



We hardly know what to advertise. Fast as anything gets into the papers it's snapped up and shoppers who come late are disappointed.

The only safe way is to emphasize

CLEARING PRICES all through the store and leave the rest to your personal inspection.

A few odd sizes left in Persian Lamb Jackets at \$87, reduced from \$140. But any day is apt to see the last of them.

Not in years have stocks been as thoroughly clean at this season of year.

Dineen's CANADA'S LEADING FURRIERS 140 Yonge Street, TORONTO.

CANADA'S DELEGATES.

Premier and Hon. Messrs Patterson and Aylesworth for Conference. Hon. H. R. Emmerson, minister of railways and canals, said yesterday that it was practically settled that the Canadian delegates to the forthcoming conference of colonial premiers would be Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Wm. Eaton, minister of customs, and Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, postmaster-general.

S. A. Cadets Commissioned. About 50 cadets, who, for the last six months, have been taking a training at the Salvation Army's school on Sherbourne-street, were last night granted their commissions.

"WHITE GOODS"

For Gentlemen Your "linen" will be faultless if we supply it.

And we pay as much attention to having what's correct for you in white haberdashery as we do in giving you the character and style we guarantee in the high-class tailoring we put into the custom clothes we make for you.

Some white lines: Collars and Cuffs English White Business Shirts English White Coat Dress Shirts White Ties White Gowns White Silk Handkerchiefs White Lisle Handkerchiefs White Vests White Silk Hosiery.

And such other things in white as men wear.

Shirts to order. **Scott's** 77 KING ST. WEST.

DANGEROUS WORK, GIRLS SAY NERVES SUFFER FROM SHOCK

Operators Tell of Accidents at Their Work—Company to Provide Financial Statement.

The Bell Telephone Co. had two counsel yesterday. For five days Mr. Kerr has appeared alone for the company, but W. G. Cassels, K.C., entered the arena yesterday, and proceeded to raise objections to the scope of Mr. Curry's examination into the company's financial affairs.

Controversy between counsel began when Mr. Curry reminded the commission that the statement re the company's profits and the wages paid in the Toronto exchanges had not been forthcoming. Mr. Curry desired statements covering 1904, 1905 and 1906. Mr. Cassels put up a stiff argument in opposition to this, but Judge Winchester ruled in favor of Mr. Curry on the admission of Manager Dunstan that the profits realized should have some relation to the wages paid. General Manager McFarlane promised to satisfy the commission in this regard in a few days.

The day's enquiry was confined to girl witnesses and in spite of apparent nervousness they told straight stories. The abuses rather than the uses of the "listening board" were emphasized strongly in the evidence of Miss Beatrice Peighan, long distance operator in the main exchange for three years. Three weeks prior to the strike she was promoted to supervisor of long distance operators.

"She generally listens to the operators—what they say and how they execute their work," said the witness when asked the duties of a listener. "She sometimes records conversation. She can get on the line any time she wishes." The chief operator and assistant, chief had overheard conversations over the private lines to the United States. Some times in the day time, but more frequently after tea when the real listener wanted to know.

Witness knew of a girl cutting in on Beardmore's private line from Acton, at the instructions of Miss Porter, to find out if the conversation was social or business. The Beardmore line was chartered for business purposes only, and the company wanted to see that other people from Acton didn't use it to avoid paying tolls.

"What did the chief and assistant operator do regarding this American conversation," was it repeated under the office? "Well, I have heard such rumors around the office."

Miss Peighan said she lived at home but had no board to pay, but found the salary inadequate to buy clothes. **Supervisor's Evidence.** Miss Isabel Dickson, was the first witness called for the day. She had four years' experience with the Bell Company. She re-entered the service in 1906, after an absence, and had to "begin over" at \$12 per month as the switchboard was changed. Since September she has been a supervisor on the main exchange.

Operators were required to sit in a certain rigid position on their stools and on the lines which reach and were not allowed to talk or smile. Girls had frequently carried down stairs in hysterical fits and fainting spells were not uncommon. Miss Dickson admitted that there had been no dissatisfaction with the real wages paid under the five hour system. "The only reason for dissatisfaction was the question of hours."

If the hours had not been changed we would never have heard of this dissatisfaction with the pay, would we?" asked Mr. Kerr. "You certainly would not."

Witness told Mr. Curry that the girls frequently have to work fifteen, or twenty or thirty minutes overtime without extra pay. Miss Lottie Kyle said that, as a result of being "harassed" by spells calling, she got so ill she didn't know her own name. One girl got big lumps on her throat, and another "work thru" to get money enough to pay her board. She had had to work overtime during another girl's absence, and she felt the effect of it. She had known some of the operators to faint. In other cases the girls had to be relieved because of their exhausted condition.

Docked for Everything. She could not pay her board and buy her clothing with her \$27. She had to pay \$4 for her room with the privilege of getting breakfast and tea in it, she said. "If you were home ill, did you get pay for the days absent?" "We were docked for everything."

"Have you ever known girls crying at having to work overtime?" "Yes, I have."

Mr. Kerr asked if it was true that the girls who were neat and well dressed usually made the smartest operators and were advanced quickest. She said she would have the counsel understand that she had never intended such a meaning. What she thought was that partially had been shown in about twenty cases in favor of well dressed girls in making advancements.

Seriously Shocked. Miss Rogers said she had been with the company a year. When she was put on the long distance three weeks ago Friday she had received a shock, which rendered her unconscious, and had been under the doctor's care ever since. The company had paid the fees and her salary.

Miss Maud Orton had been employed with the company seven years, which took her back to the old long hour day when she worked from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. She believed that the shortening of the hours had been absolutely necessary to the company in order to get operators. When the short day came in she had, after five hours' operating, felt done out completely. As a result, she knew the girls were worked to the limit. She herself had to take nerve medicine continually, and she was one of the strongest. She couldn't get doctors' treatment because she didn't get enough money. Girls frequently fainted, which was one reason why the balance had to work so much overtime. She had never heard from the company that the load on the girls would be reduced.

Mr. Cassels: "You haven't been

YORK COUNTY AND SUBURBS WESTON TO FIGHT PROPOSAL TO SURRENDER LIGHT PLANT

Just at a Time When Public Control is Especially Valuable, Offer is Made for Purchase.

Weston, Feb. 11.—(Special).—The village of Weston is in favor of public ownership, as is shown by the fact that it has for several years owned and operated its own electric light plant, and while this plant has not shown a large surplus, it is still giving excellent service to the villagers, and gives every sign of becoming a valuable asset to the village.

Now, however, there is a movement on foot among certain of the villagers to turn over to the Stark Light and Power Co. the electric light plant and give them the franchises of lighting the town and selling power. This proposal came up before the council on Thursday evening, and met with a warm reception from the friends of municipal ownership. It was intimated to the councilors that if a bylaw to consummate an agreement with the Stark Telephone, Light and Power Company were submitted to the ratepayers, it would overwhelmingly be defeated.

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It was urged that the village should wait until the Ontario government got for it cheap Niagara power before considering any change in the present system of lighting. With cheap Niagara power it was argued that the village not only could light the streets at a cost much below the present cost, but could also, by reason of the fact that the power would be for twenty-four hours, sell the power not used for lighting purposes to consumers within the village.

The council decided to have an expert make a valuation upon the municipal plant. The following is a statement of the main points in a preliminary agreement with Mr. Stark for the electric light plant and supply light and power to Weston: 1. The Stark T. L. & P. Co. Limited, assume the debtors still outstanding and give Weston twenty 1200 C. C. lights for two years. Service to be 12.30 at night, and morning service from 6.30 to daylight.

2. The company to supply domestic lighting at 2c per K.W. hour, and power at 3c per K.W. hour, 24 hours service. 3. The company to build over plant complete, except tanks and land, and assume all care of and responsibility in supplying street lights and domestic lights and power. 4. WESTON TO TAKE STREET LIGHTS FOR 5 YEARS, including the cost of the plant, BEING PART PRICE OF THE PLAN. This agreement void after 2 years in case that Weston make more advantageous agreement with some other source of electric supply.

5. Arc lights to be 35c per light per year. 6. In house owned by private individuals to be granted by the village. 7. The villagers are organizing to fight the move to consummate this agreement. While the bulk of public opinion is in favor of continuing municipal lighting plant, still there is no doubt that a number of influential villagers are in favor of making some deal with the Stark Company.

Woodbridge. Woodbridge, Feb. 11.—A Valentine social will be held in the Presbyterian hall on Thursday evening. A musical program and refreshments will be given. Back of Maple will be followed by guessing contests after which tea will be served.

Toronto Junction. Toronto Junction, Feb. 11.—The management committee of the public school board has recommended that Miss Townsend, a month's leave of absence on account of the promotion examinations. Tried, Passed. Annette 338 256 Charles 212 203 Western-avenue 214 172 St. Clair 106 91 Miss Tunnah was granted \$24 more per year to put her on the same standard as those teachers who came on the staff in 1906. The minimum was raised. It was recommended to increase the salary of Principals McDonald and Collier \$100 each, and that Assistant Teachers Hancock, Hays and Hays be increased to \$120. This was recommended to begin in September next. Supervisor Wilson was given the maximum salary, to commence in September.

Slave-Driving. Testifying as to conditions under which the girls are compelled to work, the witness said she had been told to "keep them busy." "How much work would you recommend as just. How many lines to the girls?" "She thought that each girl should have about fifty lines to attend to instead of 100."

Dangerous Work. Miss McBean, who was still in the employ of the company and had no part in the strike, declared she found the five hours as much as any ordinary girl should be asked to work. She had resolved three severe shocks, the first and second of which laid her up a month. She had been rendered unconscious with the first, the second resulted in convulsions.

Miss Gladys Sangster, one of the strikers who had been re-employed by the company, said that at one time she had answered 1100 calls in an hour. "How much work would you recommend as just. How many lines to the girls?" "Under the old system," she said, "if you wanted relief at 9 o'clock you were lucky if you got it at 11."

During the week she had been back on the job working eight hours, she had been rendered so tired that on Saturday night she had to go straight to bed.

STORIES EXAGGERATED. Ottawa Authorities Know Naught of Winter's Devastation in West. Ottawa, Feb. 11.—Enquiry of the Northwest Mounted Police Department, the Interior department and the department of Indian affairs, all three of which are in constant communication with the prairie provinces, elicited the assurance that they have no information to support the newspaper reports of the loss of life and hardship in the west during the present winter.

The three departments named have not yet heard of a single instance of loss of life thru either cold or starvation.

\$25,000 FIRE. Brantford, Feb. 11.—Fire, which broke out as a result of an overheated journal stove destroyed the western wing of the Good, Shapley & Muir factory in this city. The damages amounted to \$25,000, of which about \$12,000 was in stock.

TABLE KNIVES WANTLESS & CO. ESTABLISHED 1910. 100 YONGE STREET.

THE ROBERT SIMPSON COMPANY, LIMITED

H. H. FUDGE, PRESIDENT; J. WOOD, MANAGER. TUESDAY, FEB. 12

200 Pairs of Under-priced Trousers

Whenever we hold a sale of men's odd trousers it's a success. When it comes to the "Last Act" of A Winter's Tale it's an enthusiastic success. A man's winter suit is just about ready for a little assistance by then. We have underbought 200 pairs to offer tomorrow in the men's store as follows:

Men's Fancy Striped English Worsteds Trousers, also some Scotch tweeds, the latest style, side, two hips and watch pockets, sizes 32 to 44, regular \$3.50, \$4 and \$4.50, on sale Wednesday at..... **2.49**

Men's Fur Coats

At Less Than Cost of Making We would sooner sell them that way than break our rule about leaving part of a season's furs in stock all summer. It's early to be talking that way, but we think you'd sooner take advantage of the discounts now than later on when the frost comes out of the ground—so here they are:

16 only Men's Mountain Wolf and Australian Dyed Wombat Fur Coats, 15.95 reg. \$25, Wednesday..... **15.95**
12 Men's Canadian Raccoon Fur Coats, choice grade skins, natural, heavy furred and dark, regular \$50, Wednesday..... **36.00**
20 Men's Imitation Fur Coats, black curly lamb, rubber interlined, regular \$12.50, Wednesday..... **7.95**

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ing to-night. Mayor Baird stated that an arrangement had been made with the Consumers' Gas Company, by which all gas accounts can be paid into the Dominion Bank, now located at the Union Stock Yards, and which will shortly open a branch at 42 and 44 West Dundas-street. The present police force will be augmented by one, but will have to look after the transit of the school, too. The offer of Heintzman & Co. for 100 feet of land on VanHornestreet was accepted. A petition of the business men who are asking the council to assist them to get cheaper rates from the Bell Telephone Company was referred to a special committee composed of Mayor Baird and Councilors Witter, Irvine, Ford and Bull and Howell. D. Barrum and Albert Robb were appointed assistant engineers at the pumping station. It was ordered that the garbage be collected as follows: Ward one, first and second Mondays; ward two, first and third Tuesdays; ward three, first and third Wednesdays; ward four, first and third Thursdays; ward five, first and third Fridays; and on each of the respective days in summer.

SUING FOR \$20,000. Toronto and National Casket Companies Involved in Warfare. With the arrest of Percy and William Bell, charged with the theft of a casket issued by the Toronto Casket Co., and the issuing of a writ yesterday by J. A. McCracken, manager of the Toronto Casket Co., against Albert and J. H. Eckardt for \$20,000 for alleged slander of title, a "war" is said to have been in progress among the members of the National Casket Co., of which Mr. Eckardt is head.

Percy Bell is a printer, and the charges that he gave a circular that was being prepared for the Toronto Casket Co., advertising a stock taking day, to his brother, who is employed by the National Casket Co., of which Mr. Eckardt is head.

One of these circulars, with some written notations on it, also found its way to the bankers of the Toronto Casket Co. This, it is claimed, has caused the Toronto Co. some inconvenience.

Last week, too, some mysterious person telephoned the newspapers that trouble was likely to occur in the affairs of the Toronto company. None of the parties interested will talk about it.

In court yesterday the Bell boys, thru their counsel, T. C. Robinette, K. C., pleaded not guilty. The case comes up again to-day.

COLONIAL RECIPROcity. (Canadian Associated Press Cable). London, Feb. 11.—Replying to a statement that his speech seemed to imply that the government contemplate the possibility of a free trade empire surrounded by a tariff wall, Winston Churchill writes: "There could be no question as far as the government is concerned of any change in the free trade policy of the United Kingdom. If, and insofar as American shipping vessels carried away from the colonies, the result would be a matter for general satisfaction. It is stated that the formation of an imperial guard for the colonies for imperial service will be discussed at the colonial conference."

GOOD FISHING IN NEWFOUNDLAND. Ottawa, Feb. 11.—The Canadian commercial agent in Newfoundland reports that the fishing on the west coast of Newfoundland this winter has been the most remunerative on record. During the past season thirty-five American fishing vessels carried away from the coast a total of 4,000,000 lbs. of fish valued at \$268,596, and forty-one British vessels fish to a value of \$132,448, making total exports of \$401,044.

Advertisement for Simpson's men's clothing, featuring 200 pairs of under-priced trousers and men's fur coats. Includes an illustration of a man in a suit.

Advertisement for The Sovereign Bank of Canada, highlighting 1195 shareholders and over 50,000 customers. Includes details on interest and deposits.

Advertisement for Blacksmiths' Tools, listing various tools like forges, anvils, rasps, horse shoes, and nails.

Advertisement for RICE LEWIS & SON, LIMITED, located at Cor. King and Victoria Sts., Toronto.

Advertisement for DR. SOPER, a specialist in various ailments, with a portrait of the doctor.

Advertisement for SIR ROBERT HART GOES HOME, mentioning his departure from the position of director-general of Chinese imperial customs.

Advertisement for DR. A. W. CHASE'S 25c GATTARH CURE, for various ailments.

Advertisement for a local option appeal in the town of Beamsville, mentioning a meeting with Chief Justice Meredith.

Advertisement for a case involving Justice Teetzel, mentioning a case in which such notices had been posted at the top of a telegraph pole.

Advertisement for a case involving the appointment of a customs commissioner, mentioning the cost of U. S. Army.

Advertisement for a case involving the Senate today passing the army appropriation bill carrying \$81,600,000.

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