

THE WEATHER

Forecast:
Gulf and Maritime—North-west to west gales, decreasing at night, local snow showers, but generally fair and colder.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—The disturbance which was in the Mississippi Valley on Friday night is now situated over the Maritime Provinces as a severe storm accompanied by fresh to heavy gales and rain. It has also given snow and rain in southern Ontario and heavy snowfalls in the Ottawa and St. Lawrence valleys.

Temperatures

City	Min.	Max.
Victoria	22	42
Vancouver	22	40
Calgary	12	24
Edmonton	10	26
Moose Jaw	11	11
Regina	14	12
Dartford	14	12
Prince Albert	16	11
Winnipeg	18	12
Port Arthur	22	26
Perry Sound	22	23
London	22	23
Toronto	18	25
Ottawa	12	24
Montreal	26	30
Quebec	22	24
Halifax	28	30

*—Below zero.

26TH ARE IN THE TRENCHES

Major W. R. Brown, back from firing line, describes memorable Crater Fight in which several members of 26th died death of heroes—Graphic account of Life on the Firing Line.

Among the officers returning from the front yesterday was Major W. R. Brown of the Fighting 26th. Major Brown, who was wounded in the foot in the crater fight of October 13th last, is feeling much better and expects to be back at the front again some time in January. He said when the 26th took over these trenches things were very quiet and it was supposed that the German trenches were weakly manned, but the quietness was due to the fact that the regiment which were in before the 26th did not bother the Germans very much and they are quite willing to keep quiet when we do. Our boys could not quite see the fun in simply marching in and doing nothing, so they got busy and the regiment that takes over that particular bit of trench will not be lonesome.

When asked about the care of the wounded he said too much praise could not be given to the medical department of the service. When a man is wounded he is carried to a dressing station where first aid is administered; he is then taken to the base hospital where amputations are made when necessary. He is likely to be in hospital over three weeks he is transferred to England and taken care of there. The reason for transferring them being to keep the base hospitals clear in event of a big battle when they would need all the room available. When Major Brown was wounded he was sent to a hospital at London Bridge, from there he was transferred to a convalescent home at Exton on Sea where he spent some time.

Around the City

Recruiting Committee.
A special meeting of the Citizens Recruiting Committee will be held this afternoon at the Board of Trade rooms at three o'clock. As important business will be brought forward a good attendance is desired.

Presentation to Pastor.
At the close of last evening's service at Zion church an address was read to the pastor, Rev. J. B. Champion, expressing appreciation of his services in connection with the church. It was accompanied by a gift of \$40. Rev. Mr. Champion thanked those who had remembered him and said he would always try to uphold the work.

Inquests into Recent Deaths.
Coroner Robert will conduct inquiries into the deaths of Mrs. Mary Spittle and Mrs. Mary Littlefield. The jury which viewed the body of Mrs. Spittle on Thursday morning will hear evidence in the coroner's room this evening at eight o'clock, and the jury which viewed the remains of Mrs. Littlefield on Thursday evening will resume session tomorrow at 8 p. m. in the court house.

Seaman's Mission.
A large number of sailors attended the Christmas service in the Seaman's Institute on Sunday evening, when the Rev. Mr. Haughton gave a splendid and helpful address to the men. Miss Alcorn sang "Holy Night" very sweetly. At the close of the service the manager distributed tickets for the annual Christmas entertainment to the sailors in port, which will be given in the institute on Tuesday evening.

Santa At The Armory.
On Christmas morning one of the 6th marched in Santa Claus costume through the Armory and invited those present to follow him to the Y. M. C. A. quarters. The response was general, about 500 of the men going with him. When they got there each man was given a surprise packet which was much appreciated. Mr. Sparks wishes to thank all those who contributed the articles necessary to provide this treat.

Sailor Injured at Sand Point.
Yesterday afternoon a sailor named Thomas Wilson fell from the deck of a steamship lying at Sand Point. The fall was about fifty feet and when the unfortunate man was hoisted up to the deck of the ship and examined by the ship's doctor it was seen that he was badly injured. The ambulance was summoned and the injured man removed to the General Public Hospital. On examination it was found that Wilson's back was broken and his condition is most critical. The injured man is a native of England.

Christmas in Police Station.
Never in the history of the police force was there such good cheer as on Saturday. The old guard room was beautifully decorated for the occasion and a citizen who is a great admirer of the force presented a Christmas tree and hanging to the tree was a slight token of esteem for each member of the force. Chief of Police Simpson was presented by the members of the force with a handsome smoking set. The members of the force were each remembered by a present given by Chief Simpson and Inspector Wickham.

Fight in a Road House.
On Saturday evening about six o'clock George Eber, an old man, received a severe beating in Mrs. Eber's house on the Bethsara Road. He complained to the county police and they bore out warrants against Alfred Boyce and Harvey Boyce, two persons who reside with Mrs. Eber. The two were arrested Saturday night by County Policemen Saunders and Officer Armstrong of the city force, and charged with the assault. The prisoners later got out on leaving a deposit for their appearance in court today. A report had been circulated about the city that a man had been beaten to death out the road and the story arose from the circumstance that the man Eber had been assaulted.

Shells No Longer Worry Them
The boys have got used to shell fire now and it does not bother them at all, but what does trouble them is wet weather. The first week they were there it rained all week and they went into the trenches wet and came out wet.

Asked about the crater fight Major Brown said there were only seven men engaged who were not killed or wounded. The attack was in the nature of a reconnaissance, it being impossible to find out what they were doing with this crater at night. It was decided to make an assault in daytime. Major Brown was given command of the storming party. The bombing party went first and as they drove the Germans out they went in, but it was impossible to stay there as they were subject to heavy machine gun fire. The Germans were about five minutes too late exploding their mine as all the men who were alive had escaped. He said he had written to find out if any further use had been made of this crater but had not heard as yet. When he was in the trenches they were in a week and out a week, but he believed since the cold weather had come they were relieved every four days. When the men come out of the trenches they go back about two miles where they have baths, each man has a hot bath and exchanges his dirty clothes, "and sometimes they are almost unable to walk" for clean ones, and the change is surely appreciated by the men. The baths are large tanks or vats sunk in the ground and hot water piped into them.

26th Hold Three-Quarter Mile of Front
One thing that is especially noticeable is the difference physically between the territorials and the Canadians, the Canadians being more strongly built. The 26th have a frontage of about three-quarters of mile of trench, two companies are in the front, one in support and one in reserve. The company in reserve have to keep the communication trenches in repair which usually keeps them fairly busy. They are also responsible for water and food supply for those in front trenches.

Major Brown said the commissariat department was all that could be desired; they had plenty of everything and the quality was good, the only lacking at all was socks in wet weather as then each man could use four or five pairs a day.

Capt. Bennett of the Princess Patricia's was in the city yesterday on his way home in Albert County. Capt. Bennett has had luck since going overseas as he has been sick the greater portion of the time. A short time after he entered the trenches he contracted enteric fever and then neuritis which has kept him in hospital until now. He is still very lame. Of the original Princess Patricia's there are only a handful left, at the second battle of Ypres they lost about 800 men. Capt. Bennett said it is admitted by everybody who knows anything of that battle that the Canadian troops saved the day. If they had not held on in the face of terrible odds until reinforcements reached them the battle would have gone against the Allies. The Canadian troops are well looked after in fact the best of any. They have plenty to wear and plenty to eat and great credit is due to Sir Sam Hughes for the way he has attended to the wants of Canada's army. When asked about the opinion on the other side of the duration of the war he said the feeling among the leaders seemed to be that it would last at least another year and perhaps longer. Capt. Bennett paid a tribute to the Canadian nurses. He said their work is the equal of any.

Yarmouth Man Back.
Capt. F. W. Pickles of Yarmouth was also in the city yesterday on his way home on leave. Capt. Pickles is attached to the first Division Ammunition Column and has been through a lot of fighting. The first Division has been in practically every engagement that has taken place to date and have made a great name for themselves. Nearly all the men in his command are Saint John men and he has a lot of them. He said he saw Major Magee about three weeks ago and he was looking fine. He also saw Capt. Harrison, Lieut. Hayes and Capt. Gagnon a short time ago. The boys are all well and fit. When asked about the work of the Canadian troops and recovered again he said the Canadians have never left a gun behind them yet. They have lost only one and that was blown up by a shell which dropped in the battery. The guns that were lost at that time were territorial 4.7 the Canadians had 60 pound guns and were some distance further along the line where they did most excellent work. The Canadians in all branches of the service are more than making good.

MR. BROWN'S BEST HOUSES FOR THE LOCAL LONGSHOREMEN

Thoughtfulness of Minister of Marine greatly appreciated by men at Sand Point.

The winter port workers of St. John on Friday entered into formal possession of the two rest houses thoughtfully provided for them by Hon. Mr. Bennett, Minister of Marine and Fisheries. A most acceptable Christmas gift these rest houses proved to be as they provide comfortable quarters at all times and during the hours when the men are off duty. Built under the direction of J. C. Chesley, agent of the Marine and Fisheries Department, these rest houses are warm, substantial structures, with concrete and galvanized iron walls, reducing to the minimum the fire risk. One 18x31 feet in between No. 7 warehouse, is heated by steam and has in the centre a large coil on which dinner pails can be warmed. The other and larger is to the west of the new No. 16 annex, and is 30x45 feet, heated by a large range with top surface 25x30 inches. These rest houses, which were on Friday formally opened to the Longshoremen's, Checkers and the Freight Handlers' Association, will be under the care and direction of the government's watchmen, but the three organizations will see that they are kept clean and in good condition.

A CHRISTMAS DAY FIRE IN NORTH END BUILDING

Beatty & Giggey's store and accompanying apartments gutted by fire.

The residents of 687 Main street had a Christmas present they did not expect. It was a fire that gutted the building. The burned building was owned by L. B. Mayer and Mrs. Ida Kominsky. It was occupied by Beatty & Giggey on the ground floor who conduct a gent's furnishing and clothing business. Mrs. Kominsky occupies the second floor and Mr. P. A. Farley occupied the third floor. About 7:30 Saturday morning Mrs. Kominsky's maid got up to light the fire and smelled smoke. She alerted the household and they had to leave in their night clothes. The building is insured for \$5,000 and the damage is estimated at about \$3,000. The fire started in Beatty & Giggey's place and their stock will probably be a total loss. As far as could be learned they did not have much insurance.

Body Brought Home
The remains of Mrs. Kenny, widow of the late Mr. Kenny of Halifax, who was president of the Royal Bank of Canada, arrived in the city yesterday from England and were removed to Brennan's undertaking warehouses and will be conveyed to Halifax this morning for interment. The remains were accompanied from England by the deceased's daughter, Miss Margaret Jones Kenny.

Christmas Treat in Municipal Home
There will be a big Christmas tree and entertainment for the inmates of the Municipal Home this afternoon and the citizens of St. John are invited to be present. The street cars on the East St. John line run very near the home, it is expected that a great many citizens will take this opportunity and be present.

More Money in Circulation.
F. E. Williams & Co., Ltd., gave the information that sales of groceries and provisions exceeded those of last Christmas. "People seemed to have more money," was the remark. "There was more life in business altogether, and improvement was to be seen in all lines of buying."

Better Than Other Years.
F. W. Daniel & Co., Ltd., also say that business with them was extremely good, and much in excess of any preceding Christmas. "There seemed to be plenty of money available for making purchases, and we could not well have hoped for more trade than that which fell to us," was the closing reply to The Standard enquiry.

Not a Compliment.
In all our stores," said Waterbury & Hising's representative, "we have been very busy since the first of December. We did much more trade than last Christmas or the Christmas before, by the way, was a very good one."

The Soul of Flavor is BRAYLEY'S EXTRACTS.
James W. Philips, of the North End, said that business in his line, that of groceries and provisions, was good.

FIRE SALE

AT THORNE'S

As a result of the recent fire in our establishment, we have decided that during the process of rebuilding and repairs, to clear the remaining stock in our King street retail store, consisting of Sterling and Plated Ware, Leather Goods, Japanese Brumware, Table Cutlery, Cut Glass, Clocks, Brosses, Electric Reading Lamps, Ceramic Dishes, Toilet Table Accessories, Toys, Games, etc., at the earliest possible moment, and allow, therefore a

Special Discount on All Goods

In these departments, thus affording an excellent opportunity both for the purchase of New Year's remembrances and to supply household needs in these lines AT CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS. The greater portion of the stock is in good condition and purchasers will have the advantage of securing practically perfect goods at much less than regular selling prices.

First and Second Floors - King Street Store

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 6 p.m., excepting Saturday 10 a.m.

FULL YARD WIDE PRINTS

Are Quite a New Width Here

The usual width of English Cambric Prints being 31 inches. This new make, new colors and patterns, full 36 inches wide, we are selling at

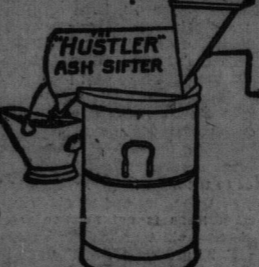
15 Cents a Yard

Just the thing for children's dresses, aprons, house dresses, etc.

Navy Blue and Black British Made English Suiting Serges

For Ladies' Coat and Skirt Costumes. Full 54 inches wide, \$1.90, 2.00, 2.25 and 2.50 a yard. All are first-class all-wool, a make that will be difficult to procure later on.

MACAULAY BROS. & CO.



"Hustler" Ash Sifter

If you want to make a saving in your winter's coal bill, buy the "HUSTLER." It will save you coal, time and labor, as well as keep the dust down. It will save its cost in a single season.

Price \$5.50 each

SIMPLE TO OPERATE. NO DUST—NO DIRT.

Galvanized Ash Barrels

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

THE CELEBRATED M. R. A. SEWING MACHINE

The Best Value in Canada at the Price \$28.50

The M. R. A. Sewing Machine is absolutely high-grade, and while it costs only \$28.50, it is the equal of any other machine at from \$15.00 to \$20.00 higher in price. The cabinet work and finish of the machine is first class, and the mechanism is the very last word in sewing machine construction. It has all the latest attachments and is capable of turning out to perfection every grade of work, from the coarsest to the very finest.

Price - - \$28.50

ELECTRIC MOTOR ATTACHMENT to run from any lamp socket, and suitable for this or any other standard machine. Price \$17.50

FURNITURE DEPT.—MARKET SQUARE.

New Black and Colored Silks

Handsome Black Silks

BLACK PALETTE—Wide width	Yard 90c. to \$1.50
BLACK DUCHESSE MOUSSELINE—Wide width	Yard \$1.15 to \$3.50
BLACK CHARMEUSE SATIN—Wide width	Yard \$1.75, \$2.50, \$3.25, \$4.25
BLACK PONGEE—32 inches wide	Yard \$1.10 and \$1.25
BLACK TAFFETA—36 inches wide	Yard \$1.15, \$1.55, \$1.80
BLACK BENGALINE—40 inches wide	Yard \$1.65 and \$1.75
BLACK BENGALINE—48 inches wide	Yard \$3.60
JAPANESE WASH SILK—27 inches wide	Yard 50c. to \$1.25
JAPANESE PEAU DE SOIE—30 inches wide	Yard 75c. to \$1.40
JAPANESE PEAU DE SOIE—40 inches wide	Yard \$2.50 and \$3.40

Colored Dress Silks

SATIN DE CHINE—In mid. brown, dark brown, light navy, wisteria and Copenhagen; 36 inches wide	Yard \$1.10
MERVE SUBLIME—In mid. and dark brown, light blue, maize, mid. navy, dark navy, steel, Copenhagen, etc.; 30 1/2 inches wide	Yard \$1.10
OUR SPECIAL PALETTE—In twenty-five shades, including all of the newest, such as light, mid., dark seal and zigzag browns; light, mid. and dark navy blues; light and dark Copenhagen; bronze and myrtle greens, old rose, light blue, pink, ivory, peach, maize, roses, wisteria, etc.; 33 inches wide	Yard \$1.10
DUCHESSE SATIN—In navy, brown, Copenhagen, light blue, maize, pink, etc.; 36 in. wide	Yard \$1.15
CREPE FAILLE—In light blue, maize, rose, wisteria, navy; 36 inches wide	Yard \$1.25
SILK AND WOOL FANCY STRIPES—In ivory, light blue, pink, rose, maize, maize; 42 inches wide	Yard \$1.50
JAPANESE WHITE WASH SILKS—36 inches wide	Yard 60c. to \$1.10
STRIPED TAFFETA SILKS—In a variety of colors; 42 inches wide	Yard 95c.
REGIMENTAL STRIPES—The latest Silks for Blouses, Waists, Girdles, etc.	Yard 75c.
TARTAN CLAN PLAIDS—In 42nd or Black Watch, Royal Stuart, Victoria, MacIntyre, Clan Ronald, Gordon, Forbes, "Fighting" Mackenzie, Prince Charles Edward, Farquharson; 21 inches wide	Yard \$1.15
STRIPED WASH SILKS—In large variety, including white and black, white and blue, white and mauve, white and navy, white and Copenhagen; width 40 inches	Yard \$1.00 and \$1.10

Also a good variety of Dresden and Fancy Silks for Fancy Work, etc.

SILK DEPARTMENT—SECOND FLOOR.

Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited

MERCHANTS SATISFIED WITH THE CHRISTMAS BUSINESS

In many cases the Christmas trade for 1915 exceeded all previous records—A good index of St. John's general prosperity

night that business had been much better than anticipated. "December, generally," he remarked, "was exceptionally good for trade, and we cannot at all complain of results; we were kept busy all the time."

Emerson & Fisher report heavy business for the holiday period. It was stated last night that a large increase in purchases of articles of general utility had been noticeable, offsetting entirely some decrease in sales of silverware and other goods that might be classed as luxuries.

Macaulay Bros. & Co. said that their sales had far exceeded those of last Christmas. Business had been good since the beginning of December, and results for the month had far exceeded all expectations. "More articles of necessity were bought this time such as good wearing apparel and other useful things," said a representative of the firm last night.

Better Than Other Years.

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"In all our stores," said Waterbury & Hising's representative, "we have been very busy since the first of December. We did much more trade than last Christmas or the Christmas before, by the way, was a very good one."

T. McAvity & Sons state that Christmas trade was good; about the same as last year.

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