

THE WEATHER

Toronto, Dec. 26.—A trough of low pressure, centered to the Gulf of Mexico causing snow over Western Ontario, while from the Ottawa Valley eastward and over the West coast of British Columbia, the weather fair and quite cold.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Temperature. Locations include Toronto, Victoria, Calgary, Edmonton, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, White River, London, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax.

Forecast: Maritime—Fair and cold then winds, increasing to gales from northeast at night with snow.

AROUND THE CITY

NOTICE: Until repairs to our building are completed, the business office of The Standard will be located on the top floor of the Merchants' Bank Building, Prince William Street.

CALENDAR ARRIVED: The Standard is indebted to Lawson and Jones, lithographers of London, Canada, for a beautiful 1921 calendar.

CHRISTMAS TELEGRAMS: The Canadian Pacific Telegraph Co. have a very neat and attractive form on which they are printing the Christmas greetings sent to friends by wire.

FIREMEN REMEMBERED: The firemen of No. 5 station are grateful to Mayor Schofield for a barrel of apples sent to them on Christmas and to Chief Blake who remembered the boys with gifts of neckties.

SUSSEX NOT DAMAGED: An examination made of the S.S. Sussex, Friday, showed the boat not to have suffered from its experience on Navy Island bar. The steamer sailed for Australia Friday afternoon.

AT SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE: Last night's service at the Seamen's Institute was taken by Rev. Henry Penna. There were sixty or seventy men present who enjoyed the singing. Refreshments were served.

LITTLE ONE DEAD: Clifford, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fawcett, No. 6 Sydney street passed away on Christmas Eve. The little chap had been ill for some time. The funeral will be held this afternoon from his parents' residence.

WILL REPAIR DAMAGE: The extent of the damage done to the West Side ferry slip by the steamer Sussex will be determined by an examination to be made today. Local agents for the company owning the steamer have guaranteed to make good the damage done.

SOME HATS: A friend of The Standard gave the information yesterday that in the morning he really witnessed two men walking in from East St. John wearing straw hats and he inquired the reason. There is no answer, that is not liable.

ADDRESSES JEWS: A very able explanation of the ambition of Jews to return to Palestine, or Zionism, was given yesterday afternoon at the Synagogue by Dr. Smaryah Levin, Ph.D. The Rabbi, Dr. Fress, introduced the distinguished speaker, whose interesting address in the Jewish language was attentively listened to by a large audience.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Public School at Ketepe had an excellent programme at its closing for the Christmas holidays. After the daily lesson, several songs, readings and exercises were given. Much credit is due Miss Jessie Gilliland, of Westfield, who fills the position of teacher.

Seamen's Institute Looks After Men

The eighteen men who were sent home by the High Commissioner and cured for by the Seamen's Institute, were sent to their individual homes through the kindness of the Navy League. Tickets were purchased for them, and lunches prepared for the journey, and everything that could be thought of to do for their comfort by the way.

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE: Once again the old favorites, Emigrants of Franco Concert Party, Tuesday night, eight o'clock, 20 cents; reserved, 25 cents.

Victoria Ring upon this afternoon; band tonight. Sorry we could not have skating Christmas night. The Bells went out and we could not get the two sprinkled ladies.

Weather Man Gives Destructive Brand

Sudden Change in Temperature Caught Many Unprepared—Plumbers-Busy.

St. John experienced its first real touch of winter's weather for the season on Christmas Day. A constantly lowering thermometer, accompanied by a biting wind that cut to the marrow, gave warning that the beautiful weather enjoyed by all the past few months was at an end.

Heating Plants Damaged: Many were unprepared for the quick change in the weather and, as a result, water pipes froze up and burst and several hot water heating plants went out of commission, among them the Standard's.

Plumbers were kept busy all day yesterday and last night in repairing the breaks caused in many homes and business places. Their services were at a premium and they were unable to attend to all calls.

Fire Department Had Many Calls

Chimney Fires Were Many, Causing Considerable Damage in Several Instances.

The firemen were kept on the move from Saturday afternoon at three o'clock until noon Sunday, answering alarms for fires. The most serious damage done by any of the fires occurred at the D. C. Manso house, Union street, which called out the firemen on an alarm from Box 3.

An oil heater had been left burning in the parlor and, in some manner unknown, set fire to the furnishings. When the firemen arrived they found a brick blaze in progress, and resorted to the chemicals. The parlor was badly damaged, the flooring and walls being charred and the furnishings more or less burned in addition to the damage by smoke and chemicals.

At ten o'clock Saturday night an alarm from Box 132 was caused by chimney blaze in the Downey house, Straight Shore road. It was subdued without any damage being done.

Sunday's Calls: An alarm from Box 12 yesterday morning about nine o'clock was occasioned by a slight blaze in the house of Mr. Ryan, Paddock street, caused by thawing out water pipes. The chemicals were employed and quick damage was done.

An alarm from Box 77 at noon yesterday called the fire apparatus to the house of Mrs. Coughlan, 252 King street east. The fire started in the chimney and burned with intense heat. The chimney cracked open in the cellar and some burning material fell through the opening and started a blaze in the cellar. It was necessary to run a line of hose to the cellar and play water upon the burning mass. The chemicals were used on the chimney blaze which was a stubborn one. The house filled with smoke, causing considerable annoyance to the occupants and damage to the furnishings. A second alarm was pulled for this fire, as it was feared the blaze had worked in between the flooring from the defective chimney.

The Chief responded to several still alarms yesterday, but did not think it necessary to summon the fire department.

Exorbitant Prices Charged For Turkey

Popular Christmas Bird Passed up by Many Who Refused to Pay Price.

The City Market held anything but Christmas cheer for the fellow looking for turkey, goose or chicken on Friday. The vendors saw you coming and were trying to walk. If you wanted to secure a turkey you had to have your pockets bulging with "yet low backs," as those rare birds were jumped up to 30 cents a pound.

A few of these hardened with coin bit at that price, and hired a squad of police to see they got safely home with their prize without being held up by highwaymen.

Goose moved up a peg, from 55 to 65 cents on the pound. Geese were not in demand, as the stock, and a large one, was not making its appearance. Ducks found a few takers at the same figure.

Turned to Chickens: The great majority of market patrons turned their attention from the prohibitively priced turkeys and the non-attractive geese to chickens. The manipulators of price "billed" the market on chickens and drove the price from 45 cents to 55 cents a pound. Can you beat it? There was one farmer present Friday who deserves a place in the "Hall of Fame."

He refused to crowd the public and sold out his assortment of 40 cents for chickens and 30 cents for turkeys. He made quick sales. It was a disappointment to many families to be denied of their cup.

Christmas Day In The Institutions

Hospitals and Homes Were Made Merry With Presents and Music.

Christmas was made as merry as possible to the inmates of the different institutions in the city. Gifts, Christmas trees, many presents and music made all feel happy. The following are some remembered by kind friends: Home For Incurables.

At the Home for Incurables two trees have been provided by the Ladies' Society, and presents will be distributed today to the inmates. An extra good dinner was served and the holiday spent pleasantly.

Yesterday afternoon Rev. Canon Armstrong, of Trinity church, held service at the Home, celebrating the holy communion at the close of the service. Members of Trinity choir sang Christmas music, which was greatly enjoyed.

Municipal Home: A dinner of chicken, ham, vegetables and plum pudding was given at the Municipal Home. The Purity Ice Cream Company sent five gallons of ice cream, which gift was much appreciated. The Home is decorated with greenery, red bells and Christmas mottoes. The distribution of gifts will take place on Tuesday when the annual treat will be held. A number of donations were received.

D. S. C. R. Hospital: At the D. S. C. R. Hospital at Lancaster the thirty-five returned soldiers there were not forgotten. The Red Cross sent a stocking for each man filled with all sorts of good things. The Knights of Columbus gave a Christmas box to every man. A very fine tree was trimmed by the Red Cross Society with a present on it for everyone. A special dinner with good things was served and all felt that Christmas had been made as merry as possible.

General Public Hospital: The General Public Hospital was gaily trimmed with greenery and red bells. A large tree was trimmed and set up in Ward Three, with a gift upon it for every child in the institution. The Women's Aid sent a well filled stocking for every patient. Fruit and delicacies were sent in by many organizations and individuals. In the Epidemic there was a tree in every ward with gifts for each child. A fine dinner was served and every effort made to make the day a happy one for those at the hospital.

County Hospital: Christmas was made a happy day for patients in East St. John County Hospital. Many friends remembered those at the institution and the wards were bright with Christmas decorations. Early in the week ladies of the Red Cross Society trimmed trees for each floor of the soldiers' wing. These trees were hidden until Christmas eve when they were gaily and gifts distributed to the men. The Red Cross also provided a Christmas stocking for each soldier, while civilian patients were also remembered. In this way The Knights of Columbus sent a box to every soldier patient.

Mrs. A. C. Skeeton and a committee of ladies trimmed a tree for the children. This ward was nicely decorated by the Imperial Tobacco Company. Miss McCarthy led a choir of ladies from the Cathedral who sang outside the hospital and through the wards giving great pleasure to all who heard them. DeWitt Cairns sang during the afternoon.

Christmas Day rules were suspended and visitors were welcomed at all hours. A special dinner was served at decorated tables; a pretty menu card was provided. Very few of the patients left the institution for the day. Dr. Farr's and the entire staff remained at the hospital.

Last evening Major Hooper preached a Christmas sermon at the Hospital in appreciation of his work among them. A presentation was made to Major Hooper, Dr. Parris in a few words voiced, on behalf of the inmates their cordial feeling towards Major Hooper and their good wishes for the coming year.

A very large number of societies and individuals contributed towards the Christmas festivities. Protestant Orphans: The directors of the St. John Protestant Orphanage desire to thank the many friends from all over the province who so kindly contributed towards the Christmas cheer for the institution in Britain street and in West St. John. Among the many gifts which were received were turkeys for the West St. John Home from C. E. Swanton; \$50 from Aid Fraternal Society in Moncton for Christmas gifts; a bale of children's clothing from a ladies' lodge at Moncton; a large bale of clothing and gifts from a ladies' lodge in St. Stephen and gifts from many individual friends in the city and throughout the province. James Manchester gave many valuable gifts.

C. P. Tilley, of West St. John, by strenuous work in collecting, supplied two Christmas trees and a gift for each child in the West Side Orphanage, and acting as Santa Claus, presented them to the children with the assistance of D. C. Clark, the president.

The children at that orphanage sang cards very sweetly, having been trained by the matron, Miss Dawes, and short speeches were made by the president and vice-president David Hipwell. A vote of thanks was tendered Miss O'Reilly who had assisted in trimming the trees. There are more than 100 children in the institution. A great many friends called during the day.

Christmas turkey, but Ma, Pa, and the children were all in revolt against the exorbitant prices charged, especially on Friday, and agreed to pass up the bird.

Member of Montreal Stock Exchange

K. R. Schofield Says Reconstruction of Business Conditions is Well in Hand.

K. R. Schofield, member of Montreal Stock Exchange, and partner in the investment and stock brokerage firm of Johnston & Ward, arrived in the city Friday to spend Christmas.

When interviewed by The Standard reporter, Mr. Schofield stated that the reconstruction of business conditions is well in hand and proceeding with a little trouble as could be expected, thanks to the foresight of our banking institutions.

Continuing he said: "During the war extravagance and inflation became so pronounced that financial interests were somewhat alarmed as to the outlook of the readjustment period which, obviously, must follow. In the United States, several months ago, a curtailment of credit was inaugurated, primarily against luxuries and non-essentials. This was extended towards commodities in a more or less general way, but principally affecting those in which speculation was rampant, while methods were also adopted by Canadian banks and the results have been reflected in the stock markets of both countries, more particularly in the larger New York market, where drastic declines have occurred."

Stock Market Barometer: "The stock market, while not forming a true estimate of values, is always a barometer of general conditions, being unique in the position of expressing the ideas formed by large interests, based on their experience and information, unknown to the general public."

"In Canada we are somewhat behind the United States as regards legislation by commercial houses, but this condition is expected to be adjusted in the next few months, when further reductions in the prices of all commodities should attract public buying, which, until now, has been curtailed by reports of a disturbing nature."

"Unemployment in both countries is also quite general and this, it is felt, is the forerunner of a reduction in the cost of labor, and an increase in production, these being the two great factors in the high cost of products today."

Manufacturers Fortified: "Our large Canadian manufacturers are well fortified by their exceptional profits during the past few years to withstand their proportion of the contraction in assets, while many wholesalers and retailers are not so favorably situated and consequently some trouble is anticipated in this respect."

"Financial houses, on the other hand, have already provided against this emergency, having strengthened their position by the necessary process of liquidation."

Mr. Schofield also stated as an instance of the firm's confidence in the Canadian outlook, they have recently purchased the New Brunswick stock brokerage business of J. M. Houston & Sons.

Banquet In Honor Of Dr. Smaryah Levin

Splendid Programme Followed Delightful Feast at Synagogue Auditorium.

In honor of Dr. Smaryah Levin, a banquet was given last evening by members of the Jewish community of St. John. It was held in the auditorium of the Synagogue, which had been elaborately decorated for the occasion by the young men of the Hebrew Association. The Jewish flag and the Union Jack were prominently displayed and blue and white bunting was effectively used.

B. L. Amur was toastmaster. Addresses were made by Dr. Press and Dr. Levin. Music was furnished by the young Jewish orchestra. A delightful solo was given by Miss Boile Amur.

The ladies' committee, with Mrs. J. Goldman as convener, was as follows: Mrs. E. Jacobson, Mrs. S. Levine, Mrs. J. Cohen, Mrs. E. Rubens, Mrs. S. Budovich.

PRESENTED WITH SUBSTANTIAL PURSE

At the close of the evening's services at the Victoria street church Sunday, W. H. McDonald, on behalf of the congregation, presented a substantial purse to Rev. and Mrs. Hudson, accompanied by an address. The presentation was in recognition of the valuable services rendered, especially in connection with the new church.

VICTORIA RINK: Skating this afternoon. Band and skating tonight.

DRESS SUITS AND ACCESSORIES: The famous 20th Century Brand Dress Suits, unsurpassed. Dress Shirts, ties and stiff bosoms, recently opened. Neckwear for full dress or tuxedo waistcoats that lend the touch of white to the black suit. Better step in early and supply your wardrobe needs. Gilmour's, 58 King street.

Christmas treat this evening in Seamen's Institute. Donations of cake most acceptable.

CLIFFTON HOUSE, ALL MEALS 60c.

NOTICE: All parties having accounts against General Public Hospital are requested to have them in not later than the 29th. H. Hodges, M.D., secretary.

Clark Indestructible Steel Double Purpose Heaters For Motor Cars, Wagons and All Vehicles. KEEP PASSENGERS WARM WHILE DRIVING. KEEP ENGINE WARM WHILE STANDING. W. H. THORNE & CO., LIMITED

Westclox Big Ben Emerson & Fisher, Ltd. Big Ben will wake you with a cheery "Good Morning" every day in the year. He'll bring you out of bed with a silver-toned call that will make you feel like saying "Good Morning" to every one you meet.

With the New Year Will Come Many Occasions Where A New Evening or Semi-Evening Frock Will Be a Necessity. The ever engrossing task of selecting the frock you want may begin now. For the winter's whirl of gaiety there are many lovely gowns, fashioned of beautiful fabrics and delightfully developed. Afternoon Frocks and semi-evening Gowns are decidedly interesting. Many are artfully simple, made of crepe-de-chines, taffetas, georgettes, and happy combinations of two or more of these lovely fabrics.

Manchester Robertson Allison & Co. KING STREET, GERMAIN STREET, MARKET STREET. And Now — it's HOW to send your Christmas gift money to best advantage. You notice we did not say "where" because naturally this is the logical shop. There are Furs, Hats, Gloves, Frocks and other things you'll need this winter. D. Magee's Sons, Limited, Saint John, N.B.