

A BIG RUSH AT OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS

Time for Filing Statements Expired Yesterday—The New Law Appears to be Working Out Well.

Principal Assessor Peter Farrell and his assistants, H. V. Gunter and R. J. Baxter have been busily engaged during the last week gathering in assessment statements. There has been a rush at the assessors office in the city hall day and night, the time for filing statements expired last night and from what can be learned there has been a very general response to the notices sent out. The law provides a penalty of fifty dollars in cases where a ratepayer neglects to file a statement. If a statement is not filed the assessors can determine the persons property and income and may assess the amount at double that so determined. In cases where no statement has been filed with the board of assessors there can be no appeal from the assessment made.

It is said that the assessment for the current year will be ordered by the council at the regular March meeting. It is said that if there is any increase over last year decided upon it will be result of an extra levy of \$400 asked by the Board of School Trustees.

CITY AFFAIRS

Favor Modern Styles.

An observant citizen says that after viewing the pagent of old and new styles at the Capitol, he is strong for the new styles as he thinks them the most sensible. Or as he says he would rather view "legs than no legs."

A Reminder of Spring.

A Queen street business man says that the seed catalogues arriving just at this season with great red, ripe tomatoes on the covers, reminds him pleasantly that spring is on the way.

Government Meeting.

The Provincial Government completed the work of the meeting here yesterday afternoon and the ministers living outside of the city returned home by the evening trains. Another meeting will be held here next week, probably on Wednesday. The Legislature will meet on Thursday of next week.

Condition Improved.

The friends of Mr. Frank C. Murchie or the staff of the Liquor Control Board, who seem to be legion will be glad to learn that an improvement is reported in his condition today. Yesterday afternoon he partook of nourishment for the first time in several days. He passed a comfortable night and is resting easily today. His brother Mr. Henry Murchie of St. Stephen has been with him for several days.

Supreme Court.

The Appeal Division of the Supreme Court resumed hearing this morning with Sir Douglas Hazen and Justices White and Grimmer presiding. The case of King vs Bathurst Lumber Company, Ltd., which took all of yesterday afternoon was concluded this morning and judgment reserved. The case of King vs C. N. Begin, ex parte, T. Armond Caron was next taken up. Mr. C. L. Dougherty and M. L. Hayward showed cause and Mr. A. J. Dionne was supported the rule still before the court.

Died Yesterday.

Mrs. Katherine Grey wife of Murray C. Grey passed away yesterday at her home 360 Northumberland street. The deceased was thirty-seven years of age and had been ill for some time. She is survived by her husband, one daughter Gladys Katherine, two brothers, William Rudge of Woodstock and Charles Rudge of Montreal, two sisters, Mrs. Mary Homer of Montreal and Mrs. Charles Belkie of Denton, Maryland. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon with service at the late home at two-thirty by Rev. F. H. Holmes and interment will be made in Rural Cemetery Extension.

NET EARNINGS OF N. B. TELEPHONE COMPANY IN 1927 AMOUNTED TO NEARLY A MILLION AND A QUARTER

Stockholders Holding Annual Meeting This Afternoon—Directors Met Last Night—\$39,560.48 Was Carried to Surplus Account—Extensive Improvements Planned for This Year

That the New Brunswick Telephone Company has had a satisfactory year was shown by the report of the directors read at the thirty-eighth annual meeting of the stockholders here this afternoon. The gross earnings for the year amounted to \$1,241,859.27 an increase of \$49,217 over the previous year. The expenses for the year increased by \$37,598.85. The sum of \$39,560.48 was carried to the surplus account which now amounts to \$143,082.33. A satisfactory increase in the number of long distance messages during the year is reported. The total number of stations in operation is now \$29,678.

The company's plans for the coming year are quite extensive. It is proposed among other things to erect two new copper circuits from St. John to the Quebec boundary to connect with the Bell System and thus provide an all Canadian long distance route.

Director's Report.

Those present at the directors' meeting last evening were Senator F. B. Black, president, H. P. Robinson, Richard O'Leary, W. C. Allison, Col. J. L. McAvity, J. E. McPherson, F. R. Sumner and E. W. Mair. The following report to the stockholders was adopted:

To The Shareholders of The New Brunswick Telephone Company, Limited:

In submitting the report for the year ending December 31, 1927, your Directors are pleased to report satisfactory growth and progress along all lines.

General Results.

The gross earnings of the Company for the year amounted to \$1,241,859.27 or an increase over the preceding year of \$49,217.00 and the expenses of the Company for the

corresponding period are increased by \$37,598.85. The amount carried to surplus account for the year was \$39,560.48 bringing our total surplus up to \$143,082.22. This amount is still much below the point of safety.

There has been a satisfactory increase both in the number of long distance messages for the year and in the revenue derived therefrom, and while we have, during the past year installed no new exchanges in the province yet the number of stations has increased by 1,135 bringing the total up to date to 29,678.

Additions to Plant.

Building during the year has been less than usual. A stable and garage were erected at Grand Falls a garage at Fredericton and the Lantulum property was purchased in Saint John.

Three hundred (300) miles of copper were erected between such points as Fredericton and Edmundston, Bathurst and Newcastle, Campbellton and Dalhousie, Tracadie and Shippegan, Caraquet and Pokemouche and St. George and St. Stephen; and 156 miles of iron were erected to relieve and extend rural lines.

Plans for 1928.

It is proposed to erect on Union street, St. John, a new building to take care of the automatic installation and other plant requirements. It is also proposed to erect two new copper circuits from Saint John to the Quebec boundary near Edmundston to connect there with the Bell lines and thus have an all-Canadian long distance route. This will require 510 miles of copper and it is expected will lead not only to very much better long distance service with Montreal and the west but to greatly increased business.

(Continued on page five)

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