

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Easterly winds; fair and cold.

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 1.—The cold wave is now cooled over the Maritime Provinces and the temperature is rising in Ontario, in advance of a disturbance which is approaching from the westward. In the west the weather has been mostly fair and mild.

Minimum and maximum temperatures:

	Min.	Max.
Victoria	48	48
Vancouver	42	46
Kamloops	20	30
Edmonton	22	38
Calgary	2	18
Battleford	6	20
Prince Albert	8	22
Medicine Hat	12	20
Regina	12	18
Winnipeg	20	25
Port Arthur	10	32
Parry Sound	2	20
London	20	34
Toronto	12	28
Kingston	2 below	10
Ottawa	8 below	24
Montreal	4 below	2
Quebec	14 below	2
St. John	2 below	8

AROUND THE CITY

Put Fire Out.
George Swetka, of Carmarthen street, proved himself fitted for a position on the fire department, last evening, in his own home, when some harmless holiday fireworks set fire to some decorations and a serious blaze was prevented by the quick action of Mr. Swetka, who removed his coat and beat the flames into submission. The damage done the furnishings was slight. Mr. and Mrs. Swetka were entertaining some of their friends at the time of the accident.

CANDLES ON XMAS TREE START FIRE

Serious Blaze Threatened in Thomas Nixon's Home for Few Minutes Last Evening.

A fire that for a few minutes threatened to develop into a serious blaze, broke out about ten o'clock last evening in the home of Thomas Nixon, 311 Princess street, when candles lighted on a Christmas tree set fire to the tree, the flames quickly spreading to the curtains and in less than half a minute the whole room was a mass of flame. A still alarm was sent in and answered by the chemical box 24 was later rung in and other sections of the department responded. The blaze was under control after about fifteen minutes' hard work on the part of the firemen.

When the fire broke out the flames spread with lightning rapidity and the room seemed a mass of fire. Mr. Nixon in endeavoring to save some of his furniture was severely burnt about the face and hands. Neighbors hearing the uproar rushed to the scene and those living upstairs were shocked when on endeavoring to reach the street they found their way blocked by the flames. The arrival of the department, however, the fire was quickly subdued and the offending tree thrown out on the street.

It is estimated that the damage will amount to at least \$500.

OBITUARY.

Miss Estella Robinson.
St. Stephen, N. B., Jan. 1.—Miss Estella Robinson, daughter of the late Wm. Robinson, D.S., passed away this morning after an illness of several years duration, borne with rare fortitude. She was forty-two years of age and was highly esteemed by a widely extended circle of friends and acquaintances. She was an active worker in the Methodist church and Sunday school. Miss Robinson was expert needle woman and for several years made valuable contributions to the fancy work displayed at the local fair. She is survived by her aged mother, a sister, Mrs. Wm. Carson, and a brother, Maxwell Robinson, D.S. The funeral will be held Saturday afternoon.

Stephen P. Harney.
The death occurred in this city on December 31st, of Stephen P. Harney, son of Michael Harney, in the 35th year of his age. The deceased, who has been ill for two months, died at the residence of his parents, 10 Wentworth street. Although the late Mr. Harney has been absent from the city for 15 years, he is well known here, and his death will be regretted by a large circle of friends, who extend their sincere sympathy to the bereaved family.

Besides his parents, the deceased is survived by three brothers, William of Rhode Island, and Percy and Bliss at home, and two sisters, Mrs. John Billingsbury of this city and Miss Adele Harney of Haverhill, Mass.

The funeral will be held from the late residence on Saturday afternoon at half past two. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend.

ANNUAL WHITEWEAR SALE.
Our January white wear sale will begin on Saturday. Some 5,000 garments have been assembled for this event, and through several particularly fortunate purchases we can confidently say that we have held of white wear values that we believe will open the eyes of the St. John shopping public. The goods are displayed in our windows today and in the department today, but not a single garment of it will be sold until Saturday.—F. W. Daniel & Co.

R. L. BORDEN CLUB PROVED ONE GREAT SUCCESS

Hundreds Thronged Cozy Rooms and Enjoyed Hospitality of Members—Hon. John E. Wilson, in Strong Address, Condemned Liberal Attitude on Naval Policy.

Always alert to seize an occasion to encourage the spirit of comradeship among its members, the R. L. Borden club celebrated the New Year by throwing open its rooms over the Victoria Alleys to its friends yesterday afternoon between four and six o'clock. A home-like fire blazed in the fire-place; tables groined with the weight of such eatables as fit in with such an occasion; a fine fragrance of coffee permeated from a stove in a corner; and everything was favorable for an enjoyable time. The only drawback to the festivities was the fact that the club management underestimated the drawing power of the function, and ran out of cigars and some other features before the reception was finished. Despite this fact, however, the afternoon's entertainment was most pleasant, and the many guests had an opportunity to absorb some serious addresses as well as lighter fare. Hon. John E. Wilson, A. A. Wilson, K. C., and R. G. Murray were the speakers of the occasion, and in the intervals the company was regaled by musical selections.

Hon. Mr. Wilson was the first speaker. He appropriately opened by extending seasonal wishes to the gathering, and then passed on to a brief consideration of provincial affairs. He spoke of the progress made by the province during 1913; cited the increase in the provincial revenues as an evidence of progress and prosperity; showed how measures adopted by the local government had contributed to the welfare of the province, and predicted greater developments during the present year.

Reviewing the events which led up to the consummation of plans for the construction of the Valley Railway, Mr. Wilson said railways usually followed the route which seemed best to them, and that as the primary ob-

FIRST BAN OF MEMBER WELL SPENT IN ST. JOHN YESTERDAY

Social Functions and Pleasant Entertainments Prove Successful—Citizens Enjoy Keen Air, and Winter Sports in Full Swing—Crowds Attend Theatres.

Many social functions and pleasant entertainments marked the first day of the New Year yesterday, all the time honored customs were carefully followed out and the keen tang to the weather went far to make the day a success as a winter holiday. St. John is now enjoying the first touch of real winter weather and skating, coasting and toboggan parties were much in evidence. The curlers were also on deck and the first stones were carefully rolled in the Thistle and St. Andrew's rinks.

The different societies of the city were at home to their friends and joy and laughter prevailed in all the club rooms. The R. L. Borden Club reception was amongst the most successful of the day, while the Owls and kindred orders were to the fore with splendid programmes.

In the theatres holiday programmes of exceptional merit were to be seen and hundreds of citizens took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy their selves in this manner. The Stock Company at the Opera House and the amateur show at the York Theatre were both well patronized, while the moving picture houses received a generous share.

Record audiences attended both performances at the Opera House yesterday, attesting in no uncertain manner to the well deserved popularity of the Thompson-Woods Company. The matinee drew a crowded house, while at the evening performance it was necessary to move the orchestra onto the stage to make room for the many who wish to see "The Travelling Salesman." An extra row of chairs were placed beneath the footlights and all who could not secure ordinary seats were well content with those given them.

Taking advantage of the cold weather those owning sleds and those who were fortunate enough to be able to obtain them, from the literary men, went for drives about the city and vicinity. Automobiles were also in evidence and in all good times were

CHRISTMAS TREE AND TREAT IN ZION CHURCH

Santa Claus Appeared and Presented Kiddies with Gifts from Tree—A Fine Programme.

The annual Christmas tree and treat in Zion Methodist church was held last evening, when an entertainment of exceptional merit was carried out. The pastor, Rev. William Lawson, in a happy address wished his congregation a prosperous new year.

The programme follows:—
Chorus, by nine little girls; recitation, Mabel Keithlin; solo, Muriel Purdy; recitation, Kathleen Daley; solo, Rev. W. Lawson; recitation, Edmond Cameron; recitation, Myrtle Keithlin; solo, Freddie Simpson; recitation, Violet Kimball; duet, Mabel and Myrtle Keithlin; recitation, Mildred Wood; recitation, Ruth Wood; address, Rev. W. Lawson.

To the great delight of the kiddies Santa Claus made his appearance and

FUNERAL SERVICE OF THE LATE REV. C. G. TOWNSEND.

The funeral service of the late Rev. Collin G. Townsend, of Port Kent, Me., was held at half-past three yesterday afternoon at the residence of the deceased brother, Rev. W. M. Townsend, of the Maine, Fairville, in the presence of a large gathering of people from Fairville and St. John. The service was conducted by Rev. John H. MacVicar, moderator of the Presbytery, assisted by Rev. J. H. Anderson and Rev. Gordon Dickie, M.A. Rev. Dr. MacVicar read from the Scripture, Rev. Mr. Anderson delivered a short address in which he spoke of the life and work of the deceased. Rev. Gordon Dickie led in prayer and pronounced the benediction. The remains were taken to Summerside for interment, accompanied by Rev. W. M. Townsend and the Misses Lavinia and Annie Townsend, brother and sisters of the deceased.

To connect with the Island boat at Cape Tormentine they left last evening on the midnight train.

Saint John Business College Day and Evening Classes will re-open Monday, January 5th.

THE PRINCE WILLIAM HOTEL.

GOODIES EATEN BY THE FIREMEN

Impromptu Programmes and Refreshments Emphasized Hospitality.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE PERMANENT MEN

Alexander Johnston and Michael Finnigan Received Gold Watches, Chains and Lockets.

As customary the firemen celebrated the New Year by holding receptions to the engine houses, and exchanging visits. Impromptu programmes of musical and vocal selections served to make the receptions enjoyable and refreshments emphasized the hospitable spirit of the affair. The pleasant weather made the sleigh drives between stations an enjoyable feature of the day's celebration. The general opinion was that the firemen's home better than for some years past.

At No. 1 Engine House, where an excellent programme of entertainment was carried out, members of the New City Fishing Club appeared and presented John S. Seaton with a fine cast of fish.

One of the most pleasant events of the day occurred at No. 4 Engine House, City Road, when the members of the company and their friends met in the company's room and presented to the permanent men of the station handsome mementoes of their appreciation and good will.

The occasion was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the appointment to the fire department of Alexander Johnston, driver of No. 4 hose wagon. Mr. Johnston is the senior driver in the department, and is closely followed by Michael Finnigan, who needs but a few months to round out a servitude of a quarter of a century. Strange to say both men have served all their time in one station, and as one of them feelingly remarked, "have roomed together for twenty-five years without a disagreement." This certainly speaks well for the men and the company of the fire department.

The cheer was taken by the foreman John Bond, who, after a few fitting and pleasant remarks, requested District Engineer Brown to make the presentation. Mr. Brown in his remarks made very touching reference to the capable manner in which both drivers had always performed their duties during so long a period, and expressed the great pleasure it afforded him, on behalf of the company, to be able to present in a fitting manner, the high esteem in which they are held, not only by their comrades, but by everyone connected with the fire department. Mr. Brown then handed to each driver an elegant gold watch chain and locket, the latter nicely and suitably engraved, and expressed the hope that the men would enjoy the fullest measure of prosperity during the new year, and might long retain their present positions.

The chairman of the committee, Mr. Charles Atkins (amateur welterweight champion of the world), and J. E. Boyle, of Lowell, Sam Gallett of St. John and W. E. Platt of Fairville, light refreshments were served.

A social evening of interest was the reception held by Col. J. L. McAvity and officers of the 1st Regiment, who were in the city on their way to the new army camp between 10 a. m. and 1 p. m. yesterday. The object of the reception was to give friends of the militia an opportunity to inspect the new army and the opportunity was taken advantage of by a large number of citizens. The reception was of an informal character, but proved enjoyable.

The Oddfellows of the city were at home to their friends yesterday morning in their hall, Charles street. E. Codner presided and a very enjoyable time was spent. These New Year receptions have been held by the Oddfellows during the last thirty years.

Open house was observed at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday and during the afternoon and evening many citizens visited the building and enjoyed the different features of the plant. During the afternoon the school boys and the informal members gave a fine exhibition of physical work. The entertainment provided by the boys proved particularly interesting and was witnessed by a large crowd of spectators. During the evening a reception was held and refreshments were served by the ladies of the auxiliary.

found a toy and fruit for all on the handsomely decorated Christmas tree.

PRESENTATIONS

On New Year's Eve the block men of the Beaver Dredging Company presented Harold Mayes with a gold ring. Frank Priest, foreman of the block men, made the presentation. Mr. Mayes responded in a most pleasant manner, and made special reference to the good feeling which had always existed between himself and the members of his alma mater, No. 4.

The chairman then proposed the Mayes of a gold headed cane. Captain Stephens made the presentation and Mr. Mayes expressed his appreciation of the spirit that had prompted the gift.

Yesterday the crew of the tug Joseph presented C. B. Lockhart with an electric reading lamp. Captain Seelye made the presentation and Mr. Lockhart, who is the secretary-treasurer of the Beaver Dredging Co., thanked the donors for their kindness.

E. M. Jones, treasurer of the St. John Conservative Club, was the recipient of a handsome pipe and pouch yesterday when A. O. H. Wilson on behalf of the club made the presentation. Mr. Jones has served the club in the capacity of treasurer for some time and the pipe and pouch are a testament of the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow members.

Thomas Stiney, who during the year secured the largest number of new members for the C. M. B. A., was presented with a gold watch, at the meeting of the association last Tuesday evening. The presentation was made by Grand Deputy R. J. Walsh, on behalf of the grand council.

The grand deputy will begin his visit this week commencing with number 482 in the North End.

PERSONAL.

W. Wray Barraclough, son of Rev. W. H. Barraclough, who has been spending the holiday with his parents will return to Toronto today to resume his duties as a fellow of Toronto University.

The Chafing Dish

The Chafing Dish, while making it possible to express the sincerest hospitality, also seems to the true symbol of good-fellowship.

A quick, novel and practical way to prepare a warm luncheon.

We have them in Copper and Nickel. Prices \$5.30, 5.40, 6.20, 6.30, 7.50, 8.00, 9.50, 11.00, 13.00.

TRAYS for Chafing Dishes, \$1.50 to 5.00.

SERVERS, \$2.50, 3.60, 4.00, 4.30 per pair.

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

LET YOUR XMAS GIFT

Be a Mignonette Horizontal Knabe Grand Or a Willis Upright

Rich and Dainty in Case. Selected Product of both factories for the Holidays.

WILLIS & CO., LTD. - Manufacturers - MONTREAL
LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES:
WILLIS PIANO & ORGAN CO.
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The Hustler Ash Sifter

A Coal Saver—Therefore a Money Saver

Don't throw good coal into your ash barrels GET A HUSTLER, it saves the good coal.

SIMPLE TO OPERATE NO DUST, NO DIRT.

Price - \$5.50

The Hustler will save you its cost in a single season. It fits either wood or iron barrels.

Galvanized Ash Barrels, \$2.50

Emerson & Fisher Ltd.

The Free Hemming Sale of Household Linens and Cottons Will Start on Monday, January 5. Particulars of Our Large Stock Will Be Given Later

M. R. A. STORES WILL CLOSE AT 6 P. M. SATURDAYS DURING JAN., FEB. AND MARCH

Real Leather Suit Cases

At Exceptionally Low Prices

OUR SPECIAL VALUE \$4.50 SUIT CASE

is made of real leather, tan or brown, full thickness and with iron frame and valance, polished brass locks and bolts, solid handles, new swing style, heavy, solid leather corners, strongly riveted on, leather straps in body and cover, lined with checked cloth. Sizes 22, 24, 26 inches. Only to be had from us at this special price. Each \$4.50

OUR SPECIAL VALUE SUIT CASE AT \$5.50—In order to keep fully up-to-date and meet all demands, we have taken our special suit case as described above and added some improvements, such as a shirt or shirt waist pocket in the cover, and two heavy solid leather outside straps, which are so popular today on all high-grade suit cases. We have every reason for satisfaction in being able to present such an up-to-date and substantial case for \$5.50, and you'll understand why when you examine it.

Remember that this case can only be purchased here.

MEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

New Velvets, Velveteens and Corduroys

New Black Velveteens—More popular than ever, and we have a nice new lot ready for inspection.

24 inches wide, Yard \$0.80, \$0.90, \$1.00, \$1.15
27 inches wide, Yard \$1.25
43 inches wide, Yard \$3.10

New Colored Velveteens—In bronze, taupe, grenat, myrtle, navy, grey, mid. brown. 24 inches wide. Per yard \$1.15 and \$1.35

New Corduroys in Black—22 in. wide, Yard \$1.10

New Colored Corduroys—Wide weave, in white, fawn, silver grey, mauve, Copenhagen, myrtle. 22 in. wide, Yard \$1.10

New Colored Corduroys—Fine weave, in navy, cream, taupe, plum, gold, bronze, mauve. 27 inches wide. Per yard \$1.25

New Black Silk Mantle Velvets—For dresses, cloaks and evening wraps. 42 inches wide. Per yard \$3.75, \$4.25

New Liberty Silk Velvets—Made by the celebrated firm of Liberty & Co., for dresses, evening gowns, in purple, light and dark Copenhagen, light mode, brown, helio, tan, old rose, grey, navy, sapphire, light myrtle, 40 inches wide. Yard \$4.00

SILK DEPARTMENT.

Two Special Values in Men's Linen Handkerchiefs

A LIMITED QUANTITY ONLY AT THE FOLLOWING PRICES

LOT 1.—Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, 1/4 inch hems, three handkerchiefs in neat box. Special price, per box, 75c.

LOT 2.—Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, 1/4 inch hems, six handkerchiefs in a picture box. Special price, per box \$1.00

MEN'S FURNISHINGS DEPT.

Manchester Robertson Allison, Limited