

THE WEATHER.

Maritime.—Strong northeasterly winds, clearing with ice and showers, much same temperature. Toronto, Ont., Dec. 2.—A pronounced cold wave is sweeping over the western provinces tonight, and temperatures in Alberta and western Saskatchewan are below zero. The Atlantic storm is pressing, but the weather in the Maritime Province remains unsettled. It has continued fine in Ontario, while light snow falls have occurred in Manitoba, and snow flurries further west.

New England Forecast.—Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—Forecast for New England partly cloudy Friday and Saturday, light to moderate northeast to east winds.

AROUND THE CITY.

Address on Wireless Telegraphy.—At this evening's meeting of the electric club of the Y. M. C. A. boys department an address will be given on wireless telegraphy by a local electrician.

Bridge Whist Party.—Mrs. S. P. Crocker gave a bridge whist party yesterday afternoon in honor of her guest, Miss Webster, of Hedic. The prize winners were, Miss Travers and Mrs. Powell.

Home For Incubables.—The December meeting of the board of management of the Home for Incubables took place yesterday. One of the main items on the agenda was the purchase of a new building for the Home. The decision was taken to purchase a building on the site of the old home.

The Local Option Campaign.—A meeting of all citizens who are interested in the local option campaign in Sidney ward will be held in the lecture room of Carmarthen street Methodist church on Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. A similar meeting will be held in Stanley ward late in the week. The date will be announced later.

Rierdon Inquest Tonight.—Dr. D. E. Berryman, the coroner, empanelled a jury yesterday and will conduct an inquest into the death of Stanley Rierdon, killed on the steamer *Montrose* on Tuesday. The inquest will be held in the court house at 7 o'clock this evening. The jury is as follows: J. F. Gleason, foreman; S. T. Golding, Theo. Gibbons, J. S. Armstrong, Geo. Wilson, B. Holt and Sydney Gibbs.

Protestant Orphan Asylum.—Routine business was transacted at a meeting of the governors of the Protestant Orphan Asylum yesterday afternoon. The following subscriptions are acknowledged by the treasurer: A. O. F., \$5; Wm. Bruckhoff, \$5; Miss C. A. Patterson, \$1; Mrs. J. T. Caloun, \$1. Mr. Bruckhoff also contributed \$5 to the Christmas Tree fund.

Mr. Pender will Report.—The principal business at the annual meeting of the St. John Board of Trade next Monday afternoon will consist in receiving the report of Mr. James Pender, the board's delegate to the convention of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in Sydney, Australia. In the absence of Mr. W. M. Hathaway, M. P. P., Mr. Pender will present the official report. It is expected to contain many valuable suggestions.

No Decision Reached.—Conference was held yesterday afternoon between Mr. A. P. Beahm and Mr. John Keeffe, the Canadian representatives on the International Waterways Commission, and Hon. W. P. Jones and Mr. J. Gregory, the counsel. No decision was reached regarding the date or place for the next meeting of the commission. A further meeting will be held in the city next week at which these details will be arranged.

N. B. Military Veterans.—At a meeting of the N. B. Veterans Association, held last evening, a committee consisting of Messrs. Andrew Emery, Thos. McAfee, Geo. Gorham and Jas. Hunter was appointed to make arrangements for an entertainment in connection with the annual meeting to be held next January. A letter was read from Hon. Wm. Fugley promising to exert his influence in favor of a pension for the veterans.

Carleton Cornet Fair.—The winners of the door prizes at the Carleton Cornet Band Fair last evening were, Mr. Wm. Smith, half barrel of flour; Mr. Gorbell, glass set; Mr. Wm. Sanderson, caddy of tea; Mr. J. Nason, half a dozen cans of corn. Mr. Wm. Sanderson won the bagatelle prize, a pickle stand. The prize in the excelsior game, a parlor lamp, went to Mr. Harry Duke. Mr. J. Nichols won a water set in the bean toss, and Mr. John Pollock won a lady's manicure set in the air gun competition. The 25th band was present during the evening.

High School Alumnae Meet.—The life and works of Robert Louis Stevenson was the subject considered by the members of the High School alumnae last evening at the residence of Miss H. Frink, Leinster street. The ladies who took part in the discussion were, Mrs. G. F. Scovill, Miss Madeline DeSoyres, Miss Gertrude Coster, Miss Florence Perry, Miss Grace Coster and Miss G. Lawson. During the evening Miss Helen Connor sang a solo. The next meeting of the society will be held on January 6th at the residence of Mrs. F. Sandall, Pitt street.

York L. O. L. Elect Officers.—York L. O. L. No. 3, held their annual meeting last evening in the Orange Hall, Germain street, with Mr. Isaac Heroer in the chair. The reports submitted by the different officers showed that the year had been an exceptionally good one. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Worshipful master, Mr. Geo. A. Earle; deputy master, Mr. Geo. A. Gordon; chaplain, Mr. Geo. Oldyard; recording secretary, Mr. Walter Gray; financial secretary, Mr. C. M. Lingley; treasurer, Mr. Chas. Biens; director of ceremonies, Mr. J. Hazelwood; lecturer, Mr. R. H. McIntyre; deputy lecturer, Mr. Frank Gillette; inside tyler, Mr. A. Dibble; managing committee, Messrs. James Donnelly, Ralph Binder, Charles Perkins, Simon Dible and James W. McAfee.

ENGLAND JEALOUS OF BELGIUM IS SECRET OF CONGO CHARGES

Belgium Consul-General Here On His Way Home From China Declares That King Leopold is Guiltless Of Inhuman Atrocities—China Will Have Standing Army Of 5,000,000 And Is Building Railways.

Mr. M. Gregoire, consul-general of Belgium in China, arrived in the city yesterday and will leave on the Empress of Britain this afternoon on the last stage of his long journey to his former home in Brussels. During a residence of three years in China, Mr. Gregoire has had an opportunity of observing the celestials at close range. To a Standard reporter last evening he disclosed some startling facts with reference to recent military activities displayed by the Chinese. "You will be surprised to hear," he said "that China has a standing army of 185,000 men. These soldiers are kept in perfect training and were mobilized at the last review. Thirty new divisions are to be organized at once and as there are about 20,000 in each division this means over half a million soldiers. China could easily raise an army of 3,000,000, but at present the half million will be the limit. The officers and instructors are almost entirely Chinese, who have been trained abroad. Foreigners are now being dispensed with."

Not All Laundrymen.—"First of all," was the reply, "she will lock after her own neighbor, Japan, and will resist any aggression, but I see no menace in the awakening of this great nation. It is a mistake to believe that the whole population are laundrymen or coolies. These are the lowest classes. I found the majority of the people enlightened and educated. The statesmen whom I met spoke English fluently. In fact, much better than I did myself. "In railroad building the Chinese are making great strides. They are reconstructing a line into the region traversed by the Great Wall, and are putting into its construction the same industry and the same perseverance which made their rail one of the wonders of the world."

Affairs in the Congo.—Previous to his service in China Mr. Gregoire represented the Belgian Government in the Congo Free State and he referred to the charges of atrocities which were committed in that country by King Leopold's agents. "I cannot understand," he said, "that Belgium should be singled out for savage attacks for doing what all other colonizing nations have done. What did you do with the Indians in this country and what is their condition today? Did you not grope your way from them? The whole trouble is that England is jealous. Little Belgium controls a territory five times as large as France and this does not suit the other nations. I know that a firm of Manchester merchants are responsible for the recent charges."

Prinze Rupert is Great Centre of Railroad Work.—One of the pioneers of Prinze Rupert arrived in the city yesterday in the person of Mr. H. R. Munro, a former Englishman, who will leave on the Empress of Britain today to spend Christmas in the old country. Mr. Munro says the report that Prinze Rupert is about to apply for incorporation as a city is rather premature, as it will be some time yet before the terminal point of the Grand Trunk Pacific will elect a mayor and aldermen.

Prinze Rupert is Great Centre of Railroad Work.—The grading of about 100 miles of the G. T. P. along the Skeena is now complete, Mr. Munro says, and a construction train is shunting about the yards in the vicinity of the town. Prinze Rupert is all railroad and nothing else, and the population is very cosmopolitan. The navies are largely Montenegrins, but nearly every nation under the sun is represented among the property holders of the town.

Naturally. Mr. Munro said, the buildings are rather of a primitive nature, as the town lots were sold only last spring, but there is first class accommodation at the hotels, and the town is up-to-date with two newspapers. Mr. Munro is now in business for himself and has much faith in the future of the infant city which promises to assume such large proportions.

Fog Delayed All Sailings Out of Liverpool 5 Days.—The Allan liner *Grampian*, Capt. Johnson, from Liverpool via Halifax, arrived off the island at 10 o'clock Wednesday evening and dropped anchor until 1.30 yesterday afternoon, when she docked at No. 6 berth. The *Grampian* was delayed for five days in Liverpool on account of a dense fog. Capt. Johnson said that it was the thickest fog that they have had in Liverpool for twenty years and that while it lasted not a steamer moved in the Mersey. The steamer sailed on Nov. 22, carrying 300 passengers and 4,000 tons of general cargo for local merchants, and the West. Coming across the Atlantic, strong head gales were encountered with high seas. The *Grampian* was again delayed for eight hours off Halifax harbor on account of fog. After leaving Halifax, the steamer made a good run to the Lurcher Light but was compelled to drop anchor off the Lurcher for eight hours on account of a blinding snow storm. The work of unloading the steamer began last evening.

Premier Hazen and Hon. Robert Mackinnon returned yesterday from Fredericton, where they were attending a meeting of the Provincial Government.

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- LEGGINGS
- CLOTH GAITERS
- SKATING BOOTS
- WALKING BOOTS
- MOCCASINS
- LARRIGANS
- HOCKEY BOOTS
- WATERPROOF BOOTS
- SNOW-SHOES
- WARM SLIPPERS

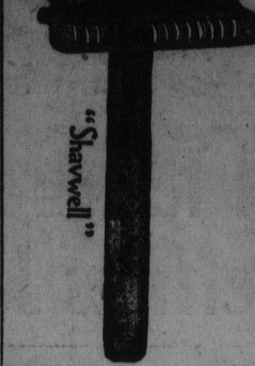
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