

## News Briefs

## IN CITY TODAY

A. G. Wallace, of Bainsville, N. B., federal relief project officer, is in the city today on routine business.

## HERE ON ROUTINE BUSINESS

Dr. Fletcher Peacock, of Saint John, new director of Education Services in the province, arrived here today and is busy at routine matters.

## HOSPITAL BOARD MET

Victoria Hospital board committee held a meeting last evening, considering regulations with regard to the hospital.

## ARRIVED AT NOON

Hon. F. W. Pirie, minister of lands and mines, arrived here today at noon from his home in Grand Falls and this afternoon attended the meeting of the New Brunswick Guides' Association.

## FLIES TO BOUESTOWN

Thomas Carr of Saint John who arrived here by airplane this morning from Doaktown, took F. Emerson Edgecombe of this city back with him as a passenger this afternoon. Mr. Edgecombe has business in Doaktown.

## LOOKING OVER SITE FOR ICE

Several Fredericton ice magnates were on the river front today inspecting possible sites for winter cutting operations. The ice at the present time is 14 inches in thickness. There is no danger of the ice breaking up at the present time, although the recent thaw caused a slight weakness on the shore. The river level is now on the rise.

## TRANSFER MINING OFFICE

It has been arranged to have the mining division of the Department of Lands and Mines moved to the University of New Brunswick. Under the new arrangement the office of W. E. McMullen, provincial mines inspector, will be in future located in the geology building of the university. Transfer of the mines division to the offices of Dr. W. J. Wright, provincial geologist will consolidate the works, and will also have the offices located alongside the laboratories and equipment.

## DIED IN SAINT JOHN

The death occurred at Saint John yesterday of Robert R. Lyons, aged 44 years, at Lancaster Hospital. The remains of the deceased, who was well known in this city, were brought here last evening by train. He had been ill only two months. Deceased was a member of the Canadian Legion, the I.O.O.F., the St. Andrew's Society, and the P.A.P.B. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon with prayers at the home, Regent street, at two o'clock, and will be followed by service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. Rev. Dr. G. E. Ross will officiate at the service and interment will be made in the Rural cemetery.

## EGG LAYING CONTEST

The seventh week of the 17th New Brunswick Egg Laying Contest, conducted at the Dominion Experimental Station here, was concluded on Dec. 19th, with a production of 384 eggs and 337.7 points. This is an average production of 19.2 per cent. The Single Comb White Leghorns owned by Arthur Pringle, Stanley, led in production for the week with 44 eggs and 46.6 points; The Barred Rocks owned by Walter Dougan, Hampstead, were in second position for the week with 32 eggs and 32.7 points; The Barred Rocks owned by W. J. White, Moore's Mills, were in third position with 34 eggs and 32.6 points.

## INJURED IN MOTOR ACCIDENT

Mrs. Peter Finnegan, wife of driver Peter Finnegan of the Fredericton Fire Department underwent an X-ray examination at the Victoria Public Hospital today for an injury to her jaw sustained yesterday at Durham Bridge, York county, when Mr. Finnegan's car was in collision with a truck driven by Fred McAdam, of Douglas, York county. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Finnegan, Kenneth, Greta, Gerald and Frank, also were shaken up in the accident, and Kenneth suffered a fractured nose. The icy condition of the highway was deemed the cause of the collision. Mr. Finnegan said today that the condition of the highway caused the other car to sideswipe his car.

## SKATES

GROUND, REPAIRED  
RIVETTED ON BOOTS  
Keys Made, Lock Repairs

## MILLS' SHOP

24 Regent St. Phone 960

## COUNCIL TO PAY DEFERRED CHARGE DEBTS GRADUALLY

Amount of \$18,147.66 Accumulated Over Past Few Years

## Do Not Want to Bond

Ald. Ross Says Deferred Charges "Heritage" to Other Councils

The matter of deferred charges amounting to \$18,147.66 and which appears on the financial statement of 1935, and what to do about it, occupied the attention of the city council which held a special meeting in the mayor's office last evening.

The question which the council had to decide was whether to bond for the deferred charges debt, whether to keep the account as deferred charges or finally to raise the assessment rate and wipe out the accumulated debt.

After discussion the council reached the decision that it would probably be better to cut the deferred charges off as the city could afford it, rather than bond for it and pay heavy interest.

## Included Deficit

It was pointed out that last year when the city made up its assessment it included the deficit of \$4,574.49 and also \$2,940.57 of deferred charges for expenses re electric light and power rates case.

The inclusion of one or two items of deferred charges on the assessment rate each year would make the assessment rate increase a gradual one, and this method would be better than bonding for the entire sum and thus shifting the responsibility for payment over for the future years.

Ald. T. Earle Doohan, and Ald. Dr. B. R. Ross were of the opinion that something should be done about the deferred payments. H. G. Hobbs, C.A. the auditor, had recommended that the deficit of \$4,574.49, together with other expenditure during 1935 and prior years in excess of the amount appropriated or for which no appropriation was made, and which are shown on the Current Fund Balance Sheet as Deferred Charges, be appropriated in the budgets of the following two or three years in order that cash may be available in the Current Fund to meet the city's current liabilities.

## Left as Heritage

The amount of the deferred charges, which has accumulated over the past few years, has been left "as a heritage on our doorstep," was the opinion of Alderman Ross. Ald. Ross expressed the opinion that the city should show consistency and bond for the children's home relief as well as for a deficit.

Ald. Doohan believed the statement to be a misleading one, when items are shoved into Deferred charges account. He cautioned that where debts are allowed to slip over for a period of years that some day there "would be a crash."

The general consensus was that the present assessment rate is high enough and that it should not be raised to any extent.

It was pointed out that there had been tremendous expenditure for direct relief over the past several years. Some mention was made of unpaid taxes and while there is a large amount unpaid the chairman of the finance committee said that collections had been better over the past year.

## Hope for Surplus

The council agreed that when the council accumulated a surplus over the year's operations that it should budget for items of deferred charges and thus gradually would such deferred charges be taken care of, without undue strain on the taxpayer.

Ald. Ross said that the present council was paying an accumulated deficit and "it isn't our debt." Ald. Ray T. Forbes said that the anticipated surpluses haven't resulted. One reason why the council had not been showing surpluses in recent years was the direct relief expenditure. Issuing bonds wasn't paying the bill, it was pointed out, but only deferring it over the term of the bond issue. The chairman of the finance committee didn't believe that it would be agreeable to the citizens to increase the bonded indebtedness of the city.

The deferred charges considered by the council include an amount of \$970 for Children's home; balance of the cost of the motor fire pumper \$4,890; excess of expenditure on repairs and additions to the municipal home over the appropriation therefor \$1,841.18; expenses re electric light and power rates case, \$2,940.57; and the deficit of \$4,574.49.

## WILL NOT OFFER AGAIN

Ald. H. Ralph Gunter, M.P.P. states that he has definitely decided not to offer as a candidate for King's Ward in the approaching civic election. Mr. Gunter says that pressure of personal business will keep him from seeking re-election. Ald. Gunter has completed two terms as alderman for King's Ward.

Special prices on silk lingerie at Mrs. J. E. Johnston's.

## MERCHANTS ARE WEARING SMILES, YULETIDE BRIGHT

Postoffice Has Record Day For Mailing Yesterday

## Prospects Are Best

All Signs Pointing to Christmas Being Best in Years

Santa Claus isn't the only one wearing a big jovial smile these few days before Christmas. Take a look at the local merchants. And they have a right to smile more widely this year than for any year since 1929. For Christmas trade is good, and is getting better right along.

There are some very good reasons why the Christmas shopping trade should be improved this year. For one thing employment conditions have picked up. The lumbermen had a successful summer and have more money to spend. At Devon and at Marysville things have picked up and residents, many of them employees of the Marysville cotton mill which is now running on full time, have more of the coin of the realm to spend on Christmas. But there are other jovial looking and freer spending ones too. These are those who have been playing in the stock market. There has been a sharp pickup in stocks. There is more travelling on the local buses. Farm prices are better and potatoes this week soared to \$1.50 per barrel. Chickens sold in the market for 30 and 35 cents per pound. All these are signs that the present Christmas will be a boom one for trade when all the statistics are gathered in after the new year.

One outstanding piece of evidence pointing to this being the most successful Christmas season in years is that furnished by Donald F. Cameron, postmaster. Mr. Cameron said today that yesterday was one of the biggest days in the history of the post office from point of mail handled. No fewer than 45,270 letters were handled, and the biggest single day of other years did not surpass 32,000 letters. Mr. Cameron declared this to be an evidence of more interest in Christmas this season. The stamp sale at the post office yesterday amounted to over \$1,000 and was the largest single day's stamp sale in years. Postmaster Cameron states that the number of parcels is well up to the average. The postoffice staff has been augmented by eight outside men and four inside men.

All outward signs point to this being the most successful Christmas in years and the only thing to make it unanimous, in the opinion of one citizen today, is to have a pre-Christmas snowfall.

## No Change U.S. Vice-Consulate Here is Now Anticipated

According to recent notices sent to different parts of the Maritime Provinces, it seems as though a large part of the American Consulate business in this province will be done from Saint John. Speaking to The Daily Mail, however, this morning, Fred C. Johnson, American vice-consul here states that while changes have been made in regard to Moncton, N. B., and Charlottetown, P.E.I., and other places that these changes do not apply to Fredericton, and as far as he is aware at the present time the American Vice-Consulate here will carry on the same as usual, unless later advised.

## The Most Popular Books of the Season

## Gone With the Wind

By Margaret Mitchell .....\$3.00

## The Bounty Trilogy

By Nordhoff & Hall .....\$3.00

## Yang &amp; Yin

By Alice Hobart .....\$2.50

## Whiteoak Harvest

By Mazo de la Roche .....\$2.00

## They Walk in the City

By Priestley .....\$2.50

## Drums Along the Mohawk

By Edmonds .....\$2.50

## Best British Short Stories, 1936

Edited by O'Brien .....\$2.50

## Rich Man, Poor Man

By Janet Fairbanks .....\$2.50

## HALL'S

BOOK STORE

## CHANGE IN DEBTORS ACTS IS PROPOSED

Change Aims at Protecting Debtor as Well as Creditor

## Debtors Considered

To Determine Whether Debtor Able to Pay or Not

It is understood that at the approaching session of the Legislature a change will be made in regard to the Act relating to Debtors. The change aims to make the Act more equitable as regards both the creditor and the debtor. At the present time a man who owes a debt may be brought before a magistrate on execution and landed into jail whether he is able to pay the debt or not. This is a relic of barbarism, and should not be permitted in this twentieth century. At the same time the creditor has rights as well as the debtor and he should be protected against dishonest debtors who seek to evade their proper obligation when they are well able to pay.

It is understood that the amendments to the Act which may be introduced at the next session will provide that the debtor may be brought up for examination as to his ability to pay the debt. If it is ascertained after a thorough examination that the debtor has assets and is able to pay but is trying to avoid the obligation then he may be landed in jail until such time as the debt is paid. On the other hand if it is found that the man is honest and cannot pay his debts then some other arrangement will have to be made, or the judgment creditor will have to wait until such time as he can recover from the debtor by way of judgment.

While considerable discussion has taken place recently in regard to the changes which it is proposed to make this phase of the matter has not yet been discussed. It is understood that Hon. J. B. McNair, K.C., attorney general, is agreeable to the changes outlined above, as well as to several others which will make the act more in accord with present day ideas of things.

The idea of arresting a man who is honest and unable to pay his debts and putting him in jail as though he were a criminal is absolutely contrary to all moral law, and should be contrary to civil law in all civilized places. The idea, however, that the honest creditor must be protected against dishonest debtors is also to be considered.

On sale between 7 and 10 o'clock tonight, semi-service hose at 69 cents. Mrs. J. E. Johnston.

## No Idle Curiosity

prompts so many women to do their Christmas shopping at the "no cheap sale" haberdashery—Fleming's, of Course. The rules which experience suggests are better than those which theorists elaborate in their libraries.

Experience has taught countless feminine buyers that when "his" gift comes from Fleming's—and the sentiment from "her" that "she" will experience the joy of seeing a happy smile of satisfaction crinkle up the contour of his happy countenance on Christmas morning. "That's all and that's that."

A white shirt bearing the Arrow label will do the trick. The price, \$2.00 and \$2.50 boxed.

## Fleming's, Of Course

## McMurray's

BOOKSELLERS STATIONERS PRINTERS

## GIFT TOWELS BY "CANNON"

THE STRAND SET	THE BON BON SET	THE WINDSOR SET
\$3.25	\$7.50	\$4.75
2 WASH CLOTHS	2 WASH CLOTHS	2 WASH CLOTHS
2 GUEST TOWELS	2 GUEST TOWELS	2 BATH TOWELS
2 BATH TOWELS	2 BATH TOWELS	1 BATH MAT
COLORS	1 BATH MAT	COLORS
JADE	COLORS	MAIZE
MAIZE	JADE	AZURE
AZURE	MAIZE	JADE
PEACH	ORCHID	

PURE WOOL AUTO RUGS

"MOSSFIELD" ALL WOOL REVERSIBLE AND PLAID BLANKETS  
MOSSFIELD COMFORTERS

## DAVID SHAW OF QUARRYVILLE GETS SKATES

Santa Claus Receives a Letter From Northumberland County Boy

## Sister Wrote Also

Letter Reached New Jersey Via Christmas Tree Route

David Shaw, of Quarryville, Northumberland county, has received by mail a pair of hockey skates and hockey shoes which comes from Santa Claus via the Christmas tree route. The gift is the result of a letter from David which was found on Sunday last by Edward Yarbrough, manager of the R-K-O Capital theatre at Union City, N. J. The letter addressed to Santa Claus was attached to a tree which theatre employees were setting up in the lobby of the theatre. It was just David's luck that the spruce tree to which his letter was attached, happened to be delivered to a theatre, which is not unappreciative of publicity, while a letter which Laura Shaw, eight years old, probably a sister of David, attached to another spruce cut by her grandfather, Elijah Shaw, of Quarryville, turned up at a filling station in Clinton, N. J. The proprietor of the filling station assumed a different attitude and Laura's letter did not get connected with Santa Claus.

David Shaw also received a letter yesterday which stated: "I am sending you the skates which you requested for Christmas. I hope your feet will be better and that you will be able to use the skates this winter. Lovingly, Santa Claus."

Both Laura, who is eight years old, and David, who is ten, wrote to the Christmas saint in familiar and friendly vein and both speculated on the possibility of his using an airplane instead of reindeer. Laura mentioned, after listing her own needs for a big doll, a doll carriage and a wrist watch, that her brothers would like mittens, a mouth organ, a watch, a school bag, and some books. David, who may have known that his sister was looking out for her own interests, made no mention of her, but spoke particularly of his need of hockey skates and shoes. He wrote:

"Dear Santa Claus: How are you today? I am fine. Are you going to bring your reindeers up this year or are you bringing your airplane (both the children prefer this spelling)? You can't bring your car because there will be too much snow for you to get through, be sure and come to me and bring me a whole lot of toys I am a boy ten years old I am a good boy Santa Claus and I do a whole lot of work. But I have awful sore ankles." (Continued on Page Five)

## Give Your Family A Marconi Radio



A GIFT THEY WILL ENJOY FOR YEARS TO COME

Come in and make your selection now and have it installed for Christmas.

Your Choice of 18 Models priced from \$39.95 to \$289.00

## Jas. S. Neill &amp; Sons, Ltd

FREDERICTON'S BIG HARDWARE STORE  
OUR STORE WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY, DEC. 26th

## Christmas Gift Suggestions

Desks	Sewing Tables
Book Case	Bridge Sets
Bridge Lamp	Floor Lamps
Cedar Chest	Magazine Rack
Mirrors	Carpet Sweeper
Coffee Table	Tea Waggon
Down Quilt	Kenwood Blanket
Washing Machine	Hoover

A LARGE STOCK TO SELECT FROM

## Colwell &amp; Jennings, Limited

The Home Furnishers  
STORE OPEN SATURDAY UNTIL 9 p.m.

## NEW CHRISTMAS STOCK

ARRIVING EVERY DAY

(See our Fine New Stock)

## MAVOR BROS., Limited

Diamond Merchants Jewellers C.N.R. Ticket Agents Loyalist Building

## BUS SERVICE

MONDAY TO THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st—24th

## STANLEY and CROSS CREEK

via Taymouth and Covered Bridge  
Leave Fredericton 6.30 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.  
Leave Cross Creek 8.00 a.m.

## BURTT'S CORNER

Leave Fredericton 7.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.  
Leave Burt's Corner 8.30 a.m.

## OROMECTO

Leave Fredericton 8.40 a.m., 12.00 Noon, 5.00 p.m. and 11.00 p.m.  
Leave Oromocto 9.15 a.m., 1.00 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Regular service continued after Christmas Day

## CAPITAL TRANSIT LIMITED

625 QUEEN STREET