

News Briefs

HOLIDAY TOMORROW

Tomorrow being New Year's Day and a public holiday The Daily Mail will not be published.

STORES CLOSED

The various stores in the city will close this evening at six o'clock and remain closed tomorrow, New Year's Day. All public buildings will also be closed as is customary in the observance of the beginning of the new year.

VITAL STATISTICS

A considerable drop in the number of marriages, births and deaths is noticeable this month, as compared with November. Data at the office of the Fredericton sub-district Board of Health shows: November, 13 marriages, 15 births, 21 deaths; December, 9 marriages, 10 births, 14 deaths.

FUNERAL TOMORROW

The funeral of the late Jabez Hodgson, who passed away at the Victoria Public Hospital yesterday, will take place tomorrow afternoon from the home of his son, C. Walter Hodgson, Graham Street, this city. Service will be conducted at St. Mary's Anglican Church, New Maryland, at 2:30 p.m., by Ven. Archdeacon Spencer C. Gray. Interment will be made at New Maryland.

COLDEST IN TWO YEARS

The lowest temperature in the past two years since the exceptionally cold winter of 1933, was recorded in this city last night when the following readings were taken: Fredericton, Pumping Station, 22½ degrees below zero; Postmaster Donald F. Cameron, 21 degrees below; and Dominion Experimental Station, 20 degrees below. A further reading taken at nine o'clock this morning at the Farm showed the mercury at 18 degrees below. It is very unusual to have such cold weather before the first of January, stated C. F. Bailey, superintendent of the Experimental Station, pointing out that the coldest temperature last winter was on Jan. 28, when the mercury dropped to 20 below.

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.

The Royal Dress Shop

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90 YORK ST.

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608 Queen Street

BUILDING BOOM IN FREDERICTON DURING OLD YEAR

City's Property Valuation Increased By \$165,910

What is believed to be the greatest building year in the history of the City of Fredericton will come to an end at midnight tonight with the dawn of the new year. 1938 promises even greater progress and expansion over the old year which added thousands of dollars to the assessment roll and increased the population past the 12,000 mark.

The records of the city engineer and building inspector J. D. MacKay, shows that the city's property valuation has increased by more than \$165,910 in the year. This, the highest figure on the history of the city's records, included not only the erection of new residences, business houses and public buildings, but many improvements to buildings already standing.

More Homes Built

This year the value of new residences was more than \$10,000 above the value last year, construction costs being \$50,000 last year and more than \$60,000 this. The houses ranged in cost from less than \$1,000 to \$6,000.

Five of the new residences cost less than \$1,000 each; three cost more than \$1,000 each; seven others ranged in price up to \$3,000, and seven more were erected at a cost of \$3,000 and more each.

Large contributors to the construction figures were the addition to the Ryan building, costing more than \$25,000; the erection of the new High School annex at a cost of \$45,000; alterations in one of the city chain stores to the extent of \$10,000; and the remodeling of the Bank of Nova Scotia building at a cost of \$25,000.

If all building operations were included the figures would total more than \$1,665,910. The new Canadian National Railway bridge and the subway is estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$1,500,000.

May produced the largest total for building permits, when permits to the value of \$62,000 were issued. January started off the year with permits totalling \$25,000, while this month closed the year with the total value of permits reaching the same figure.

Suspended Sentence For Placing Obstruction On Railway Track

Alexander Goodine, 84, Long's Creek, was given a suspended sentence and allowed to go when he pleaded guilty before Magistrate Limerick yesterday afternoon, of placing obstructions on the C.N.R. tracks near Kings clear on Monday night.

A number of poles placed on the track were struck by the Centreville train. No damage was done, the pilot of the engine sweeping the objects aside, but the act may well have caused property damage and injury to persons on the train.

The accused had been more or less in ill health for some time, and it is understood, due to his advanced age his mind was affected to forgetfulness.

Information was laid by C.N.R. Constable Wesley Bishop of this city. The accused was not defended.

DIED THIS MORNING

Joseph Paul, 25, son of Solomon Paul of Oromocto, passed away this morning at his home after suffering from a severe case of pneumonia. He is survived by his parents, and his widow and one child.

A SPECIAL DINNER SERVED

NEW YEAR'S DAY
FROM

12:30 TO 2:30

AT THE

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1938

Fleming's, Of Course

HATTER and HABERDASHER
Fredericton, N. B.

Misunderstanding Delays Payment Of Blind Pensions

Application Must Be Made to Board, Not to Canadian Institute for the Blind; 464 Applicants Much Greater Number Than Expected

Because of a misunderstanding with the Canadian Institute for the Blind, some of the 464 applicants for blind pensions in this Province have been considerably delayed in getting their applications before the Old Age Pensions Board, with the result that they will not receive payments for the time between the notification of the Institute and the notification of the Board of their intentions to apply for pensions, it was revealed this morning by Hon. W. P. Jones, K.C., chairman of the Board.

Incidentally, said Mr. Jones in discussing the pensions situation, "the number of applicants for pensions has been much higher than we had anticipated." He could hazard no guess as to the percentage of the blind in New Brunswick who have applied, since he has no statistics on the number so afflicted in this Province.

The payments of pensions made this month have all been to those applicants who had certificates of blindness on file at the Department of National Health and Pensions at Ottawa, he said. Although the examination of applicants as to the fact of their affliction was begun in New Brunswick over a week ago by three physicians appointed by the Federal authorities, the successful applicants will not receive cheques until the end of next month.

This is because of the fact that the books of the Board close on the 20th of each month, and were already closed when the first certificates as to the fact of blindness were received recently from the examining physicians, the chairman explained. When the cheques are issued, he emphasized, they will date from the day after the application, together with proofs as to income, nationality, age and residence were received at the office of the Board.

Must Apply To Board

"We find that through some misunderstanding with the Canadian Institute for the Blind on the part of the applicants, certain forms have been filled out and medical examinations made which were not authorized. Some applicants supposed they had applied in that way, and they have naturally been disappointed when they found they must make the regular application to this Board, and that only the medical examiners who have been named by Ottawa are authorized to make the test of blindness."

"This misunderstanding is unfortunate in some cases because it delays the time for the commencement of the pension. We are only empowered to have the time begin from the day after we receive the authorized application and the proofs of everything but the fact of blindness."

Some applicants for blind pensions, he stated, are already receiving old age pensions. It is impossible for them to be granted both, but they may have either one or the other, provided they are qualified, Mr. Jones pointed out.

Law More Liberal

In explaining the fact that the law is more liberal in the case of blind pensions than it is in the case of old age pensions as regards the income of the applicant, Mr. Jones quoted the following:

An income of \$365 per year is allowed in every case of an application for an old age pension. In the case of blind pensions, however, a

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May Decide Date of Rowell Commission Sittings In This City

The setting of the date for the convening of the Rowell Commission on Dominion - Provincial Relations, in this city very undecided as yet, may be an outcome of the visit to Ottawa of Hon. W. P. Jones, K.C., chairman of the Old Age Pensions Board, he indicated today.

Mr. Jones originally planned to be at Ottawa this week, but other business made necessary a postponement of the trip until the middle of January. The main purpose of the visit, he said, will be to investigate records which have recently come to light in the Dominion archives concerning the position of this province with respect to Confederation. It is hoped that they will prove of assistance in the preparation of the brief to be submitted to the Commission when it sits here, which document is at present being drawn up by Mr. Jones.

Although tentatively set for "some time in February," it is possible that the sittings here of the Commission may be postponed until March, or even April, it is understood. This will give New Brunswick a greater amount of time in the preparation of the brief, much needed in view of the tremendous amount of work entailed.

N. Y. HUNTER BAGS ALBINO DEER IN MIRAMICHI AREA

Guided By Alex. Price; Story Of Trip In N. Y. Times

Raymond R. Camp, Rod and Gun editor of the New York Daily Times, recently published in his paper the following account of a hunting trip on the Lower Miramichi, made by a New York sportsman to the camps of Alex. Price, near Ludlow:—

"The wind blew, the rain fell, snow turned to slush and the muskies became a soggy sponge, but Sidney Sparks trailed along behind Alex. Price in search of New Brunswick deer. They saw deer, plenty of them, but Sparks didn't want any old deer. He wanted a big one.

"I aim to please," Alex. told him, "and if you want to keep up with me I'll show you some sport."

"There were times, Sparks admitted, when he was convinced that his feet were worn to the ankles, and other times when he was afraid to look at his toes, fearing that they might have become webbed. But he came home with his deer, two of them.

Offered To Museum

"One of the deer, according to Alex, is one of the strangest animals I ever seen in these parts, and I've been here since Manitou was a pup. Sparks was unable to explain the peculiarities of the animal, except to say that it was half albino and had a pure white ruff around its neck. He has written to the American Museum of Natural History offering the head and hide, but as yet has received no reply.

"The other deer, a large 11-point buck, is a magnificent specimen, with a remarkable rack of antlers, and was so big that Sparks at first thought he had shot an elk by mistake.

Deer Plentiful

"In their week of tramping they saw just about every kind of game that lives in the province with the exception of bear. They put up a large bull moose one morning and surprised a cow moose with a young calf the same day. The low growth of the muskies, Sparks said, makes a natural feeding ground for moose and deer—and there are plenty of them.

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