

**THE WEATHER.**

Maritime—Fresh southerly, gradually shifting to westerly and northerly winds, a few local showers, or thunderstorms.

Toronto, Sept. 7.—A few showers have occurred today in the Lake Superior district, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and in the extreme southwestern counties of Ontario. Elsewhere the weather has been fine. Sharp frosts were general last night in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Vancouver	42	64
Calgary	30	70
Montreal	54	78
Quebec	48	80
Halifax	36	76
Port Arthur	56	74
Perry Sound	56	82
London	50	88
Toronto	50	85
Ottawa	50	80
Montreal	54	78
Quebec	48	80
Halifax	36	76

Washington Weather.

Washington, Sept. 7.—Forecast: Northern New England—Fair Monday and Tuesday; moderate southwest to west winds.

**AROUND THE CITY**

**Looks Moth Eaten.**

The sidewalk on Wentworth street in front of the King Edward school looks decidedly moth eaten.

**Charged With Assault.**

Paul White, of 136 Rockland road, was arrested Saturday evening on a warrant charging him with assault.

**Son Created Disturbance.**

On Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday evening the police were called into Louis Murphy's house, 72 Chapel street to quell a disturbance which his son was making.

**Labor Convention.**

A meeting of the labor delegates composing the Provincial Federation of Labor will be held in St. John on the 16th inst. to discuss matters in connection with the promotion of labor legislation and the organization of the workers of the province.

**Trouble with Lights.**

Trouble with the wires near the Douglas Avenue corner caused the electric lights to be shut off for some time in the North End on Saturday evening. The wires becoming crossed caught fire and burned one of the cross arms. The light was out about 7:45 and remained off about half an hour. About nine o'clock they were again off for about ten minutes. Candles and lamps were brought into commission to furnish light.

**RICHARD S. EDGECOMBE DIED EARLY YESTERDAY**

**Well Known Citizen Passes Away After Brief Illness—Will be Missed by Large Circle of Friends.**

After a brief illness Richard Smerdon Edgcombe passed away in the city about noon yesterday. The deceased was very popular, and one of the best known young business men of the city. He was the son of John Edgcombe, of the firm of Edgcombe & Chaisson. In his early life he was engaged in business in this city with L. C. Brown, with whom he remained for a few years. He afterwards went with the firm of Manchester Robertson Allison, Ltd., where he was employed in the silk department, where he later became head clerk in his department. He then went to the Gould Bicycle Co.'s branch, which was established on King street. For several years he managed this branch of the bicycle company's business and proved one of the most capable managers in the employ of the company. So successful was Mr. Edgcombe in his managerial duties at the St. John branch that when a premium was offered for the best manager of the 25 or 30 branches, he carried off the honor and maintained in the employ of this company for a number of years and continued to make the St. John branch of the Gould Bicycle Company one of the most successful in the chain.

After retiring from the business he engaged with his father in his managerial duties at the St. John branch of the Gould Bicycle Co.'s branch, which was established on King street. For several years he managed this branch of the bicycle company's business and proved one of the most capable managers in the employ of the company. So successful was Mr. Edgcombe in his managerial duties at the St. John branch that when a premium was offered for the best manager of the 25 or 30 branches, he carried off the honor and maintained in the employ of this company for a number of years and continued to make the St. John branch of the Gould Bicycle Company one of the most successful in the chain.

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**THE PRINCE WILLIAM HOTEL**

**SEVERAL STORES OCCUPIED BY ROBERTSON, FOSTER & SMITH AND ESTEY & CO. GUTTED BY FIRES ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND EARLY SUNDAY MORNING—THIEF VISITED ESTEY STORE JUST BEFORE FIRST FIRE.**

Stores Occupied by Robertson, Foster & Smith and Estey & Co. Gutted by Fires on Saturday Night and Early Sunday Morning—Thief Visited Estey Store Just Before First Fire.

About \$70,000 damage, a daring break during the early hours of the evening and a sensational trip across the harbor to send in an alarm were a few of the striking features in connection with two disastrous fires which practically destroyed the building occupied by Robertson, Foster & Smith and Estey & Company, on Dock street between ten o'clock Saturday night and ten o'clock yesterday morning. Besides the damage to the building, the stock in both stores is a total loss.

The building itself is almost a total wreck, what was not burned was destroyed by water, and practically nothing but the framework remains. The first fire broke out on Saturday night about 10 o'clock. The second one about five o'clock Sunday morning. The damage in the first case was not very great, the disaster being wrought by the second outbreak.

Almost simultaneously with the discovery of the fire on Saturday night was the discovery that while the Saturday night crowds passed the front doors of the Robertson, Foster & Smith, and Estey stores, a daring thief broke into the building at the rear. To gain an entrance through the thick glass some heavy instrument was necessary; relying on the noise made by the passing crowd on Dock street to muffle the sound of the crashing glass he battered his way through the windows to the inside went through both stores, and to all appearances made his way to the top of the building. Whether his object was robbery or incendiarism is problematical. As far as was ascertained by the police nothing very valuable was stolen. If incendiarism was his aim, he climbed to the top floor of the Robertson premises to accomplish his purpose, as it was in one of the rooms on the top floor that the first fire broke out. More than one theory were discreetly silent yesterday about their suspicions, and either could not or would not divulge information about the whole matter, except to admit that a break had been made.

John Travis Arrested.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock, after the fire had been extinguished, or was thought to have been extinguished, John Travis was placed under arrest by Officer O'Leary on Pond street. The officer was in plain clothes at the time. The charge placed against the prisoner's name on the police books is "wandering about on public streets and not being able to give a satisfactory account of himself." Whether the police connect him with either offences could not be ascertained.

The first fire was discovered on Saturday night about ten o'clock. When the fire appeared on the scene the fire had already made good progress. The fire broke out in a room on the top floor of Robertson, Foster & Smith's store. In the room were stored rakes, lantern globes, various sorts of woodenware, blankets and other inflammable material. How the blaze originated is another of the mysteries of the night. Those employed about the store strongly uphold the theory that the fire was caused, either accidentally or with malice, by the person who broke into the building. When the firemen reached the seat of the fire a box which contained ruby globes, was broken open and the straw used to protect the globes blown about the floor. Whether the intruder in ransacking the place used a lighted match and carelessly let it fall among the straw, or purposely started the fire remains to be solved.

The firemen found their work cut out for them when they arrived on the scene. The goods stored in the room were all inflammable and a brisk blaze was soon burning. After over an hour's fight, and the blaze had, to all appearances, been extinguished, they left the place, and two of the employees of the firm were placed on watch in the event of an outbreak of the fire.

The Second Alarm.

At a few minutes after five o'clock an alarm from box 3, rung in by a man who claimed he saw the building after from Carleton and crossed the harbor to ring in the alarm. Just about the time the man reached the box the men on watch in the building also discovered the second fire and sent in an alarm from box 5. The fire had evidently burned in some of the rolls of blankets and had been smouldering all night. Although they kept watch during the hours of the night the men on guard saw no traces of the fire. When they made the discovery the whole top floor of the building was a mass of flames. From the room in the front where the blaze had broken out a few hours previously, the fire crept along the wall through the ceiling and towards the back of the building.

The two alarms brought the apparatus to the scene, and soon six or seven streams of water were playing on the flames. The water tower, improved a few days ago was requisitioned to work on the roof of the building. Despite the hard work of the firemen and the large quantity of water poured into the building the flames made rapid headway, sweeping the top floor. From there they worked a passage down to the next floor, destroying the contents of that part of the building. Towards the rear of the building the fire burned through the ground floor, where the offices were located, and left a clear space from the ground floor to the sky. The fire continued for over four hours, and left a trail of damage and destruction in its wake. Except on the ground floor, where the contents of the front shop were left untouched by the fire it consumed about everything that came across its path. From the Robertson, Foster and Smith premises it worked its way to the adjoining store, occupied by Estey & Company, and here the contents of the building and the building itself suffered a fate similar to the adjacent store.

**LABOR UNIONS WILL DEMAND MORE WAGES**

Several will Present New Schedule on November 15—If Employers Refuse a Struggle is Likely.

The Coal Handlers' Union has drawn up a new schedule of wages which will be presented to their employers on Tuesday. The union is asking for a small advance, which they want put into effect on the 15th of November when the present agreement expires. The Longshoremen's union has also drawn up a new schedule which has been sent to the headquarters of the International union for sanction before being submitted to the steamship companies.

The Longshoremen demand more wages on the 15th of November. The Marine Checkers and the Railway Freight handlers are also moving for better conditions under the same date. No information has been given out in regard to the extent of the increases being asked for. Last year the employers offered a 10 per cent. increase in wages if they would agree to sign a contract to work for the wages offered for five years, but the Longshoremen did not consider the offer satisfactory, and have been preparing for making a bigger demand.

If the employers refuse to grant the concessions asked for, there is every indication of a struggle, as the Longshoremen have had no advances for five years. The present summer has been a very dull one for the Longshoremen, and unless the mill strike is settled and the mill start operations soon there will be little lumber shipped from St. John this winter.

**BORN.**

To Mr. and Mrs. C. Victor Vincent, at their residence, 15 Richmond street, on the 6th inst., a girl.

**DEATHS.**

McHarg—in this city, on the 6th inst., Capt. G. C. McHarg, in the 62nd year of his age, leaving two sons, two brothers and one sister to mourn.

(Houlton, Me., and Boston papers please copy.)

Funeral from the residence of his late residence Prince of Wales, at 2:30 o'clock. Friends invited.

Patchell—in this city, on the 6th inst., Israel Patchell, in the 54th year of his age, leaving one son, four daughters, three sisters and one brother to mourn.

Funeral from the residence of his late residence Prince of Wales, at 2:30 o'clock. Friends invited to attend.

Baird—in this city, on the 6th inst., Sarah, wife of John Baird, leaving a husband, four children, mother, three sisters and one brother to mourn.

(Newfoundland and Boston papers please copy.)

Funeral from her late residence 35 Clarence street (O'Leary) at 2:15 o'clock. Services at 2:30 o'clock. Friends invited to attend.

Changara Pali, deceased, returned to Hospital, Sunday, at 2 p. m., William J. Jennings, aged 29 years, leaving father, mother, one sister and three brothers to mourn. Services at 2 p. m. Friends invited to attend.

Knebell—in this city, on the 7th inst., Frances, beloved wife of Patrick Knebell, leaving her husband, and eight children to mourn.

Funeral from the residence of the deceased, at 2 p. m. Friends invited to attend.

Edgcombe—Died on Sunday, the 7th inst., Richard Smerdon, the beloved and only son of John and Edis Edgcombe, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

Funeral on Tuesday next from his late residence, 10 Sydney street. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend.

**PERSONAL.**

H. H. Scovill and Miss Scovill were in Moncton on Saturday.

Miss Edith Seely, Miss T. Mellick, Miss Beattie A. Edgcombe, Miss Edna Hamm and Mrs. Hamm, who have been attending the Toronto exhibition and also spending a few days at Niagara Falls, returned to their home on Saturday's Montreal express.

Miss Jean Ingersoll, of Grand Manan, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. H. L. L. James, of James street.

Miss Gertrude Lawlor and Miss Kathleen O'Neill left Friday evening to spend some time in Boston and vicinity.

N. C. Scott, of the North End, left Saturday evening on the Halifax express to spend a few days in Truro from the residence of his son-in-law, Warren Ogilvie.

Cause of Injury.

In connection with Saturday's races Mr. J. Alexander says: My horse was withdrawn from the race on Saturday on account of injury that he received in the third heat, caused by foul driving of Mr. Mullin.

**Single Barrel Shot Guns**

Our Sporting Goods Department is widely known as showing the greatest and best variety of hunting supplies. Now is the Gun and Rifle season. We have a splendid assortment of single barrel guns, including

Armory	Price \$ 5.00
Champion, plain	Price 5.25
Champion, ejector	Price 6.00
Davenport, ejector	Price 10.50

See these before you buy.

**W.H. THORNE & CO. LTD. MARKET SQUARE & KING ST.**

**The Best is None Too Good for You**

That being the case why not buy SLATER SHOES for you feet? They are the best shoes that money can buy. Quality is the watchword from the tanning of the leather to the putting in of the last stitch, and they are sold at popular prices.

For Women	For Boys	For Men
\$3.50 to \$5.00	\$3.50 and \$4.00	\$4.00 to \$6.00

**The Slater Shoe Shop, 81 King Street**

**Ducks and Geese Guns and Ammunition**

Are plentiful and you ought to get your share. We can help you get them. We carry all kinds of

Ross, Remington, Marlin, Stevens and Iver Johnson Rifles and Shot Guns. Prices \$4.75 to \$25.00

Dominion, Eley's, U. M. C. and Remington Ammunition. Gun Cases Hunting Knives. Revolvers, etc. etc.

WRITE FOR CIRCULAR.

**EMERSON & FISHER, LTD., - 25 Germain Street**

**Closing Out Sale of Discontinued Patterns in ...**

**FURNITURE**

At Rare Bargain Prices COMMENCING THIS MORNING

This is a sale which should be of the greatest interest to housekeepers as now is just the time when some of the following pieces will be useful. They are mostly discontinued patterns and for instant disposal have been transformed into most extraordinary bargains—some of the pieces are of half the regular prices. Come and make selections early.

The sale offerings include:

ODD PARLOR SUITS, Odd Parlor Divans, Odd Parlor Chairs and Rockers, Brass Beds.

BUREAUS, in Mahogany Finish, Natural Oak, Golden Oak, Circassian Walnut and White Enamel.

DINING TABLE, Buffet and China Closet in Mahogany; Odd Buffet in Mahogany Finish; Dining Room Suite in Fumed Oak; Dining Room Suite in Golden Oak.

ODD WOODEN BEDS, double widths; Large Chairs for living room; Folding Card Tables, White Enamel Beds, Chiffoniers in Oak and Mahogany Finish.

BEDROOM CHAIRS in different finishes; Costumers in metal and wood; Hall Chairs in Oak and Mahogany; Living Room Chairs in Grey Oak.

BUFFETS in Fumed and Golden Oak; Den Rockers; Umbrella Stands; Plant Stands; Smokers' Cabinets.

A Few White Mountain Refrigerators in Popular Sizes at Reduced Prices

FURNITURE DEPARTMENT—SECOND FLOOR.

**Also a Clearance Sale of Odd Numbers in Brussels, Axminster and Wilton Carpets and Squares**

COMMENCING THIS MORNING

If you have any floors to recover do not fail to investigate these generous offerings. There will be enough variety to provide for almost any requirement and prices have been placed very low to urge prompt acceptance of the bargains.

\$1.00 a yard BRUSSELS CARPET	.....Sale price, per yd. 75c
\$1.30 a yard BRUSSELS CARPET	.....Sale price, per yd. \$1.00
\$1.60 a yard BRUSSELS CARPET	.....Sale price, per yd. \$1.25
\$1.90 a yard AXMINSTER & WILTON CARPET	.....Sale price, per yd. \$1.50
With some patterns there are Borders and Stair Carpets to match.	
BRUSSELS SQUARES, 3x3 1/2 yards	.....Sale prices, each \$15.00 upward
BRUSSELS SQUARES, 3x4 yards	.....Sale prices, each \$16.50 upward
AXMINSTER SQUARES, 3x3 1/2 yards	.....Sale prices, each \$20.00 upward
AXMINSTER SQUARES, 3x4 yards	.....Sale prices, each \$23.00 upward
TAPESTRY SQUARES, 3x3 1/2 and 3x4 yards	.....Sale prices, each \$6.50 and \$7.50

HEAVY INGRAIN SQUARES including Pro-Brussels, Gorovan and Ayrans. These are desirable for sleeping apartments and will give great wear. In some instances prices have been reduced to one-half. Fancy purchasing one of these \$20.00 Rugs for..... \$10.00

NO RESERVE OR APPROBATION DURING THIS SALE.

Carpet Department—Germain Street.

**Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited**