

THE WEATHER.

MARITIME—Decreasing, northwest-ly and westerly winds; fair and decidedly colder.

Toronto, Jan. 30.—The depression which was last night over the lake region has moved with increased tenacity to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, causing gales from Ontario, eastward with a moderate snowfall in Quebec and rain in the Maritime Provinces.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson 34 below, 54; Prince 20, 38; Victoria 30, 44; Kamloops 20; Calgary 26, 38; Edmonton zero, 28; Battleford 4 below, 18; Moosejaw zero, 15; Qu'Appelle 10 below, 22; Winnipeg 22 below, 6; Fort Arthur 18 below, 2; Parry Sound zero, 6; London 15, 17; Toronto 15, 20; Ottawa zero, 20; Montreal zero, 30; Quebec zero, 26; St. John 22, 40; Halifax 14, 42.

Forecast—Lower Lawrence and Gulf, northwesterly and westerly winds; fair and decidedly colder.

AROUND THE CITY

82nd Smoker. The 62nd band will hold their annual smoker on Friday evening at the band rooms. An excellent program has been prepared and the concert promises to be a great success.

Temperance Federation. The annual convention of the New Brunswick Temperance Federation will be held in the W. C. T. U. rooms, Germain street, on Thursday afternoon, at 2.30 p. m.

Enjoyable Assembly. The Norembega dancing class held an assembly in the Keith Assembly rooms last evening which was largely attended and proved most enjoyable. The rooms were elaborately decorated and the function was entirely successful.

Deacons Elected. At the close of the service on Sunday evening in the Ludlow street Baptist church, a congregational meeting was held with the pastor Rev. W. H. Robinson in the chair, and L. I. Sharpe and James Gray were elected deacons by majorities of 123 and 99 respectively.

The Birds of Canada. The fourth lecture in the Bickmore course will be given in the Natural History Society's rooms this evening at 8 o'clock. The subject will be "The Birds of Canada." Mrs. J. M. Lawrence will read the paper, which will be illustrated by a large number of beautiful slides. The lecture is free, and the public are invited.

The Man from Albany. Theodore H. Bird arrived in the city yesterday and will commence rehearsals at once for the production of "The Man from Albany," a three-act farce comedy, which will be presented in the Opera House under the auspices of the 62nd Furies. The production will be during the last week in February. Mr. Bird has quite recovered from the throat affection with which he was suffering while last in the city. In conversation with a Standard reporter last evening he stated that the play which he will produce in February is one of the funniest ever written and an entire change from the class of productions which he has produced in this city during the last few months. The performance will include the usual high class specialties.

REAL ESTATE MEN SPEAK OF RENTS

Business Premises Likely to Advance While Smaller Flats are Now Charged Up To Handle.

Whether there will be a general advance in house rents next year is a question which the close proximity of the first of February renders of very real and vital importance.

The Standard yesterday obtained opinions on the probability of an advance from several citizens largely interested in real estate and judging from them the landlords have not decided themselves as to the course they will adopt.

L. P. D. Tilley, of the St. John Real Estate Company, said that as far as he could see there was no reason why there should be a general advance in rents. Taxes had been but slightly increased and there were no other circumstances which serve as an excuse to collect more money from the tenants. Speaking for the company in which he is interested he said there would be no advance except in cases where improvements had been made on the buildings to warrant it. "We are not raising the rent on any of our old tenants" said Mr. Tilley in conclusion.

Another man interested in the real estate business, although on a smaller scale, said he thought there would be an increase. He instanced a case where business property in the centre of the city rented for office purposes, the tenant having the use of an upper room and renting the whole for \$300 per annum, had been notified that the rent would be increased to \$550 per annum and this without the use of the upper room. Another office and showroom property rented last year for \$550 had been increased for the ensuing year to \$1,000. While this proportion of increase applies only to business premises the man in question expressed the opinion that house owners would also advance the rents on their tenants. This he thought would apply chiefly to the larger and more pretentious flats and houses as the smaller flats in the city are now about up to the limit of what they will stand.

In another instance a real estate owner, who has the reputation of getting as high rents for his properties as any man in the city said that all of his houses were well rented to good tenants and he did not think he would raise the rent on any of them.

Miss Clare Kellier, graduate nurse, is seriously ill at the residence of her sister, Mrs. McLaughlin, 66 Elfrick Row.

DISTRICT ENGINEER FOR WEST SIDE DEPARTMENT

Safety Board Accepts Recommendation of Fire Chief for Reviving of Appointment--Summer Uniforms for Permanent Firemen--Full Pay for Acting Sergeant Scott--Hose Tenders Awarded.

The safety board met last evening, decided to revive the appointment of third district engineer of the fire department on the West Side, purchase a motor nozzle for \$250, and provide the permanent firemen with summer uniforms. A petition was received from the barristers association asking for a telephone in the city court house, and the board decided to give them the use of the phone in the passageway leading to the police magistrate's quarters, and now used exclusively by him.

Tenders for fire hose were recommended for acceptance as follows: Estey and Co., 200 feet at 94 cents; T. McAvity and Sons, 300 feet at \$1.00; W. H. Thorne, 600 feet at \$1.00; Dunlop Rubber Tire Co., 300 feet at \$1.00; Geo. T. Polly, 600 feet at \$1.00.

Besides Ald. Vanwart, the chairman there were present Ald. Jones, Russell, McLeod, Potts, Wigmore, Sprout and Scully, with the common clerk, Director Walsby, Chief Clerk, Chief Kerr and the recorder.

Chief Kerr called attention to several recommendations in his annual report. He asked that the position of third district engineer on the West Side be revived, and that the firemen be provided with a summer uniform at the expense of the city. He also asked for a patent Monitor nozzle which is in extensive use in other cities.

In Lieu of Water Tower. He said this nozzle served the purpose of a water tower, and would solve the problem of efficient fire protection on the West Side. The Monitor nozzle is affixed to a cart. Several hoses may be attached and a very powerful stream directed through the patent nozzle.

He said an order had been passed that all hydrants should be connected with a 12 inch main, but several hydrants were still connected with smaller mains. Ald. Russell moved that the position of third district engineer be revived. The director said provision had been made for the appointment in the estimates.

The motion was passed. A motion was adopted that the water and sewerage board be asked to connect the hydrants on Germain street near Ald. Potts' store, and another near Oak Hall with the 12 inch main.

In reference to the purchase of summer uniforms for the 34 permanent firemen, the director said there was no money in the estimates for uniforms. He thought he could effect a saving in other branches of the service and provide the money.

Ald. Jones moved that the uniforms be provided, and this was adopted. A motion to purchase one Monitor nozzle was adopted.

Tenders for fire hose were received from T. McAvity & Sons, Geo. J. Polly, A. J. McAvity & Company, Frank R. Fairweather, The Barry Supply Company, Estey & Co., Gutta-Percha and Rubber Manufacturing Co., W. H. Thorne, Agent, Dunlop Rubber Tire Company. Practically all the tenders offered hose at \$1.00.

To Examine Samples. Ald. Wigmore moved that a committee be appointed to examine samples submitted and report.

Ald. Potts thought they ought to have a buying agent for the city.

Ald. Jones said the old practice was to accept the tenders of one or two. He thought this was unfair.

Chief Kerr said he had used a number of brands of hose, and most of them had given good satisfaction.

Ald. Potts moved that they buy 800 feet from G. T. Polly, 600 from W. H. Thorne, 300 from the Dunlop Rubber Co., and 300 from T. McAvity & Sons.

This was lost, and the motion to refer to a sub-committee was adopted. The chairman appointed Ald. McLeod, Potts and Chief Kerr on the committee.

Ald. Jones objected to the appointment of Ald. Potts, as he had moved his amendment. After some discussion the chairman appointed Ald. Wigmore, the mover of the motion, in place of Ald. McLeod, but left Ald. Potts on the committee, saying he thought the minority should be represented.

The Director asked for an order to purchase cloth for the summer suits of the police, and the request was complied with.

A communication was received asking for a new carpet for the Mayor's office. It was decided to provide the carpet.

The Director reported that electric lights had been installed in all the City Hall offices except that of the Mayor and the Common Clerk; and it was decided to put electric lights in these two offices.

The Barristers' Telephone. A petition was received from the Barristers' Society asking that a telephone be installed in the City Court room for their use.

Ald. Jones said an order had been passed to install a telephone in the Court House some years ago for the use of the barristers and others, but that the Police Magistrate had appropriated it for his own use.

In reply to Ald. Russell the Recorder said the telephone placed in the passageway had for some years been used by barristers, but the Police Magistrate had caused the door in the passageway to be locked. The Recorder added that not having the quietest temper in the world, he had kicked the door down on one occasion because he felt the telephone should be accessible. The Magistrate seemed to think the telephone was put in for his private use. That was not the intention of the council. If the city had intended the telephone for private use, it would have been put on the Magistrate's desk.

Ald. Jones moved that the telephone in the passageway be kept open for the public, and that Capt. McIntyre be instructed to notify barristers when called on the phone.

Ald. Potts presented a petition asking that a fire alarm box be placed on the South Market wharf. The director said there were no funds.

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