Clothes to cover us—clothes to protect us —clothes for attracting attention to us.

FUR GARMENTS come under these headings. Our fur garments, besides covering the first two points, are a particular feature under the last. They are so exclusive in design and in general treatment that they attract attention. After all, isn't that what you expect in a fur garment? Besides ours have the quality to enrich the design.

Over two hundred thousand dollars' worth of native and foreign furs in our showrooms. Surely in all this immense stock you'll find just the very article you had intended to buy and we'll wager that it will be at a lower price than you can get it elsewhere.

ALASKA SEAL JACKETS

Special attention this year has been paid to our Alaska Seal Jackets. As of old, they are in our exclusive quality, but fashion dictates that trimmings of different furs are proper, so we have manufactured some having Ermine, Chinchilla, Sable and other Fur Collars and Revers, ranging in price from two hundred dollars upwards.

PERSIAN LAMB JACKETS

Are you thinking of a Persian Lamb Jacket for Xmas? Better get in your order to-day, because, as the season advances, we will become overcrowded with work. Now you have a big choice of new Jackets from which to select.

Caperines, Ruffs, Collarettes, Long and Short Stoles, Muffs, etc., in Royal Ermine, Mole Skin, Russian, Hudson Bay and Alaska Sable, Fox of all descriptions, Chinchilla, Persian Lamb and Alaska Seal and all tasty combinations of these furs.

Write for catalogue.

THE W. & D. DINEEN CO., Limited,

Cor. Yonge and Temperance Streets, - - TORONTO.

"PARSIFAL" A GREAT STRAIN.

25 Persons Became Faint at Big Operatic Event.

New York, Dec. 25.—Owing to the long continued strain of listening to the opera and the intense heat 25 persons in the "Parsifal" audience either fainted or came so near to a state of collapse that they had to leave boxes and some of them the Metropolitan Opera House last evening.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor was one of those who were forced to leave their boxes because of threatened collapse.

Smelling salts were in great demand and the office had a large supply for the use of patrons.

It was near the close of the performance that the effects of the heat and strain were most noticed. Among the hundreds of the audience who had stood for hours listening to the music the number of the victims was greatest.

THE ORIGIN OF SUNDAY AND SUNDAY LAWS.

Editor World: At this time, as the decision of the Privy Council is causing the question of a Sunday law to be discussed, it will be of interest to examine the origin of Sunday and of Sunday laws.

Perhaps all so-called Christian nations have some kind of laws regarding the day, and it is believed by many that, should such laws be abolished the nation would become demoralized by unusual wickedness, and the stability of the government would be endangered.

The observance of Sunday as a holiday extends far into the remote past, and instead of being of Christian origin, as it is often supposed, it was the great festival day of the ancient heathen world. The very name indicates its origin. Sunday being dedicated to the worship of the sun. It, in common with the other days of the week, was named for a heathen god. The sun, being more universally worshipped than all other gods, the day devoted to its honor early assumed an importance that was not attached to other days. The day was not regarded as a Sabbath, but as a day of festivity and hilarity. This is the day, as we find it in the early centuries after Christ. This is the influence surrounding the early Christian churches.

The North British Review, in explaining the incorporation of Sunday into the Christian Church, says patriotism gladly united with expediency in making it at once their Lord's day and their Sabbath. This apology shows it to have been a lack of courage to withstand the prevailing custom of the times.

At first the day was observed by them as a festival in connection with the ancient Saturday which they kept as a Sabbath. Gradually a greater veneration was attached to the Sunday, and as a result, less veneration was felt for the seventh day.

The first Sunday law was issued in A.D. 321 by the Emperor Constantine as follows:

"Let all the judges and town people, and the occupation of all trades, rest on the venerable day of the sun, but let those who are situated in the country freely and at full liberty attend to the business of agriculture, because it often happens that no other day is so fit for sowing corn or planting vines; but lest the critical moment being let slip, men should lose the commodities granted by Heaven. Given the seventh day of March, Crispus and Constantine being consuls each of them for the second time."

Notice that this law was not very sweeping in its prohibitions, but it caused the day to be "observed with greater solemnity than before." The law did not give satisfaction, as, in the very nature of the case, it could not. Men cannot be made religious by law. Notice, also, that Sunday was not called the Sabbath or Lord's day, but "the venerable day of the sun," thus betraying its heathen origin.

Constantine at this time believed that the true God ought to be worshiped above all others, but that the inferior gods were worthy of some worship also. Two years later he became an adherent of the church, altho his wicked, murderous life shows that he never was converted. Political reasons led him to court the powerful influence of the church, and also of the heathen religion. In this way many errors found an entrance into the church. From this time onward Sunday began to be observed as a Sabbath, and Sylvester authoritatively gave it the title of "Lord's day" about A.D. 325.

Labor in the country was not prohibited until the Council of Orleans, A.D. 538. Another council was held A.D. 588, when the following canon was framed:

"Notice is taken that Christian people very much neglect and slight the Lord's day, giving themselves, as on other days, to common work, to redress which irreverence for the future we warn every Christian who bears not that name in vain to give ear to our advice, knowing we have a concern in us for your good, and a power to hinder you to do evil. Keep, then, the Lord's day, the day of our new birth."

About a year later a decree was issued ordering those who disobeyed the canon to be fined, if a freeman, and severely lashed if a servant. Other decrees followed until the observance of Sunday became almost universal and the observers of the seventh day were obliged to retire to the strongholds of the mountains. There were always a few who still held to the observance of the seventh day, among whom were some branches of the Waldenses. During the sixteenth century arose a people in England that are known in this day as Seventh Day Baptists.

Many good and pious people suppose Sunday to have been instituted as a Sabbath by the apostles, in honor of the resurrection, and it may, perhaps, cause feelings of pain to admit that this is not the truth. The day, to them, has been made sacred by religious associations, but history does not show any divine origin for it. Neither do the Scriptures intimate that any other day has been or was to be the Sabbath except the seventh, enjoined in the fourth commandment.

Considering the origin of Sunday laws, do the intelligent people of Canada want them?

Mrs. Luella Baker Priddy.
Oakwood, Victoria County, Ont.

COLD WAVE COMING.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 25.—The mercury has fallen 37 degrees since 10 a.m. today, reaching zero at 8 o'clock to-night. The cold wave is general over Nebraska and Iowa.

A Peculiar Accident.

Milton Champion: On Monday night, as the 9 o'clock C.P.R. train for the west turned the curve at the third line, Trafalgar, it was met by a tremendous gust of wind which blew in the glass in the engineer's cab window, the putty giving way. The glass was carried clean thru the cab, and, as it went, one of its corners caught the engineer's face, cutting a deep gash from his nose to the lobe of one of his ears. The train had to stop half an hour at the station while Dr. Anderson stitched and dressed the wound.

Twenty Years of Vile Catarrh. — Charles O. Brown, journalist, of Duluth, Minn., writes: "I have been a sufferer from Throat and Nasal Catarrh for over twenty years, during which time my head has been stopped up and my condition truly miserable. Within 15 minutes after using Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder I obtained relief. Three bottles have almost, if not entirely, cured me." 50c.—73.

WHEN WAR BREAKS OUT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Channing Pollock Tells Interesting Story Concerning the Panama Country, People, Customs.

Channing Pollock, who is now in Toronto in the interest of Grace George, the young actress scheduled to present "Pretty Peggy" next week at the Princess, has traveled a great deal, both because of his theatrical affiliation and as correspondent for various newspapers. "I've spent Christmas in all sorts of places, and under all sorts of circumstances," he said yesterday. "The season always is one of loneliness for the wanderer, but there have been two or three yuletides in my life of more than ordinary interest. Christmas, 1890, found me in Constantinople with the flooded Bosphorus between me and Prague, which was then my home. Christmas, 1894, I was in Salvador, Central America, and Christmas, 1895, in Panama taking notes for a story on the unfinished canal.

"That pundering ditch was then, as it probably is now, a place of miasma and morbid associations. I rode to Colon cross country on an intelligent mule. There was no means of carrying a tent or camping equipage, and so I traveled light, sleeping in huts and eating tortillas and grojoles purchased of the Indians—copper-colored natives of the soil whose blood, pure or blended with that of Spanish criminals, flows thru the veins of most Central Americans. I reached Colon at noon on Dec. 23, a stifingly hot day, and got my first glimpse of the canal.

"It was a long gash in the earth, here dug to a depth of thirty feet or thereabouts, and there scarcely more than a scar across the wace of the landscape. Parts of it were filled with water over which the green of utter stagnation had spread itself. Lying along the shore were numerous pieces of expensive machinery, dredges and the like, all rusted and broken. Steam shovels that originally represented in cash the patrimony of some unfortunate French family were crumbling in the sun, worth only their value to a dealer in rags and old iron. On an elevation overlooking the sea sat the magnificent stone palace builded for the luckless De Lesseps, and in the distance stretched a line of tumbledown shanties in which his laborers had lived and worked and died. It was a tropic 'deserted village'—the setting in which had been enacted one of the greatest tragedies of modern times.

"The natives all regarded the canal with that contempt borne of familiarity. It meant nothing to them, except the memory of times when money flowed like water and white men were buried every day. I spent Christmas with an American named Baxter, an adventurer, who afterward died of yellow fever in the plague following the Ezeta revolution in Salvador.

How Revolutions Are Fought.

"Salvador itself is an uninteresting little nation which calls itself a Republic, but really is an absolute monarchy. The ruling president always is re-elected, generally by a majority exceeding the voting population of the country, and his successor comes into power only by force of arms. These revolutions are not the bloodless affairs they are popularly supposed to be. That which resulted in the ousting of Ezeta cost nearly 5000 lives, not counting those of people who died in the subsequent plague. The dead were left on the fields, the rains washed the pollution into the rivers, the populace drank the water, and pestilence drove his sword-wheeled chariot thru the land.

"When war breaks out in Central America the opposing armies both are officered by English and Americans. These men journey into the country looking for trouble, and if trouble doesn't come they starve. If it does they are made major-generals and fight with all the efficiency which training and natural courage give them. Those on the winning side are rewarded with money filched from the banks and wealthy merchants of the capital; those on the losing side stick to their leaders until the last, escort them to safety and then are shot or escape by some tramp steamer or other. They have inculcated in the men of the tropics whatever slight bravery they now possess, chiefly by the gentle art of driving them mercilessly into action and building barbed wire fences in the way of their retreat. A Central American officer does not lead his soldiers with a sword; he rides behind them with a bull whip. Thus compelled, they will fight desperately, throwing away their rifles and using their machetes with deadly effect.

"Central America is a land of laziness, lawlessnes sand license. Foreigners, unless they be of the diplomatic service, coffee-growers or bank clerks, rarely go there of their own free will. No man ever asks questions concerning another man's past. I have played cards at Gonzales' on the Plaba at San Salvador with a compatriot whose biography included the details of a murder in an hotel corridor in Omaha and whose present 'wife' was legally tied to a comic opera comedian then appearing on Broadway. In a city in which there are only fifty white men and forty of them refugees one isn't as the parrot said, 'too d——n particular.'

Great Deal of Romance.

"There is a great deal of romance in this land of the mandolin, the orange tree and the Southern Cross. Salvador used to have a fine brass band, numbering forty musicians, under the conductorship of a German named Graves, and it played nightly under the palms in the moon-lit Plaza. Gaudy senors, each with his sash and his machete, promenaded with dusky, large-eyed senoritas, brilliant in their silk rebosas and powdered until their hue was that of ashes. Afterward one sat in his patiole—a square garden around which every house is built—and listened to the servants tinkling Spanish accompaniments to the voice of the fountain. Afterward the insurrectionists shot the band at Santa Anna and the patiole was barricaded with rice sacks, but for a little while San Salvador had been very beautiful and alluring.

"Trade down there is rather evenly balanced between America and Germany, with Britain second and the United States rapidly outweighing its rivals as a result of its new prestige and its superb consular system. Germany keeps surprisingly at the front, however, exporting machetes, sugar machinery and canned goods with great energy. The Central Americans are easily impressed and an occasional visit from a warship with a band stimulates the commerce of the nation whose flag she flies immensely. The Salavadorian navy used to be a tug-boat in San Francisco and her armament once adorned Fort Douglas. It is a very heavy cannon and must be unloaded before putting to sea as the navy takes water—a thing that no navy should do. The personnel of this particular navy consist of an admiral, a rear admiral, a captain and a stoker. A truly Haytian state of affairs isn't it?"

Miss George has a number of wandering Jews on her executive staff. In addition to Mr. Pollock, she has for manager Bernard A. Reinold, who has fought in Brazil, and Lyman White, an actor, who was with the American troops in Cuba. Miss George herself has traveled extensively in England and on the Continent.

The East Huron Liberal Association will hold a convention in the Town Hall, Brussels, on Wednesday, Dec. 30, to nominate a candidate to contest the riding in the forthcoming Dominion elections. Arch. Campbell, M.P., of York County; Dr. MacDonald, M.P., and Arch. Hislop, M.L.A., and others are expected to be present and address the electors.

There will be a convention of the Liberal-Conservative Association of East and Centre Grey in Marsh's Hall, Markdale, on Friday, Jan. 8, to nominate a candidate to contest East Grey at the coming elections. The annual meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year will be held immediately after the convention.

Hats as well as Furs. Gentlemen will want to appear at their best for the holiday season.

Storm Coats and Umbrellas, too. We're adding things fast as you show you want them.

The best hint we can give is the show windows. People who step inside are never asked to buy.

This is a comfortable store—as much now as in the quieter days of wid-winter.

Fur-lined Coats, special	$65.00
Opera and Silk Hats	6.00
Rain Coats	10.50
Silk Umbrellas.....	5.00

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MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN.

The failure of ex-Mayor Howland to arrive on time with his declaration of qualification to enable him to enter the race for the Mayoralty has been viewed with much regret by some of the candidates for the Board of Control. There is no doubt but that a contest between Messrs. Howland and Urquhart would have had the effect of increasing the strength of the Liberal members of the board, by developing the spirit of partyism. There is also a strong personal following of the present Mayor that had no small part in his election this year which now cannot be depended upon to go to the polls. The abstention of this section from voting will not improve the chances of the other Liberal nominees. The Mayor has spoken in very high terms of the present controllers and practically announced his decision to take no part in the contest by stating that whatever four are selected from the eight men in the race, there will be a capable and efficient board. The influence of Mr. Urquhart among the temperance and church element in the city is undoubtedly great, and the candidates depending upon the support of that element will suffer accordingly.

The success of the leaders of the Conservatives in killing off the proposed opposition to the re-election of the Mayor, it is felt, must result in great advantage to the party. It has not only demonstrated that ward politicians cannot control the policy of the party, but has also prevented what might have been a serious disruption in the ranks at the approaching general elections. It has shown, too, that the Conservatives can rise above blind partizanship and allow municipal affairs to be conducted on a purely business basis.

There are very few that have the temerity to say that ex-Mayor Howland would have stood a chance to win in a contest with Mr. Urquhart. Even with a united party organization behind him, it would have been a doubtful issue for hundreds of strong party men would have refused to vote for Mr. Howland. There was little need of a party fight to show that the political career of the ex-Mayor has pretty well closed and the fiasco of Thursday night at the City Hall but adds to the general opinion that he can no longer be regarded as a factor in municipal life in Toronto.

The situation has been somewhat altered during the past few days, a feeling having developed that the incoming board will be equally divided on political lines. The preponderance of Conservatives among the candidates is believed to favor the chances of two Liberals being elected, but while Controller Burns is considered to have the almost solid support of his party, there is much difference of opinion as to the support that will be accorded Ald. Oliver and Spence. The rumors regarding the selection of a ticket bearing the names of three of the Conservative aspirants are not believed to be founded on anything stronger than imagination, and even, if true, such a slate would not be endorsed by the party as a whole.

The position of Controller John F. Loudon is considered to be almost secure, and his election is generally conceded. There is no member of the present board that has devoted more of his time to the furtherance of the city's interests than Mr. Loudon and his work has been of great value.

Controller Richardson is entitled to a share of the praise and will run almost equally well. Mr. Richardson has been conducting a very effective campaign, and will hold a series of meetings. To-night he will speak at Euclid-avenue Hall, in Ward 5, and on Tuesday evening next at Dingman's Hall. Other meetings will be announced later.

Ald. Hubbard intends putting up a strong fight and will first attack the eastern section of the city, where he expects the strongest opposition. He will address the electors in Dingman's Hall to-night, and his reception will be marked with interest.

Ex-Mayor Shaw is becoming a more pronounced factor in the contest daily. His long experience in municipal affairs has created a feeling that he is entitled to a place in the Mayor's cabinet.

The condition of affairs in the wards has not varied to any great extent. In Ward One, Ald. Fleming and Chisholm are considered to be fairly assured of re-election, while John Preston and Ald. Stewart are making a hard fight for the third place. Dr. Noble and Ald. Foster will probably be returned again in the Second Ward, while Emerson Coatsworth is regarded as making progress.

The fight in Ward Three will be between McMurrich and Geary, as the present alderman are universally considered to be well worthy of other terms. Mr. Geary is a very strong campaigner, however, and he may spring a surprise by being returned near the head of the poll.

The contest in Ward Four is probably the hardest to base any calculations upon. The candidates are almost all strong men, and the retirement of Ald. William Burns and Hubbard from the aldermanic contest has caused much speculation as to who will receive the votes of their adherents. Dr. Harrison is said to be developing unexpected strength, and the labor candidate, Albert Hacker, is also regarded with much favor. His nomination speech was conceded to be the strongest of any of the candidates in a ward where the labor element is stronger than in any other part of the city, his chances of success should be good.

Ald. Dunn is having the fight of his life in Ward Five, as J. B. Hay is making a supreme effort and with Ald. Woods' may succeed in effecting his defeat. Ald. Bell has kept himself free from any local entanglements and devoted his attention to civic affairs in general.

The contest in Ward Six is mostly confined to the present representatives. The third position in the race will probably be a hard fight. Ald. McGhie and Ward apparently have the strongest support, but Ald. Graham and Dr. Lynd will not go down without a struggle.

COW A TOOL CHEST.

Surprising Assortment of Junk Found in Domestic Animal.

Santa Rosa, Cal., Dec. 25.—Samuel Boyd, a Bodega butcher, killed a cow yesterday, and while preparing the animal for market found that its stomach was a veritable tool chest. Here is a list of what he found:

A metal collar button, a South American three cent piece, a piece of wire, tenpenny nail, two eightpenny nails, sixpenny nail, one fourpenny nail, carpet tack, hob nails, screw eye, metal button, steel heel top, two lead seals, four small rocks, a hoop staple and three other nails of various sizes.

THE ROBERT **SIMPSON** COMPANY, LIMITED

H. H. FUDGER, President: J. WOOD, Manager. SATURDAY, DEC. 26

Store Will Close at 5.30 To-Night

Men's Worsted Trousers 99c.

Surely that figure will not strike you as extravagant. You might wonder how a good pair of pants could be made to sell at such a figure. You might well wonder. Fact is they weren't. They were made to sell at $1.50 and $2. But in the Men's Store remarkable values are not unusual.

450 pairs Men's Worsted Finish Tweed Trousers, in neat stripes, checks and plaid patterns, assorted colors, medium and dark shades, well cut and trimmed, finished with top and hip pockets, sizes 32 to 42 waist, regular $1.50 and $2, on sale Monday at ..... .99

68 Men's Medium Fawn and Oxford Grey Covert Cloth Raincoats, made up in the long loose Raglanette style with vertical pockets and cuffs, fancy plaid linings, seams sewn and taped and ventilated at armholes, fancy plaid lining and finished with velvet collars, sizes 34-44, worth $7.00 and $7.50, Monday 5.00

Furs in the Men's Store

Some Clearing Prices.

You may buy the children Grey Lamb Caps for $1.95 here Monday. Fur Coats such as any man who drives much will appreciate before January has run very far, for $16.75. Of course they're "special." See the details:

100 Boys' and Girls' Grey Lamb Caps, deep wedge shape, nicely lined, sizes 6½ to 7⅞, reg. prices $2.50 and $3, Monday.... 1.95

Ladies' and Misses' Imitation Persian Lamb Gauntlet Mitts, heavy, warm linings, black calf kid palms, regular 75c, 85c and $1.00, Monday..... .69

26 only Men's Fur Coats, No. 1 quality, black China dogskin, dark brown Russian calfskin, best quilted linings, full 50 inches long, $25.00 coat for, Monday..... 16.75

The Victor Shoe

VICTOR TRADE MARK

Canadians who have worn American Shoes will understand what we mean when we say the Victor lasts are the best American lasts. The Victor is an up-to-date shapely shoe, made of good Canadian stock on the American lasts. You can't beat it in Canada or the United States as a $3.50 shoe, for the good reason that it equals any $5.00 shoe except in the profits it affords to the middlemen and the cost it entails on the wearer.

Our own shoe.

All leathers, styles, widths and sizes—$3.50.

Men's 25c to 35c Socks, 15c.

Men's Fine Pure Wool Plain Black Cashmere Half Hose, medium weights, seamless foot, double heel and toe, sizes 9 1-2 to 11, regular 25c and 35c, Monday, per pair.. .15

15c and 25c Wall Paper for 7c.

A splendid opportunity to paper that room of yours.

2000 rolls Gilt and Embossed Wall Papers, in pretty colors of green, blue, pink, crimson, brown and cream, in the very newest designs, suitable for any room or hall, regular price 15c to 25c per single roll, your choice Monday.. .7

$3.75 White Wool Blankets, $2.69.

150 pairs Extra Fine White Unshrinkable Quality Blankets, in solid pink borders, guaranteed absolutely pure, soft, lofty finish, size 66 x 86 inches, regular $3.15 and $3.75 pair, Monday, special.. 2.69

Soiled Remnants Table Linen Reduced.

78 Remnants of Table Linen, comprising bleached, half and three-quarter bleached satin damasks, in lengths of 2 1-4, 2 1-2, 2 5-8, 2 3-4, 2 7-8 and 3 yards to the end, slightly soiled through handling, regular selling values 38c, 40c, 45c, 50c and up to 60c per yard, or per remnant as high as $1.38, your choice of any length Monday, to clear.. .73

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Those who have already used this Mattress are unanimously enthusiastic.

It is an entirely new idea, embodying the use of steel spring coils in conjunction with a layer of hair.

Soft, resilient, full of life and sanitary, because the springs allow a free passage of air.

For sale only at this store. Ask to see them in the Furniture Department.

Have lunch upstairs in our big, cheery lunch room when you come down Monday. You'll find all the delicacies of the season on the menu.

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But it is not merely the price we want to emphasize on our Oxford and Cambridge Cheviot Overcoatings, IT'S THE QUALITY AND STYLE FOR THE PRICE. It is our regular $32 line of heavy Winter Overcoating we are specializing for $28 and the most phenomenal value ever offered to the Canadian public.

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