

LOCAL NEWS

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Moderate to fresh variable winds, showery. Friday northerly winds, cool and cloudy.

DEATH AT BURTT'S CORNER

Richard Jones an old and respected resident of Burtt's Corner, died at his home there yesterday.

NO COMET.

Large numbers of people watched for the comet again last night but were not rewarded by a glimpse of it.

EXPECT GOOD CROP.

According to reports from the surrounding country, apple trees will bear blossoms very heavily and if there is not a heavy frost the apple crop will be large.

GOOD SHOW.

The pictures at the Bijou last night were great. "The Indiscretions of Bessy," was a winner and the costumes elegant. Pat brought down the house in his songs. Pat will give his last performance in the Opera House Saturday.—d.

FINED TWO DOLLARS.

James Craig was fined two dollars by the Police Magistrate this morning for dumping rubbish on the new street which runs off Regent opposite Frogmore. According to a city by-law rubbish cannot be placed on a street except by the permission of the mayor or readmaster.

WAS IT THE COMET

The fire alarm system was in a state of disorder about four o'clock this morning and the alarm rang repeatedly. It was thought wires were crossed or grounded somewhere. The trouble righted itself. Some people claim that the tail of Halley's Comet had an injurious effect on the fire alarm system.

DRUG CLERKS ASSOCIATION

The registered drug clerks throughout the province have united with the Registered Drug Clerks Association, its object being for the mutual benefit and protection of the profession. The officers are: Mr. J. Benson Mahoney, president; Mr. Richard P. Colgen, vice-president; Mr. Harold Clarke, secretary; Mr. Wm. McKay, treasurer.

INSPECTION CONCLUDED

(St. John New Star)
The finishing touches were given the steamer Victoria this morning when she received a thorough inspection by Chas. E. Dalton and I. J. Olive. The former inspected the machinery and the latter the hull. Both gentlemen expressed themselves as being well pleased with the condition of the boat.

CREATED DISTURBANCE.

A young man named Miller who created a disturbance on the C.P.R. train yesterday afternoon, was arrested on the information laid by D. A. Noble, railway detective. Miller was before Magistrate Marsh in the afternoon and given eight days in jail.

PERSONAL

Mr. David Rubard of Campbellton, is in the city today.

BISHOP OF LONDON COMING

(St. John New Star)
During his recent visit to London Bishop Richardson was the guest of the Rt. Hon. and Rt. Rev. Arthur Foley Winnington-Ingram the Bishop of London. Bishop Ingram is planning a visit to Canada this fall and will spend a short time with Bishop Richardson in Fredericton. While in Nova Scotia he will receive the degree of D. D. from Kings College. It is probable that St. John will also be visited by the distinguished prelate.

POOL ROOM CASE.

This morning James Ritchie was before Police Magistrate Marsh on the charge of keeping his pool-room open after 11 p.m., contrary to the provisions of a city by-law. He admitted playing after that time. The magistrate asked him to produce his license. Ritchie had only a receipt from the city treasurer but no license. He was told that he would have to obtain a license and was given until Saturday to do so. It is likely that a license will be refused and the money refunded.

ARTISTIC DECORATIONS

The decorations at the city hall, normal school and post office have attracted a great deal of attention and many complimentary remarks as to the artistic character of the work have been heard. This work was done by the F. B. Edgecombe Company, under the direction of Mr. N. A. Edgecombe, who as a decorator, has no superior in the city.

The decorations at the parliament building and court house, which have also been much admired, were put on by Tennant & Holder.

The entrance to the departmental building on St. John street, has been appropriately draped by John J. Weddall & Son. This firm also looked after the draping of the assembly chamber.

NATURAL GAS WELLS IN ALBERT COUNTY

Mr. F. W. Sumner Tells of Great Development Work in the Eastern Part of the Province.

Mr. F. W. Sumner, ex-M. P. P., of Moncton, is here today to attend the meeting of the stockholders of the N. B. Telephone Company, of which he is a director. Mr. Sumner has been very active in exploiting the natural gas and oil wells of Westmorland and Albert Counties, and was the means of interesting English capitalists in the project several years ago. A company known as the Maritime Oil Fields, Limited, now have control of the property and are vigorously pushing the work of development. A number of natural gas wells have been opened up, the largest one of which has a rock pressure estimated at 750 pounds to the square inch. The greatest difficulty was experienced in capping this well, and shutting off the flow of gas, but it was finally accomplished.

The company are ready now to lay a pipe line to Moncton and supply the city with heat, light and power at a very reasonable price. A proposition has been submitted to the Council, and will be voted upon by the ratepayers on the 27th inst. The Company have taken over a street railway charter, granted some years ago, and are ready to construct and operate a street railway as part of the bargain. The fact that the Company will undertake to supply gas for domestic use at fifty cents per thousand and for manufacturing purposes at forty cents, would seem to indicate that the interests of the citizens are pretty well safeguarded. The ratepayers of Fredericton would no doubt, like to have an opportunity to vote upon a proposition of that kind.

Mr. Sumner, who is one of the most successful business men in the province and one of Moncton's largest property owners, is very optimistic over the future of the railway town. He is confident that a large majority of the ratepayers will vote to accept the Company's proposition and that great development will follow.

PERSONAL

Mr. J. M. Robinson, of St. John, is here today to attend the annual meeting of the N. B. Telephone Company, of which he is a director. He is a guest at the Queen.

Dr. J. R. Inch of Sackville, left by boat this morning to visit friends at Oak Point. During his stay in Fredericton he was the guest of Mr. William Lemont.

RAIN IS GENERAL, HOPED IT WILL LAST

Kilburn's and Noble's Driving Operations Abandoned—Other Operators Still at Black River Rapids.

The rain of today and last night, was general all along the river but the amount that fell was not sufficient to cause any change in the height of the water. It is hoped that it will continue long enough to help the drives along.

Mr. John Kilburn and the remainder of his crew reached the city last night. He stated that reports of conditions at Black River Rapids were substantially correct. From 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 feet of lumber which was being driven by himself, J. A. Morrison, W. J. Noble and Choinard is hung up there. Heavy rains will bring the lumber all out, otherwise, it will stay there. Mr. Kilburn is of the opinion that nothing can be done with his lumber at present. His own crew and that of Mr. Noble picked at the jam for four days without accomplishing anything. The crews of the other operators are still there getting the jam in shape for easy driving in case of rain. This jam is only twenty-four miles from the corporation limits and if rains come the lumber can be driven to the limits in three or four days.

On Black River, an effort is being made to bring out one of Choinard's drives but it is not expected that it will be successful. On the Little Black River the lumber of the Van Buren Lumber Company is all hung up. About the Allegash drives nothing certain is known. The Randolph & Baker drive came out of Grand River Tuesday. On Green River the St. John Lumber Company drive is likely to hang. Mr. Kilburn says the present spring was the most remarkable in his experience. Driving on the brooks was easy enough but when the lumber was out into the main river the water dropped right away. A great deal of long lumber was also encountered which made trouble for the drivers.

Mr. W. J. Noble on leaving his drive went back to Seven Islands. Mr. Kilburn's boats have also been taken back. The Kilburn crews drove about thirty days.

No word has been received concerning the Fraser drives which are still in progress. It is expected that they will come out all right.

Reports by Western Union today were as follows:

Edmunston—Easterly winds, cloudy and cool. River falling. Rained last night.

Woodstock—Water at stand still. Logs running. Rained all night. Showery this morning.

—LADIES' DEPT.— AT EDGECOMBE'S

Young Lady Students at University, Normal School, High School, &c., will be interested in our

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With all the accessories, *Whitewear, Hose, Gloves, Laces, Neckwear, Ribbons, &c.*

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