

THE WEATHER

Toronto, June 16.—Moderate showers are reported from most localities of the Lake Superior district, and very light showers have occurred in scattered localities throughout the country, but the weather is for the most part fair and moderately warm.

AROUND THE CITY

Fred Rooney was arrested by the police last evening on a warrant charging non-support. One drunk was also arrested.

Alma Ring, the young girl who was injured in a motor accident on City Road Sunday evening was reported to be progressing wonderfully at the General Public Hospital last night. Her complete recovery is merely a matter of time.

Sailed From England Atwood Bridges, one of the Canadian Rhodes scholars at Oxford, sailed from England yesterday for Canada. He will spend his vacation in St. John with his parents, Dr. H. S. Bridges and Mrs. Bridges.

POSTMORTEM INSPECTION. The Board of Fire Underwriters decided yesterday morning to postpone the inspection of the Beaneonfield district until such time as the new fire hydrants have been installed. They have completed the inspection of St. John West, and an increase of fifteen per cent is expected there.

NEW DEPARTURE. Starting next Sunday there will be united services on the two West St. John Baptist churches. Rev. J. H. Jenner is leaving for a vacation and Rev. Mr. Brindley will preach to the congregations in Ladlow street church in the morning and Charlotte street church in the evening, and vice versa the following Sunday. This is a new departure for these churches.

CHIEF INSPECTOR HERE. K. S. Busby of Ottawa, chief inspector of customs and excise, arrived in the city on the Montreal train yesterday. Mr. Busby said he was here on the usual annual visit of inspection and that his trip had nothing to do with reported changes in the customs house staff. He will be in the city for a few days, after which he will return to Montreal.

Tobacco Prices Taking A Drop

One Popular Brand Has Fallen 40c. Per Pound—Others Increase Size of Package.

Lovers of the fragrant weed, accustomed during recent years to a steady advance in the cost of their tobacco, are overjoyed at the drop in prices of some supplies the last few days. One popular brand of smoking tobacco, selling for several months at 20 cents for a pound, has fallen to 15 cents for one-half of a pound, in other words, the price has fallen from \$2.00 per pound to \$1.50. Another tin sells now at 25 cents; it has been 30 cents until this week.

Automobilists Must Watch The Dimmers

Traffic Officer Crawford Had Bunch of Violators in the Paddock Yesterday.

Mr. Automobile Man had better watch out when bowling along the Rothsey boulevard and see that his dimmers are in working order and house the glare of his headlights when approaching a vehicle, motor or horse drawn. Robert Crawford, that gentleman who has been clothed with authority to make life's pathway one of thorns for violators of traffic laws, is getting busy. His "clamps" trimmed and burning, are now focusing on the automobilist who forgets to snap on the dimmers.

Nova Scotia Touched. One automobilist was before Justice Althingam and fined \$50 for not responding to a summons for speeding on Rothsey Ave. A Halifax car exceeded the speed limit yesterday and the driver enriched the New Brunswick treasury box with a deposit of five dollars.

MANAGER THOMSON REPLIES TO UNION LEADER'S STATEMENTS

Questions Mr. Sinclair's Knowledge of the Situation Existing in St. John—Table of Living Expenses Produced Differs Greatly from That of Mr. Sinclair—Says Company Will Run Own Business.

The conciliation board in the dispute between the New Brunswick Power Co. and its employees continued its sessions yesterday morning in the Board of Trade rooms. Mr. Sinclair, for the men, also some further documents, and P. W. Thomson filed the answer of the company. During the morning a suggestion was made by Mr. Sinclair that the company pay the wage schedule in force in Halifax and the men might agree to operate any type of car the company would put on the road.

Mr. Sinclair, continuing his case for the men, filed the letter of the company to its employees and claimed this was an attempt to break the union. He also filed a list showing the cost of one meal for a family of four to be \$1.03. He informed the board that the men had decided by a unanimous vote to decline the offer submitted through the Mayor of 47 cents per hour for two-man operation and 52 for one-man operation. Mr. Thomson asked if the ballot was a secret one, and Mr. Sinclair replied that it was not.

The Company's Case. Mr. Thomson submitted the following statement as the reply of the company to the statements of Mr. Sinclair.

Mr. Sinclair's remarks as to the capitalization—the rates—the management—only shows that he is not conversant with his facts. While the company can make its own rates under the legislation of 1920 and earn 8 per cent on an arbitrary base rate fixed by the Legislature, it is subject to the supervision of the auditor appointed by the Public Utilities, and all complaints of service and rates may be made to the Public Utilities so that no excessive profit is permitted. With all the increases in car fare and in gas that Mr. Sinclair complains so bitterly about, the company failed by some \$14,000 last year to earn its base rate established by the Legislature.

The company lost on its gas works last year some \$72,000—it lost on its street railway operations \$127,000. It has carried up to the end of May on the street railway something in excess of 22 per cent fewer passengers than it had in the same months of 1920. The falling off for June will, I imagine, be far in excess of 22 per cent.

It is absurd to compare our street railway in St. John with the Montreal street railway. In St. John we carry about one-fifth of the population of Montreal in the same streets, carry the entire population every day.

Loss on Railway. Our street railway earning figures are appalling. Commencing on June 1920—the last figure that I have—and going back, the loss per day was as follows: \$477, \$476, \$407, \$510, \$470, \$463. In one day between June 19th and May 21st, we had a profit of \$44. This state of affairs cannot continue—we must get relief in the shape of the one-man car and the lower rate of wages, or the street railway department will ruin the company. Not only will forty men lose their jobs, but the balance of 110 will be out of employment, and the citizens of St. John will have to do without a street railway, or else tax themselves for its upkeep.

Times are bad—we are carrying fewer passengers than ever—there is no prospect that times are going to be better in the near future. The company has had this year in the street railway operations unusual expense. It will owe the city by the end of the year something over \$100,000—mostly caused by the privilege afforded it of operating a street railway.

Mr. Sinclair states that the positive earnings of motormen and conductors of this company, working 312 days in the year, for 1920-1921, was \$1,644, or \$5.27 per day. It would be impossible for the men to live if their wages were cut any. The company doubts the statement. It's a well-known fact that the average earnings in America falls short of \$1,000 a year, and people seem to live and get along without undue hardship, even at that rate. Our company never proposed to make such a cut in the wages as this.

In previous years the wages paid by this company for motormen and conductors were:— 1913 — 20 to 25 cents. 1914 — 20 to 25 cents. 1915 — 20 to 25 cents. 1916 — 20 to 25 cents. 1917 — 25 to 30 cents.

All this time snow work and training students was at 4c. extra. In 1918, the wages were increased to 36c. and 4c. for snow work and training was continued. In 1919 the wages were advanced to 45c. with snow work at 4c. and training at 10c.

In 1920 the rate was boosted to 66c. snow work and training 10c. extra. Similarly other occupations in the company were increased—in some cases from 18c. an hour up to 55c. an hour.

The company issued a Bulletin in which it cut the motormen and conductors' wages by 20 per cent, and gave 5c. extra for the one-man car. The company can fill its ranks with motormen and conductors at a much lower figure than this.

The company felt that its suggestion of a 20 per cent cut, with 5c. an hour for the one-man car—which only made a net out of 11c.—was a small cut for the motorman and conductor as it could do with.

Caused Trouble On Sheffield Street

Man Assaulted Colored Woman and Escaped in High Powered Automobile.

With the throttle wide open and the speedometer registering about a fifty mile gait, a powerful black touring car tore into Prince William street from St. James at a little after 11 o'clock last night, and keeping to the middle of the street through the city towards the North End, hotly pursued by the police patrol till the Main street hill forced her to give up the chase near the North End station.

The big black car was first sighted on Broad street, after a hurry call had been sent into the central station for a disturbance on Sheffield street where a drunken man was alleged to have assaulted an aged colored woman and wrecked her house.

Detective Biddiscombe and Police-Matthew went to the scene in the patrol where it was said their quarry had left for a lodging house on St. James street. They continued on in pursuit and as they reached the house saw a man and woman rush out and jump into a big black car which immediately got under way.

In the early part of last evening a man known to the police as at York Point and it was reported he had assaulted a woman, but when the female was taken to the hospital she stated she had not been struck; he was not apprehended. Later it is believed that this same person and his woman friend went to the Sheffield street house, and he is supposed to be the person who caused the disturbance and escaped in the fast automobile.

Nelson Case Heard In Police Court

Witnesses Told of Accused Selling Stolen Articles to Second-Hand Stores.

In the police court yesterday afternoon, the case of J. Nelson charged with breaking and entering Tanzman's store on Brussels street and also with carrying concealed weapons, was heard. Several witnesses were called. The first, J. Lampert, owner of second-hand store, told of the accused bringing a suit of clothes to the store, which he bought from him for \$10 on May 27. Nelson signed his name as James Dalton, Union street. Detective Biddiscombe came in the store two days later and got the suit.

Maurice Koshetsky gave evidence that Nelson brought a raincoat in to his store on the 28th of May and sold it for \$1 and signed his name as Jas. Gibbon, Meadow street. Two days later Detective Biddiscombe came in and got the coat.

Further Reduction In Passenger Rates

Will be Reduced Ten Per Cent. July 1st—No Change in Sleeping Car Rates.

Railway passenger fares in Eastern Canada, or on all lines east of Winnipeg, will be lower by ten per cent after July 1st, according to information reaching this city yesterday, verified by officials of the C. N. R. The Western rates are not affected.

This will mean the return to the passenger fares in force prior to September 15, 1920, when a 20 per cent increase was granted to the railways. A reduction of 10 per cent was made on January 1st. Sleeping car rates are not affected.

With high fares and high sleeping and tourist car rates train travel on this continent has become somewhat very much akin to a luxury in recent times. Still, it is regarded as a necessity, except by tourists, and in their opinion it is only one item from a long list of heavy expenses, so higher fares were not supposed to have affected travel much.

It is believed that this reduction will help the railways as well as those who travel on the trains.

Wedding Gifts in Electric Cooking Appliances. Practical, enduring, beautiful Electric Cooking Appliances are especially suitable for Wedding Gifts, saving much labor, many steps and bringing just the desired touch of stateliness to the dining room.

La Favorite Refrigerators. Easy to Clean, Save Food. That stale smell about a Refrigerator is a danger signal. The La Favorite Refrigerators are lined with either WHITE PORCELAIN ENAMEL or HEAVY GALVANIZED IRON, and are dry—clean—hygienic—unsurpassed for economy of ice.

Friday Bargain Sales. Each week this event is crowded with exceptional values. Remarkable saving opportunities will greet you today in practically every department. It is advisable to come in and look over these offerings as early in the day as possible; early comers have the best choice of selection and the best service.

A Remarkable Exhibition and Sale of Genuine Oriental Rugs Today and Following Days. Wednesday of this week we received a very large and comprehensive collection of Choice Oriental Rugs. These along with our entire previous stock of Orientals, we are offering at PRICES NOT HEARD OF IN YEARS.

Manchester Robertson Allison Limited. Be sure and see these and allow us to explain their fine points. (Showing in Carpet Department—German St. Entrance.)

Gunman Nelson Has A Record. Boston Detective Dept. Says Finger Prints Are Those of Lewis J. Brown. The belief of the detective department that Lewis Nelson, the gunman, when they arrested him a week ago, was a bad man from across the border, was confirmed yesterday when word was received from the detective department of Boston, stating that the finger prints taken by the local officers had been identified as those of Lewis J. Brown, an escaped prisoner from Brighton jail.