

## THE DAILY MAIL

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY. Subscription price, \$4 per year (by carrier); \$2 per year by mail. Telephone 67.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1918.

### THE QUEBEC PROBLEM.

The Montreal Journal of Commerce, a paper edited by Hon. W. S. Fielding, in its last issue devotes considerable space to the Quebec problem. It very correctly points out that this problem is not a new one, but is really older than Confederation. It was with the hope that a solution would be found for the problem that the union of Upper and Lower Canada was brought about. This union was beneficial in some respects, but failed to accomplish all that was hoped for. It was with the idea of ending this unhappy state of affairs that many leading public men gave hearty support to the larger Confederation scheme. Confederation was accomplished, but still—as the Journal of Commerce says—the old problem has not been disposed of. The different mentalities of English and French remained. Quebec became in a way a French province under the British flag. Happily, most of the questions arising in our political affairs in Quebec and in the Dominion, were of such a character that English and French were able to unite heartily for the promotion of the common good. This union of hearts was a source of great pleasure to the people of both races and great benefit to the country. Once in a while a question arose on which something like racial lines were drawn and then for a little while some bitterness existed, intensified unfortunately by the utterances of extremists on both sides. But time is a wonderful healer, especially when aided by the wisdom of man and under the leadership of men of both races who understand the problem and the necessity of handling it prudently, asperities were softened, peace maintained and French and English united in service for the welfare of the country.

Discussing the present political situation in Quebec, the Journal of Commerce says:

"When then can be done with the Quebec problem? The best thing is, so far as any formal action is concerned, to let it alone, wait until the present clouds roll by, and trust to the healing power of time to bring happier conditions as it has done in the past. In the meantime, since the problem is to be always with us, the English majority might well endeavor to make a more careful survey of the attitude of their fellow-citizens of French origin, to ascertain the causes of it, and be ready to do whatever is possible to bring about better relations. Questionings of the loyalty of the French are both mischievous and unwarranted in fact. There is no national flag other than the Union Jack to which they bow. They have a sentimental regard for the tri-color of France, but never as a rival to the British flag. They have no thought of union with any other nation. In almost everything that the English majority regard as the elements of good citizenship the French Canadians are admittedly their equal. If the Canadianism of the French is more intense and their imperialism less evident, the fact should not be surprising. Let it be remembered that though they possess so many virtues in common with the majority, they are still French and not English.

"The ever-present and ever-to-be present Quebec problem has always needed a wise handling. Unfortunately it has not received such in recent years. Opportunities that offered for the promotion of unity were thrust aside. For the service of party ends movements designed to enlist the sympathy of French Canadians with a sane imperialism were strangled. The old problem was brought forward again in acute form. The seeds of so-called Nationalism were widely sown, with the encouragement and assistance of men from whom the country had a right to look for better things. Why should anybody be surprised by the harvest that has come?"

Ne. Y. Herald: The record-breaking cold wave, causing zero or freezing weather for the last four days over most of the country, has left as an invaluable legacy an ice crop which should be speedily secured in the rural

regions for the preservation of food next summer. In all probability no better or more abundant ice harvest will be formed during the present winter in the great central valleys and the Atlantic States. It very rarely happens that more than one extensive cold wave attended by freezing temperature of extreme intensity, such as prevailed this week, occurs in a single winter. Many districts south of the thirty-fifth parallel probably now have the finest ice crop they have had in a number of years. No time, therefore, should be lost in gathering an ample supply of thick ice for the conservation of food in the hot season.

Says an American exchange: "Beware of vidders," the Pension Bureau echoes the elder Weller. That it has reason to do so is shown by the fact that though not a soldier of the war of 1812 survives, there are 19 pensioned "widows" of such soldiers. There are only 384 survivors of the Mexican war, but there are 3,442 widows of the veterans. The explanation is less for experts in longevity than the sociologists, who may tell us just why old veterans (with pensions valid after death) are so often attractive to comparatively young women. The pensioned widows of civil war veterans practically equal the number of survivors.

Boston News Bureau: A new word has been put into the English language. It is "mug" (verb transitive). When an American soldier has been kissed by a Frenchman now he says he has been "mugged." As the Frenchman who plants a kiss on the cheeks of the private is usually of the hirsute variety, he is tactfully avoided if possible. A soldier warns another, "An old guy down in the next block mugged me." It is the signal for a detour.

### Through Our Sieve

Christmas camouflage: "It was just exactly what I wanted!"

If the Kaiser is seeking more territory, maybe England could be prevailed upon to give him St. Helena.

The girl in the present day short skirt doesn't have to watch her step. Everybody else watches it for her.

Helpful hint: Put a tag on each of the 12 Christmas ties, so you will be sure to wear the right one when you call on the girls who sent them.

A couple recently was married by telephone, and no doubt many married people could live happily ever after in the same way.

There may be two sides to every question, but after we get particularly interested in one of them the other doesn't show up much.

Tolerance is what makes a man sympathetically regretful that those with whom he converses don't know as much about the war as he does.

The old fashioned politicians who boast of being brought up on a farm might do something useful for their country now by going back to the land for a few years.

## MARYSVILLE HAPPENINGS

Marysville, Jan. 11.—A number of young men, members of the Main St. Baptist Sunday School, met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Tapley last evening for the purpose of organizing a Bible class in connection with that Sunday school. After a discussion concerning plans for the formation of the proposed new class, an election of officers was held which resulted as follows: Honorary President Mr. S. J. Hallett; president, Chipman H. Brewer; vice-president, Paul Dennison; secretary, Emory S. Pettigrove; treasurer, Miles O. White; chairman social committee, J. McP. Peterson. Mr. George A. Tapley was the unanimous choice for teacher and chairman of the visiting committee, and the president as chairman of the membership committee. After a brief business session, the members of the new class were very pleasantly entertained by the members of the young ladies' classes. Several pleasing musical selections were rendered, and refreshments were served.

Mr. Dow Estabrooks has returned to his home here from St. John, where he received his discharge from the 9th Siege Battery on account of physical unfitness.

The condition of Mr. William Moore, Jr., who has been confined to his home for several days by illness, shows signs of considerable improvement. The members of the Ladies' Bowling Club are making preparations for a dance and social evening at the Dawson Club Rooms Friday evening, Jan. 18th.

An American manufacturer has placed on the market a line of shoes for electrical workers which are made to withstand potentials up to 20,000 volts without harm to the wearer.

## BIBLE SOCIETY HAD LARGEST CONTRIBUTIONS

1917 Was Best Year on Record for Fredericton Branch—Annual Meeting Held Last Night.

The annual meeting of the Bible Society was held in the Methodist church last evening and the exercises were of a very interesting character. Mr. J. W. Spurden, the honored president, occupied the chair, and seated on the platform were Rev. G. C. Warren, Rev. G. M. Young, pastor of the church, Adjutant Miller of the Salvation Army, Rev. Milton Addison, and the secretary of the society.

The principal speaker of the evening was Rev. Mr. Warren, and he held the closest attention of the interested audience from the moment he named his text until the conclusion of his thoughtful and inspiring address. He gave many reasons why the Book of Books should be read daily, not only by the student but by everybody, young and old. From a business point of view he placed the Bible as the "best seller" of all literature.

The gentlemen on the platform all took part in the exercises and the president conveyed the regret of Rev. J. S. Sutherland at not being able to attend the meeting. However, he will address the meeting this evening.

**Best Year on Record.**  
In his annual report of the branch the secretary-treasurer spoke of the people to the Bible Society in this community as shown by their contributions; the past year's amount being the largest contributed in Fredericton since the war began. He also reported that Rev. H. R. Boyer, the district secretary at St. John, is greatly encouraged by the reports received from all sections of the province, and he thinks financially, 1917 may be the best ever.

As the result of the recent collections in Fredericton by the young ladies of the different churches the following amounts were received:

Wellington ward—Presbyterian church, \$89.15; St. Ann's ward—Brunswick Street Baptist church, \$148.23; Carleton ward—George Street Baptist church, \$69.50; Queens ward—Methodist church, \$78.85; Kings ward—Church of England, \$11.06. Total for year, \$456.79.

**Officers Elected.**  
The members of the executive and the officers for the current years are as follows: President, Mr. John W. Spurden; vice presidents, Mr. John J. Weddall and Mrs. W. G. Clark; auditor, Mr. A. S. McFarlane; secretary-treasurer, Mr. C. A. Sampson; committee, Dr. C. C. Jones, Mr. R. B. Wallace, Mr. A. D. Thomas, Mr. J. S. Armstrong, Mr. W. M. Burns, Mr. Walkere Belyea, Prof. Stiles, Mr. W. E. McMullen, Mrs. W. J. Caserio, Mrs. W. C. Kierstead, Mrs. J. S. Scott, Miss Hilda Gregory, Mrs. W. Belyea. The resident clergymen are also members of the committee.

Appropriate music was furnished during the evening by Prof. Harrison and the members of the choir.

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## BOLSHEVIKI TO CANCEL RUSSIAN NATIONAL DEBT

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

London, Jan. 10.—The Bolshevik government intends to publish a decree within a few days cancelling the Russian national debt, telegraphs the correspondent at Petrograd of the Manchester Guardian. The correspondent understands the decree will contain these paragraphs:

First, all loans and treasury bonds held by foreign subjects abroad or in Russia are repudiated.

Second, loans and treasury bonds held by Russian subjects possessing more than 10,000 rubles in capital are repudiated.

Third, loans and treasury bonds held by Russian subjects possessing capital in loan scrip or deposits not exceeding 1,000 rubles are to receive five percent interest on the nominal value of the loan, and those possessing 10,000 rubles are to receive three per cent.

Fourth, workmen and peasants holding 100 rubles' worth of loans or bonds may sell their holding to the state at 75 per cent. of its nominal value. Those holding 600 rubles' worth may sell it at 70 per cent. of its nominal value.

## MONT BLANC OWNERS WANT DAMAGES

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Halifax, Jan. 11.—Action for \$2,000,000 damages is filed in admiralty court here by the solicitors for the owners of the steamer Mont Blanc against the Norwegian Belgian Relief steamer Imo. These two steamers collided in Halifax harbor on December 6th, following which occurrence the explosion resulted which wrecked part of the city. The writ states the amount of damages but gives no further particulars. It is expected the action will be tried within six weeks.

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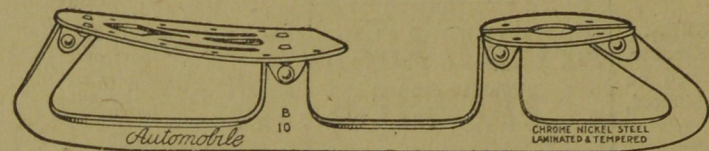
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2 Mink Stoles, Reg. Price \$35.00, Sale Price	\$19.00
1 Child's Grey Opossum Sett, Reg. Price, \$20.50, Sale Price	\$15.00
1 Natural Wolf Stole, Regular Price, \$16.00, Sale Price	\$10.00
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RETAIL

This Store will close at 6 p.m. Every Saturday during January, February and March.

## VALLEY RAILWAY ENQUIRY MAY BE ADJOURNED FOR A FORTNIGHT

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

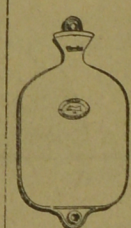
ST. JOHN, Jan. 11.—At this morning's session of the Valley Railway enquiry, R. B. Emmerson, hardware merchant, was on the stand. He was a member of the local Conservative finance committee with Thomas Fell and M. E. Agar. He knew nothing of the use of funds other than that certain sums he collected, \$500 or \$500, had been handed to Mr. Bell, the treasurer. This was for proper election expenses. He knew nothing of the Tennant money.

Mr. Jones remarked that he supposed "they have to add some members on these committees to add respectability, but they carefully do not allow these gentlemen of good standing to know very much."

Mr. Agar, a wholesale hardware merchant, gave at yesterday afternoon's session, testimony similar to Mr. Emmerson's.

In closing the morning's session, Hon. Mr. Jones said: "As the matter develops, and in view of Mr. Bell's evidence, in which he could not remember certain gentlemen to whom he paid money in certain counties, we may have to ask your honor for more time. Certain investigations have to be made and after today's evidence has been heard I would ask that the commission make an adjournment until January 29 in order that we may ascertain what witnesses we wish to call and how the necessary information can be got. In this way we would be able then to clean up the whole matter in a day or perhaps a week."

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## STAPLES' PHARMACY

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KAISER'S BELL HUSHED.

The Hague, Jan. 10.—The great "Kaiser's Bell," whose sonorous voice many Americans have heard above the roars of Cologne, has now been removed from its cage in the southern tower of the great cathedral to be melted for war uses. It rang its funeral chant on New Year's night.

The bell weighs 56,000 pounds and it was necessary to saw it in pieces to get it down.

French guns captured in 1870 and 1871 were the material from which the bell was made, and it was first sounded on March 21, 1877, the birthday of William I. It took 27 bellringers to operate it.

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