

News Briefs

UNDERWENT OPERATION

Gordon MacFarlane, Nashwaakias, underwent an operation at the Victoria Public Hospital yesterday morning. His condition is reported today as being very good.

TO RETURN TODAY

R. L. Phillips, chairman of the Transportation Committee of the Fredericton Board of Trade, is expected to return to this city today from Woodstock, where he has been on business since yesterday.

MEETINGS POSTPONED

Alderman W. R. Crewdson, chairman of the Town Planning Commission, stated today that there will be no more meetings of the Commission until after the election of the new Council, the second week in January.

TWO STILL ALARMS

The Fire Dept. answered two still alarms this morning, both of which were chimney fires and were not serious. The first came in from the home of O. V. B. Miller, University Avenue, while the second came in at about 12 o'clock from the home of Harry Velinsky, King street. No damage was done in either case.

PREMIER EXPECTED

Hon. A. A. Dymally, Premier and Minister of Public Works, is expected in this city on Monday to attend to routine departmental business in advance of the session of the Provincial Cabinet scheduled for next week. Although the date of the meeting has not been set as yet, it will probably be held on Wednesday.

CONDITION BETTER

The condition of Fire Chief Karl A. Walker is reported from his home as being considerably better today. X-rays taken yesterday showed that the Chief's ankle, injured in the Edgcombe building fire of Monday afternoon when he slipped and fell down stairs, is not broken, but only badly sprained. Also suffering from painful burns about the hands and head, he will be forced to remain in bed until the swelling goes down in his foot, it was stated.

COLDEST YET

The mercury dropped to its lowest point this season before midnight last night, when a reading of 20 degrees below zero was taken at the Fredericton Pumping Station. At the local Dominion Experimental Station, which is at a considerably higher elevation than is the Pumping Station, the thermometer recorded 13 degrees below before midnight. The extreme cold began to moderate after twelve o'clock, it was stated. It was three below at nine o'clock this morning. The water in the St. John River is still falling, it was reported from the Pumping Station.

POSTPONE MEETING

The meeting of the special committee of the Transportation Committee of the Fredericton Board of Trade and a committee of the Saint John Board of Trade, which was scheduled for early this week has been postponed. It had been intended to meet while J. D. McKenna, president of the Saint John Board, was at Saint John for the Christmas season. The meeting will now be held shortly after the first of the new year, it was stated today by E. C. Atkinson, president of the local board. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and prepare resolutions on the "Valley Route to the Sea" routing freight traffic to St. John via McGivney Junction and Fredericton.

Express Appreciation For Contributions To Minto Children

A telegram was received by Rev. John Linton and Horace Hawkins of this city from the Christmas Treat Committee in Minto, in appreciation of the aid that was given the committee by them.

A sum of \$124.75 was raised in this city, as well as 6 crates of oranges, 30 pounds of candy, and a carton of popcorn, and sent to Rev. Father R. E. Fraser. The money was used to buy more oranges, candy, peanuts, and raisins, and helped supply a Christmas treat for approximately 2,000 children who otherwise would have had no Christmas.

The contents of the telegram is as follows:

"We, the members of the Christmas Treat Committee, on behalf of the citizens of Minto, wish to express our wholehearted appreciation and sincere thanks to all those who so kindly donated in any way towards the Christmas treat, thus enabling us to bring Christmas cheer to practically 2,000 children of Minto district."

"Signed: Rev. Father R. B. Fraser, Chairman; Rev. F. J. Coleman, secretary; Rev. N. A. Whitman, A. D. Hart, William Walker."

Vouchers may be inspected at H. H. Hawkins, 426 Queen Street.

COMPREHENSIVE R.C.M.P. TRAINING COURSE PLANNED

Mounties From Three Maritime Provinces To Study Here

Begin Next Week

Finger-printing And Photography Course Given First

An extensive program of training courses for members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has been arranged for the coming winter months, according to a statement issued this morning by Major W. V. Bruce, superintendent of "J" Division. The courses already planned will be given to men from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, as well as members of this division.

The first course will begin next week, the first week in January, and will be along scientific detection lines embracing finger printing and photography. Corporal L. P. Ryder, head of the Fredericton detachment, will take this course in a more or less spare time manner, still being on duty in the detachment.

The longest course will be a promotional course, beginning January 15 and ending March 31. For this course six men from this division will be present, while eight will come from Nova Scotia and two from Prince Edward Island.

Major Bruce could not give the names of the men from this division who will be taking the course. The recommendations for attending such a course must be first submitted to Ottawa and sanctioned before announcement can be made.

The largest course will be a two weeks' "refresher" course which will be given in April. It will be attended by 80 men from the three provinces and its purpose will be to brush the men up on courses they have previously taken.

This latter course is typical of the fine work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in keeping their men up to date with new developments in modern policing.

SWING SPAN OF BRIDGE READY TO BE INSTALLED

C.N.R. Officials Inspect New Structure This Morning

Work will be commenced immediately on the erection of the swing span of the new Canadian National Railways bridge here, stated H. T. Hazen of Moncton, chief engineer for the Atlantic Region, C.N.R., when interviewed at the Queen Hotel this morning.

The swing span, one of the two reconditioned spans to be used in the construction of the bridge, is here ready for placement, he said. It was shipped from Winnipeg, where it was for many years a unit in the C.N.R. bridge over the Red River.

With one span erected on the Devon side and two at this end of the new bridge, construction is progressing satisfactorily from the viewpoint of the railway authorities, he intimated. Only two of the nine piers are now unfinished, Nos. 2 and 5. One day's work in concrete pouring will complete No. 2, while work on the other is still at the underwater stage. The piles for this structure have all been driven by the contractors for the sub-structure, the Richardson Construction Co., Ltd., of Toronto.

Many Attend Funeral Late Mrs. J. James Coy

The funeral of the late Mrs. J. James Coy, which took place this afternoon from her late home, 503 Charlotte street, was largely attended. The service was conducted at the home at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. John Linton, assisted by Rev. Dr. J. W. Bartlett. The beautiful floral tributes were evidence of the esteem in which the deceased was held by her many friends. The mourners were J. James Coy, A. Gordon Coy, Wisby Peppers, Sheriff C. N. Goodspeed, Augustus Estabrooks, George W. Coy, Ernest Coy, R. N. MacCunn, E. E. Edgcombe, Harry Wilson, T. Amos Wilson, J. L. Howatt, R. P. Allen, Rev. Dr. George E. Ross, Rev. George Telford, Russell McKenzie, Donald McRae, Maurice VanWart, Frank VanWart, Fred VanWart, F. Cedric Cooper, R. B. Wallace, Dyson Wallace, W. Jackson Burden, Edwin Clark, Charles Roberts, Dr. B. R. Ross, W. A. McLellan, W. W. McLellan, Jack McLellan, Dr. A. L. Grew; pallbearers were N. C. Dougherty, A. C. Porter, R. B. VanDine, R. M. McGibbon and Edwin R. Blackmer.

Spread of Necrosis In Maine Tuber Belt Causes Great Losses

Local Plant Pathology Laboratory Asked To Co-operate In Curbing Serious Blight; Disease Is Practically Negligible Here

CAUSE UNDETERMINED

75,000 Barrels Affected in One Aroostook County Storage House Alone; New Grade, Called "Utility," Created for Potatoes Salvaged

Despite the fact that in many parts of Aroostook County, Maine, the rapid spread of necrosis in table stock potatoes has reached almost panic proportions, it is not believed that any great fear need be felt by growers in this province, according to a statement made by J. L. Howatt, acting officer in charge of the Dominion Plant Pathological Laboratory in this city.

A striking example of the serious nature of the disease in Maine is the fact that in one potato house over 75,000 barrels of table stock are at present being racked for the disease, and according to an unofficial statement at the house, no more than one bushel to four or five barrels of potatoes is being salvaged.

Inspection for the disease is most simply done by cutting the end off each potato so that the brown ring which the disease causes in the vascular layer may be discovered. Thousands of dollars would have been further lost had the Maine Department of Agriculture not created a new grade of potatoes, termed "utility," to allow the sale of these defaced tubers. As it is the potatoes must be sold far below the market price for choice table stock.

Asks Co-Operation

Maine agricultural officials are striving in every way to combat the disastrous disease. Circulars have been sent to the many growers, describing the disease, while the plant pathology lab in this city has been asked to co-operate by furnishing information as to the extent of the disease in this province, and any clues as to the cause.

The disease, which may be caused by any of four agents, can be most dangerous if not checked, it was stated. Frost or heat may cause the disease, but if the epidemic is due to either of these causes there is little danger of the disease manifesting itself to any great extent in another year unless diseased seed is used, and excepting for a small amount of the disease which may be transferred by aphids.

On the other hand virus and fungi are often the cause, and in this case the crops will often scarcely reproduce, and often cut the yield by more than half.

Little Disease Here

In New Brunswick there is always a small amount of necrosis, but according to the reports of the potato inspectors, the disease is almost negligible. In the first year, when the disease is due to virus or fungi, it takes the form of leaf roll, in which the leaves discolor and roll upwards. In the second year its presence may often be detected by a silvery brown discoloration on the stem end of the tuber. It is in the second year that the sting of the disease will be more severely felt and the yield severely cut.

Mr. Howatt stated that he does not consider the prevalence of the disease in Maine dangerous to this province to any extent. If a virus is causing the disease it may easily spread to this province, and in that case might prove serious. He believes, however, that the disease will be controlled, quoting cases in years past which assumed severe proportions, yet which were stamped out.

In Maine, greenhouse experimentation is being carried out in an effort to discover which agent is responsible. It is hoped that a solution of the difficulty may be reached before next season.

ardson Construction Co., Ltd., of Toronto.

Work from Both Ends

With the commencement of erection of the swing span, steel work will be carried on from both ends of the bridge by the Hamilton Bridge Co., Ltd., Hamilton, Ont., contractors for the superstructure.

C.N.R. officials expect to see the bridge completed and ready for service shortly before the beginning of March, Mr. Hazen said.

Accompanying Mr. Hazen to this city this morning were F. O. Condon, officer engineer for the Atlantic Region, and H. J. Crudge, building engineer for the Atlantic Region, both of Moncton. They will return to that city tonight.

DIED AT FREDERICTON JCT.

The death occurred at Fredericton Junction early this morning of Benjamin Peterson, aged 76, a well-known and respected member of the community. The deceased had been in failing health for some time.

Jabez Hodgson Passes At Local Hospital

Many friends will regret to learn of the death of Jabez Hodgson, of New Maryland, which occurred in Victoria Public Hospital at an early hour this morning.

Born at Nasonworth, he resided there for many years before coming to this city where he lived for over ten years. For the past 27 years he has made his home in New Maryland, where he engaged in lumbering and farming.

He is survived by his wife and three sons, Stanley A., Toronto; C. Douglas, New Maryland; and Walter C., this city. Also surviving are two brothers, William of Oak Settlement, and Melvin, of Mauderville. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

SPECIAL TURKEY DINNER

The Waverley Hotel are serving a special five-course Turkey Dinner from 12 to 8 o'clock New Year's Day. Continuous service will be furnished for dinner guests during these hours.

TWO LABOR MEN IN THE FIELD IN ST. ANNE'S WARD

Alderman M. E. Hagerman Opposed By Roy H. Colwell

Ald. McKnight Nom.

C. J. Dougherty, R. E. Forbes For Wellington Ward?

Alderman Ivan McKnight, who is seeking re-election in Kings Ward, has filed his nomination papers for re-election to the City Council. He was the last Alderman to submit his papers to the City Clerk. Alderman McKnight was nominated by Col. C. J. Mesereau and William Burns.

The nomination of Roy H. Colwell to contest St. Anne's Ward in opposition to Alderman Murray E. Hagerman makes two labor candidates in that ward. Mr. Colwell announces himself as a labor candidate, and Alderman Hagerman has been a representative of Labor on the Vocational Board of the City of Fredericton for more than twenty years, and has been recognized as the labor man at the board.

It is stated that C. J. Dougherty may be a candidate in Wellington Ward in opposition to Alderman W. R. Crewdson. Mr. Dougherty formerly represented this ward in the City Council and retired some years ago. He has since been nominated to contest York County in the Conservative interests in the next election in this (Continued on Page Four)

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