, R. S.; R. Jones, Asst. Secretary; A. Belyea, Treasurer; I. McLeod, Chaplain; Oscar Taylor, Director of Ceremonies; F. Chittick, Lecturer; C. Arnold, Asst. Lecturer; D. Wells, C. Whalen, S. Carvell, Wm. Belyea, R. Jones, committeemen; Geo. Cook Carlin, inside Tyler; Herbert Nichols, Outside Tyler; D. Wells, Wm. Smith, I. McLeod, trustees.

Mr. Gooderich delivered a brief address. Another sale of English made satin petticoats at F. A. Dykeman & Co.'s store. Prices \$1.60, \$2.89, and \$5.95. Just the thing for a Christmas box. Each undershirt in a cellophane box. They can give you these in paddy green, cerise, black brown, tan, navy, cream, white, sky, heliotrope and purple. A ladies' non-water rain hat would be a nice Christmas present. Prices 75, 80 and \$1.45.

There is no pleasure on dull blades. Now that the skating is good at the lakes and in the rinks leave your skates at Wetmore's, 143 City Road. They will make them a pleasure to you.

WANTED - Two kitchen girls for the Clifton House.

The Chafing Dish. The Chafing Dish, while making it possible to express the sincerest hospitality, also seems to the true symbol of good-fellowship. A quick, novel and practical way to prepare a warm luncheon. We have them in Copper and Nickel. Prices \$5.30, 5.40, 6.20, 6.30, 7.50, 8.00, 9.50, 11.00, 13.00. TRAYS for Chafing Dishes, \$1.50 to 5.00. SERVERS, \$2.50, 3.60, 4.00, 4.30 per pair. W.H. THORNE & CO. LTD. MARKET SQUARE & KING ST.

Winter Weather Is Now With Us - Are You Prepared? Let us suggest that you get ready for it. We have a big selection of First Quality Rubber Footwear in Overshoes and Rubbers for Men, Women and Children. GET YOUR RUBBERS AND GAITERS NOW. Do your Christmas Shopping early. Our lines for this in Hockey Boots, Felts, etc., are now complete. Slater Shoe Shop - 81 King St.

Beautiful As Well As Useful. They are graceful in form, convenient in size, handsome in finish. There's a design for every taste. Twenty-Two Different Designs. Prices - \$2.75 to \$22.00. Marble, Onyx, Mahogany and Black Enamel Finish. Small Brass and Nickel Dresser Clocks, with and without alarm. Prices - 65c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Store Open Every Evening Until Christmas. Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

M.R.A. Stores Open Tonight Until 10 o'clock. New Voile Waists Just in Time for Christmas Gifts. A very dainty assortment of Voile Blouses have just been added to our Christmas display, and these comprise the novelties intended for early spring and are made in newest designs. Trimmings of fine lace and insertion, yoke effect, long collar, three-quarter and full length sleeves. There are also a few with high neck and long sleeves, opened in front. Sizes range from 34 to 42. Prices, each . . . \$1.15 to \$5.25. BLOUSE SECTION.

Christmas Suggestions in the Whitewear Department. Ladies' Flannellette Night Dresses, Drawers and Corset Covers, Ladies' Night Dresses, machine and hand-made; Ladies' Chemises, machine and hand-made; Ladies' Combinations, lace and ribbon trimmed; Ladies' Skirts, embroidery and lace trimmed; Ladies' Corset Covers; Ladies' Silk Vests, embroidered tops; Black Wool Tights in navy and pale blue; Silk Tights in white; Ladies' Dressing Jackets; Ladies' Long Kimonos, in crepe and silk; Lawn and Muslin Aprons; Corsets; Fancy Silk Suspender; Brassieres, trimmed and untrimmed; Children's White Worked Flannel Petticoats; Children's Flannellette Slips, Night Dresses and Drawers; Infants' Robes and Long Coats in white cashmere; Infants' Bear Coats; Bassinettes; Hampers; Baskets; Infants' Booties; Infants' Cashmere Jackets; Infants' Wool Jackets; Infants' Carriage Robes, hand-made crocheted wool; Infants' Baby Bunting; Infants' Silk Quilt; Infants' Silk Kimonos; Infants' Kid Slippers; Infants' Hand-made Moccasins; Infants' Bibs; Infants' Feeders; Novelties of every description for the Baby; Ladies' Cretonne Travelling Cases; Cretonne Covers. See our great display of Gift Novelties in Brass, Silver, Leatherette, Celluloid, Glass, etc. Something for everybody.

Practical Presents for Men and Boys. For Men: Overcoats \$7.50 to \$40.00, Suits \$10.00 to \$20.00, Reefers \$4.50 to \$8.00, Waterproof coats \$2.25 to \$18.50, Trousers \$1.25 to \$7.50, Fancy Vests \$2.75 to \$5.00, Smoking Jackets \$5.50 to \$15.00, Bath Robes \$3.50 to \$7.75, Dressing Gowns \$6.00 to \$18.00, Fur-lined Coats \$20.00 to \$90.00, Fur Coats \$21.50 to \$88.00, Fur Caps \$1.90 to \$27.00, Fur Collars \$3.00 to \$15.00, Fur Gloves (Gauget) \$6.75 to \$21.00. For Boys: Boys' Two-Piece Suits \$3.25 to \$10.00, Boys' Three-Piece Suits \$3.75 to \$13.00, Boys' Russian Suits \$3.25 to \$9.00, Boys' Sailor Suits \$2.75 to \$7.50, Boys' Reefers \$3.25 to \$7.50, Boys' Fancy Overcoats \$3.50 to \$8.50, Boys' Regular Overcoats \$5.25 to \$13.50, Boys' Bath Robes \$4.25 to \$7.75, Boys' Hockey Caps and Toggles \$5 to \$7.50. Boys' Grey Lamb Caps and Tams 3.00 to 4.50, Children's Bo-Peep Bath Robes \$3.50, Boys' Rubber Coats \$3.65 to \$4.75, Boys' Waterproof Coats \$5.75, Play Suits, Rough Rider, Cowboy and Indian in a variety of styles and prices, Boys' Knitted Jersey Suits including Cap \$1.85, Boys' Jaeger Snow Suits, including Toggles, Sash, Mitts, Sweater and Overalls \$5.50.

Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited