

# VITAL STATISTICS.

CITY OF ST. JOHN'S—WITHIN THE LIMITS.

1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919	
CAUSE.											
Total number of Births for month of December, 1924 . . . . . 118											
Total number of Deaths for month of December, 1924 . . . . . 50											
Deaths under one month . . . . . 2											
CAUSE.											
Convulsions . . . . . 1											
Prematurity . . . . . 1											
Deaths under one year . . . . . 7											
CAUSE.											
Pneumonia . . . . . 3											
Broncho-Pneumonia . . . . . 1											
Enteritis . . . . . 1											
Gastro-Enteritis . . . . . 1											
Enterocolitis . . . . . 1											
Deaths from one to five years . . . . . 1											
CAUSE.											
Marsasmus . . . . . 1											
Deaths from five years and over . . . . . 40											

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

1919		1920		1921		1922		1923		1924	
Total number of births for month of Dec.											
Total number of deaths for month of Dec.											
Deaths under one month . . . . .											
Deaths under one year . . . . .											
Deaths from one to five years . . . . .											
Deaths from five years and over . . . . .											
Total number of births for year . . . . .											
Total number of deaths for year . . . . .											

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

1918		1919		1920		1921		1922		1923		1924	
Total deaths . . . . .													
Rates per 1,000 population . . . . .													

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year were registered the deaths of 173 children who died in the first year of life. This number is greater by 42 than the number for 1923. It is a numerical increase of 34.42. The rate per 1,000 births in 1924 is the highest since 1920, when it was 146.34. This was caused by an epidemic of Diarrhoea and Enteritis during the months of August and September. With Diarrhoea and Enteritis excluded as a cause of death the rate would have been 97.54. The following table shows the infant mortality rate for the past seven years:—

1918		1919		1920		1921		1922		1923		1924	
Total deaths . . . . .													
Rates per 1,000 births . . . . .													

Under-Water Monoplane

A speedy submersible aquaplane is the latest proposal for a new type of air machine, says Popular Science Monthly. Judging from successful performances of miniature models, the machine is said to be capable of performing under water all the tricks that an airplane does in flying. The design of the airplane, which would be useful for naval bombing and torpedoing, is very similar to the monoplane, except that the major wings slant downward instead of upward. The craft would be lighter than water, so that it would rise if the motor should fail. Increasing the speed and adjusting the rudder would submerge the craft. Wheels would allow it to cruise along the bottom. The motor power would be electric. Cruising vision would be furnished by a periscope. The pilot would be seated under a dome provided with hatch and stanchions. Oxygen cylinders would be used for a prolonged stay under water.

FOR ZERO WEATHER ONLY.

John—"I just bought a new suit with two pairs of pants."  
Jim—"Well, how do you like it?"  
John—"Fine, only it's too hot wearing two pairs."—Novelty y(Ohio) Bubble.  
NOT SO SWEET.  
The lady—"Is Sir Reginald Wolname staying here?"  
Hotel Clerk—"Yes, first floor, suite one."  
The lady—"Sir!"—London Opinion.

## Splendid Showing THIS WEEK

—OF—  
**Men's Pure Wool Half Hose**  
SHAMROCK BRAND, RIBBED and PLAIN  
AT

**Henry Blair's.**  
Quality, Value and Prices Cannot be Beaten.

- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, in Heather mixtures, Lovat and Camel or Black . . . . . 60c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, in Greys and Heather mixtures . . . . . 65c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, assorted Heather mixtures . . . . . 75c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, assorted Heather mixtures . . . . . 85c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, assorted Heather and Grey mixtures . . . . . 95c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Half Hose, assorted fancy mixtures . . . . . 95c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Plain Half Hose, assorted Heather mixtures . . . . . 70c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Plain Half Hose, assorted Heather mixtures . . . . . 80c. per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Plain Half Hose, assorted fancy mixtures, extra quality . . . . . \$1.35 per pair
- Men's Pure Wool Ribbed Fancy Stripe Half Hose. The very latest style . . . . . \$1.10 per pair

# HENRY BLAIR.

## C.W.A. Report

FOR DECEMBER, 1924.

Visits to Homes . . . . . 574  
Special Visits . . . . . 46  
Attendances at Centre . . . . . 83  
No. Attendances at Dental Clinic . . . . . 590  
No. Attendances at Dental Clinic . . . . . 11

We hope every citizen interested in the health of the city of St. John's will read the Registrar General's notes at the foot of the Vital Statistics for the year. As we have said before, the taking of action from the knowledge gained by the Infant Mortality Rate is no faddist's whim, but a definite factor in Social Economy.

To save the babies and work for the betterment of home conditions react upon the health, and therefore upon the wealth and happiness of a country.

We have come to the end of 1924; before the end of 1925 can we not take a step forward to improve (even if it is only to a small degree) three of the outstanding problems.—Housing, Sewerage, and Midwifery Service of St. John's. In the last four months we have been keeping a record of births attended by doctors, and it is shown by our figures that only 49 per cent. of the births in St. John's have medical attention. And there is no recognized certificate or inspection of mid-wives. In England the Midwives Act was passed in 1902 and a later one in 1918. In American and Canadian cities there is systematic inspection.

December has been a cold month and this seems to make a difference to our Welfare Centre members. If baby is warm with his suitable clothes and wraps, cold air will surely not hurt. It brings a glow to our cheeks, gives us a good appetite, will it not do the same for baby? The Christmas holidays and the additional office work in order to start afresh in 1925 has curtailed to some extent the visiting figures.

We hope to publish an Annual Report in February 1925, when our many well-wishers in Great Britain, America and Canada, as well as our friends in Newfoundland, will be able to read of our progress and the year's work.

JANET A. ANDERSON,  
Supt. C. W. A.  
Jan. 2nd, 1925.

**Field St. Mother Finds Vicks Most Useful in Home**

Direct Treatment with Vaporizing Ointment Proves Splendid for all Inflammations. Ordinary Colds Usually go Overnight.

To-day hundreds of local people treat head or chest colds, tonsillitis, bronchitis, catarrh or asthma by the vapor method. They use Vicks Vapo-Rub.

When rubbed over throat and chest Vicks acts like a salve or poultice. At the same time its ingredients, released as vapors by the body heat, are inhaled directly into the affected air passages. It is a severe cold that can withstand this double action of Vicks.

Mrs. Charles Myers of 23 Field St. after trying the sample of Vicks, purchased several jars and says: "I find Vicks one of the most useful household remedies for colds, scalds, burns, etc. and do freely recommend it to every one. I would not be without Vicks in the home."

If applied in time, Vicks will prevent many colds from getting a start. Altho intended primarily for inflammations of the air passages, Vicks is equally effective for inflammations of the skin, such as burns, bruises, cuts, stings, etc.

**The Liner's Toilet**  
By JAY POLLOCK.

Very cautiously the big steamship comes into dock. There is none too much room for her, and the hydraulic capstans use their power with restraint as they wind in her steel landing strings. Watertight iron gates close smoothly behind the ship, and then the pumps are set going. Ravenous pumps they are, with a suction that makes the water sink before your eyes.

Wires stretched from each "corner" of the ship hold her over the submerged blocks upon which she is to rest. And all along her sides men are putting into place the heavy wooden "shores" which, wedged between ship and lock, are to prevent her toppling over.

The ship weighs thousands of tons, but the steady stinking of the water presently lands her as lightly as a feather. On board, you do not feel the least jar; only the sudden outbreak of echoing hammer blows as the "shores" are wedged up till you that keel and blocks have met.

Standing on rafts alongside, the scrubbers begin to scour off the sea grass and slime, which, if it is once allowed to dry, becomes thrice as hard to remove. So the scrubbers ply their brooms in a race to keep pace with the receding water.

Recently in Southampton dry dock one hundred and ten tons of live mussels were scraped off a steamer's bottom. I have seen a vessel go into dock so encrusted with barnacles and other shell fish that, from underneath, she appeared to be made of rock rather than of steel plates.

Bespattered from caps to boots, the painters slip on the anti-corrosive paint with long-handled brushes. When the anti-corrosive paint has been fully applied anti-fouling paint goes on. Anti-fouling paint contains arsenic or other poisons to repel barnacles and the like.

**Insect Clue**

The discovery, by means of a microscope, of insects invisible to the naked eye on the body of a man murdered six months ago has forged the missing link in the chain of evidence that has led to the arrest by the Paris police of the alleged murderer.

The dead man was Charles Boulay, an office attendant, whose body, rammed into a sack was found on July 8th in the Bois de Boulogne just behind a grandstand on the Longchamp racecourse. He had been killed by a blow on the head with a blunt instrument.

All the detectives found was a certain amount of coal dust and sawdust adhering to the clothing. They then examined the body and the clothing under the microscope and found a number of insects that live only in places from which the light of day is absent, such as cellars or caves.

This discovery, coupled with the presence of coal dust, led them to believe that the murder had been committed in a coal cellar, or at least that the body had lain in such a place before it was taken to the thicket in which it was found.

The dead man had gambled heavily on horses and had given his betting slips to a janitor, who carried on business in a coal cellar. Several of Boulay's betting slips were found in the cellar, and the janitor has been arrested. He denies that he knows anything about the crime.

**Lumbermen**

Take a bottle of Minard's with you to the woods. A splendid remedy for bruises, sprains, frost bites, colds, etc.



You do not know how delicious simple fare can be if you do not use H.P.

## Poem Burns Wrote on His Deathbed

Found in New Zealand—Verses Addressed to Girl Who Nursed Him Express Solicitude for Children.

London, Nov. 29.—The last poem of Robert Burns, written a few days before he died to the girl who nursed him on his death bed, has been found in New Zealand.

The poem is addressed to "Miss Jessie Lewars," who nursed Burns while his wife, Jenny was ill. She was a neighbor of the poet in Dumfries, Scotland, and later married a man named Thomson, who apparently carried the poem to New Zealand. Thomson thought the poem had been published. Burns wrote: "How often in the dreary night I clasp my burning hands Upon those throbbing, sleepless lids, O'er eyes like glowing brands, And wonder in my weary brain if, haply, when I'm dead, My old boon friends for love of me will give my bairnies bread."

"Oh did the poor not help the poor, each in their simple way, With humble gift and kindly word, God pity them, I say. For many a man who clasped my hand with pledges o'er the bowl When the wine had passed away proved but a niggard soul."

"Oh, wilt thou gang o' nights, Jessie, to my forsaken hearth And be, as thou hast been to me, the truest friend on earth? See sweetly in your linnet voice you'll sing my weans to rest While Jeannie leans her weary head upon thy loving breast."

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**Bees Born in Bricks**

Sometimes as you are looking at an old wall you will notice that the mortar between the bricks contains a number of deep pits. If you probe into various holes you will be startled eventually by the exit from one of them of a small, but very angry bee. You have, in fact, disturbed the mason bee in his home. The hole in which he was lurking was made by his powerful jaws.

The female lays eggs in little receptacles at the bottom of the hole and places a store of food beside each egg. The hole is then sealed up with a mixture of clay and mortar, softened with the bees' saliva. The eggs are left to themselves, and when hatched the young bees eventually eat their way out into the open.

The cousin of the mason bee is called the carpenter bee. He burrows into woodwork, choosing generally the underside of the beam to protect the hole from rain.

At the bottom of the hole an egg is laid. Then comes a partition of mud and wood chips; then another egg, and so on till the hole is filled. The carpenter then seals it securely and leaves the eggs to look after themselves, and when hatched the bees eat through each partition till they get out.

Meat is essential to the meal which includes a chowder or rich, thick soup.

**FIREMEN RESPOND TO ALARM.**  
At 3.25 last night an alarm of fire from Box 225 called the Central and East End Fire Companies to the residence of Mr. T. Collingwood, Allendale Road, where a blaze was caused by a foot lamp in a chimney. The all-out sounded three minutes later.

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The Shoe Men

## Seasonable FOOTWEAR Opportunities

Our Prices are great temptations for thrifty buyers. You get full value for every dollar you spend with us.



CORRECT STYLES. MODERATE PRICES.

### MEN'S HOCKEY BOOTS

Men's Black Hockey Boots, strong and serviceable, fitted with Strap and Buckle. All sizes. Special Prices:

\$4.00 \$5.00 the Pair

### BOYS' HOCKEY BOOTS

Made specially for hard wear, ankle Strap and Buckle; warm felt lining, Black only. Sizes 1 to 5. Special Price:

\$3.50 the Pair.

### MEN'S RUBBERS

in every known shape and style. Men's Tan Rubbers—Low cut, medium toe and heel . . . . . \$1.55

Men's Black Storm Rubbers—all sizes. Special Prices: \$1.45 \$1.60

### LADIES' HIGH GRADE SPATS

In dainty shades of Dark Fawn, Medium Grey, Dark Brown and Black. Very snug and neat fitting.

14 Button \$2.00 16 Button \$2.25  
Lots of other styles to choose from.

### MEN'S GAITERS

Men's 4-Buckle Gaiters, very warm and comfortable, extra strong soles and heels; all sizes. Special Price:

\$4.75 the Pair.

### LADIES' RUBBERS

to fit any shape shoe. Ladies' Tan Rubbers—Low cut, medium toe and heel; all sizes. Special Price:

\$1.05 the Pair.

Ladies' Black Rubbers—Storm and Low cut, medium and low heels; all sizes. \$1.10 the Pair.

OUR STORES ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR EVERYTHING IN THE WAY OF FOOTWEAR FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

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## THE LONDON DIRECTORY

PUBLISHED ANNUALLY. with Provincial & Foreign Sections and Trade Headings in Five Languages enables traders to communicate direct with MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS in London and in the Provincial Towns and Industrial Centres of the United Kingdom and Ireland, the Continent of Europe, America, etc. The book contains over 250,000 names and addresses with other details classified under more than 3,000 trade headings, including EXPORT MERCHANTS with detailed particulars of the Goods shipped and the Colonial and Foreign Markets supplied; STEAMSHIP LINES arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate Sallings. One-inch BUSINESS CARDS of Firms desiring to extend their connections, or Trade Cards of DEALERS SEEKING AGENCIES can be printed at a cost of 8 dollars for each trade heading under which they are inserted. Larger advertisements at 80 dollars per page. The directory is invaluable to every one interested in overseas commerce, and a copy will be sent by parcel post for 10 dollars net cash with order. THE LONDON DIRECTORY CO., LTD. 25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, England.

We Wish You All A Very Happy And Prosperous New Year.

## GEAR & CO., Limited

### Fashions and Fads.

The small evening bag may swing from a colored bracelet, or colored ring for the little finger. Smartest for evening are slippers of flesh-colored satin, worn with sheer stockings to match. A frock of black kasha is trimmed with bands of blue velvet edged with ermine and steel buttons. Slippers of blond satin have carved

heels painted in gold color, and ornaments of blond enamel. To wear with light sweaters are skirts of white-wool, pale beige worsted, or a linen green wool. The ornament for the evening slipper may be of net and rhinestones, colored stones or ostrich feathers. The silk frock for southern wear is apt to have a collar of grosgrain ribbon in contrasting shade.

Business Established in 1814.