

THE CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE CONCERN LTD.

FRIDAY Our Last Chance to Clear Christmas Stock Your Last Chance For Santa Claus Wants For Ladies

LADIES' WINTER COATS, made of winter weight tweeds, mostly in large sizes, some of them handsomely trimmed coats; worth up to \$15, all one price, \$7.50. Coats worth up to \$7.50, clearing at \$3.50.

WOMEN'S WAISTS—A huge pile of latest styles in winter waists, tailored styles, every waist strictly up to date in every respect, regular up to \$2, all one price \$1.00.

WOMEN'S UMBRELLAS—High class lines taken from our Christmas assortment, extra quality covers, selected range of handles, each \$1.00.

CHINA FRUIT SETS, containing one large bowl and six napkins, beautifully decorated with flower clusters, \$1.50 value, for \$1.00.

BACK COMBS AND BARETTES—A big selection of combs from our Christmas stock, regular up to 50c, all one price \$1.00.

LADIES' KID MITTS—Strongly worn, perfect fitting, a big manufacturer's over makes, Friday's price \$1.00.

NECK TIECK, finest quality Japanese mink, lined with broad satin; regular up to \$15, for \$9.55.

MUFFS, best mink marmot, Empire shape, satin lined and silk waist cord; regular \$7.50. Friday and tonight \$4.65.

LACE WAISTS—Eerie Lace Waists, lined throughout with Japanese silk, splendid style, \$3.75 value for \$2.95.

MABEL GLOVES, fabric suede, buckskin lined, warm and comfortable, black, navy and brown. Friday and tonight \$1.00.

MEN'S FUR-LINED COATS, black, heavy cloth shells, cut in latest style, marmot lining. Regular \$35, Friday \$26.50.

MEN'S SWEATER COATS, variety of colors, with collars, can be buttoned up tight to the neck. Regular \$2.00 value, Friday \$1.50.

MEN'S NECK MUFFERS, best quality silk, colored satin linings, all new shapes. Regular up to 75c, Friday 49c.

51 and 53 KING STREET WEST

JUMP INTO BRITISH FIGHT.

Did Canadian Minister Write to Manchester Guardian?

Alleged Attack on Tories and Tariff Reformers.

Ottawa Ministers Repudiate the Alleged Interview.

London, Dec. 23.—An article over a column long in today's Manchester Guardian, an influential ministerial newspaper, gives in detail the views of someone described as a prominent colleague of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on the British election campaign, and the Unionist policy in particular. This remarkable interview, secured by the Guardian's correspondent in Ottawa, appears under the heading: "The Birmingham Preference Riddled by a Canadian Minister Makes the Very Jackasses Laugh."

That part of the interview dealing with Lord Lansdowne and tariff reform is as follows: "The bulk of the tariff reform case is made up of fiction, old exploded fiction at that; and when one sees a man like Lord Lansdowne, whom we Canadians respected so much, parading it up and down England in the hope of catching votes unprepared, one cannot but think that evil communication have corrupted the good manners of the historic Tory party."

Another astonishing charge is that the Unionists are jingoists and that foreign relations would be disturbed should they be returned to power. This statement is made: "The close friendship now existing between England and the United States, would most certainly be disturbed by the advent to office of the Tories, militant Imperialists, who appear to imagine they can strengthen the empire by being insolent in turn to every foreign power who is not an actual treaty ally. Such weighty considerations as these have made thinking men in Canada all but solidly Liberal in the sense of heartily desiring the success of the British Liberals."

STATEMENTS DENIED.
Ottawa, Dec. 23.—Members of the Cabinet to-night repudiate the sentiments expressed in the Ottawa despatch to the Manchester Guardian, in which Lord Lansdowne is accused of parading exploded tariff reform arguments in the hope of catching votes, and the Unionist party in general charged with looking for trouble under the Balfour Ministry.

None of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's colleagues have a reputation for such loose talk, as is quoted in the despatch. Hon. Charles Murphy, Secretary of State, would perhaps speak most freely of any, but it is not easy to ascribe these sentiments to him.

In view of the attack on Lord Lansdowne, it is worthy of note that an attempt was made to discredit him in this country previous to his coming here as Governor-General. William O'Brien addressed a meeting at the Russell Theatre at the time. The result, however, was a counter-demonstration by all classes from the military to school children, and Lord Lansdowne was given on his arrival the greatest reception ever accorded a public man in Canada, exceeding by far that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier on

MEN'S MOCHA GLOVES, inside or outside seams, extra high quality, lined. Regular \$1.50 and \$1.75. Friday and to-night \$1.00.

MEN'S NECKWEAR, the last of that special purchase of panel effect and plain poplin ties, in fancy boxes. Not enough to last all day. 50c value, Friday and to-night 29c.

BOYS' SWEATERS, navy and cardinal, plain or with fancy cuffs and neckbands; extra quality; Friday 50c and 60c.

MEN'S FANCY SOX, beautifully embroidered, choice of colors with appropriate decorations. 50c value, Friday and to-night 39c.

For the Home

ROGERS' SPOONS, the famous W. A. Rogers A-1, heavy silver plate. Dessert Spoons, each 29c; Tea Spoons each 19c.

TEA SERVICE, five handsome pieces, made by the Meriden Britannia Co., regular \$30 set; 1 only to clear at \$18.

FRUIT DISH, best silver plate, made by Meriden Britannia Co.; 2 only regular \$7.50 sets, to clear \$3.45.

WOOL BLANKETS—What better gift could you choose; 10 pairs to sell, regular \$4.25, Friday and tonight \$3.39.

COMFORTERS, made of best Turkey Red Chintz, cotton filled, 72 x 72 inches; regular \$2, Friday and to-night \$1.69.

FOOD CHOPPERS, each machine in neat box, with extra knives, large size reduced to \$1.50; medium \$1.25; small family size \$1.00.

For the Little Folks

DOLL CARRIAGES, steel wheels and axles, good, strong body; regular 75c each, Friday and tonight 49c.

DOLLS, with kid bodies, good large size 39c; extra large size, jointed, regular \$1.25, Friday and to-night 75c.

SHOES, in fine quality kid, sizes 1 to 10 1/2, buttoned or laced, some tan in the lot; Friday and tonight 99c.

STATE ENTRY.

King Albert and Queen Elizabeth Welcomed in Brussels.

King Lauds Late King and Pledges Himself to Fatherland.

Brussels, Dec. 23.—Albert, King of the Belgians, with his Queen, Elizabeth, made a state entry into the capital from Laeken this morning. Cannon boomed a royal salute, church bells rang out merrily, and thousands of adoring subjects lined the route of the royal march, crying, "Long live Albert!" and "Long live Elizabeth!"

When the procession arrived at the chamber where the oath of ascension was to be taken, the successor of Leopold II. was given a notable reception by the Senators and Deputies. A feeble attempt of the Socialists to make a demonstration failed miserably. At every discordant note a fresh outburst of cheering drowned the voices of the malcontents.

King Albert's speech from the throne was an eloquent tribute to Leopold II. and to his uncle, the late King Leopold II.

King Albert said: "The throne has its prerogatives and its responsibilities. The sovereign must be the servant of the law and the supporter of social peace. I love my country, and the Queen shares with me an unalterable feeling of fidelity to Belgium, which we are inculcating also in our children. I pledge myself to do my duty scrupulously and to consecrate all my strength and my whole life to the service of the fatherland."

Loud cheers, which had frequently interrupted the speaker, greeted the close of the speech.

North Bay, Ont., Dec. 23.—The coroner's jury having brought in a verdict that W. J. Dyson, night operator at Redwater, came to his death at the hands of James Morin and William Cornish, the two men appeared in the police court this morning. Magistrate Weegar remanded them, however, for one week, as neither the crown attorney nor the defense had been ready to proceed.

BLACK HAND.
Sandwich, Ont., Dec. 23.—Sandwich has a "Black Hand" scare, three citizens, Desdroun, Merritt, E. Desjardins and Jules Robinson, having received each a letter decorated with the skull and cross bones. The first named was also threatened with hanging.

MAY LOSE FOOT.
Sarnia, Ont., Dec. 23.—A man, identified by papers in his pocket as John Arnold Dick, of Kingston, Ont., was found lying on the ground in Bayview Park on Wednesday in a terrible state from liquor and exhaustion, being unable to move. One foot is so badly frozen that it is thought it will have to be amputated, while several toes on the right foot have been already amputated.

SKATING AT THISTLE RINK.

Ice in Excellent Condition For Opening.

Providing Weather is Seasonable Good Skating is Assured.

A splendid surface and excellent music combined to make the opening of the Thistle Rink, which took place last night, one of the most auspicious in the history of the Thistle Curling Club. Owing to the cold weather of the last couple of weeks, the ice was free from holes, and a crowd of about two hundred young people were on hand to enjoy the healthful, invigorating exercise. The rink property has been greatly improved and now presents a most inviting appearance. The board floor, which was installed last year, is a great assistance in the making of good ice, and providing the weather is seasonable, patrons of the Thistle Rink will have plentiful opportunities to indulge in this fine sport during the winter months.

THE CHRISTMAS ROAD RACE

At Burlington Promises to be Big Affair.

A Half a Dozen Hamilton Men Will Start.

Final arrangements have been completed for holding the Burlington fifth annual road race on Christmas day, and from present indications the race will surpass other years, owing to the fact the Hamilton promoters could not secure a sanction for their race, as one had already been granted to Burlington, and as a result many Toronto and Hamilton runners will compete. The prizes offered are as follows: First, gold watch, valued at \$25; second, suit case, valued at \$15; third, gold clock, valued at \$7.50. Provision has also been made for Burlington runners. The first home runner to finish will receive a silver ring, the second, a special donated by Robert on Bros., Toronto, provided more than two home runners start.

The race will be run over the following course: Start on Brant street, down Brant street to Water street, along Water street to Guelph line, up Guelph line to New street, via James street to Brant street, down Brant street to starting point, making four trips around the block, a distance of 11.4 miles. The runners will start on their journey at 2:30 p. m. sharp.

The following entries have been received: A. H. Holden, Y. M. C. A., Toronto (winner of last year's race); A. L. Sellers, Y. M. C. A., Toronto; Thos. B. Ellis, Hamilton; Chas. Morley, Caledonia; Don McQuig, Hamilton; James Fox, Hamilton; J. Corkery, I. C. A. C., Toronto; H. Lawson, I. C. A. C., Toronto; G. Black, I. C. A. C., Toronto; F. Sloan, I. C. A. C., Toronto; J. Carlton, I. C. A. C., Toronto; Charles Makinson, Hamilton; Mac Allen, Niagara Falls; Jas. B. Kachofsky, Hamilton; Wm. Summers, Burlington; Jos. Garnham, Burlington.

It is expected that James George, who won the Herald race, and Geo. Adams will be starters.

The officials of the race are: Starter, W. J. Brush; time-keepers, J. C. Smith and E. A. Truman; judges, J. E. Campbell and E. A. Truman; course judges, J. Armstrong and Pat Boyd; course timers, Benford's Corner, F. Cotter; Guelph line corner, J. Wilkerson; Hamilton corner, J. W. Henderson.

TEN PINS

At the Brunswick alleys last night Wm. Smith, of the Frost Wire Co., tied the city record for one single strike, made by R. Kingswore two years ago, putting on the good score of 279, Smith having two spares and ten strikes. It is a score to be proud of, and especially for a C class bowler. The bowlers are getting an awful run for it. E. Laing has 625 to his credit for one and Erwin has 593 for the other. Scores:

Frost Wire Co. (won one)			
R. Laidman	168	126	120 414
Drishback	147	138	122 407
W. Smith	137	279	165 581
O. Laidman	162	139	144 455
G. Northcote	118	109	160 447
722 851 711 2284			
Lyons Co. (won two)			
S. Lyons	159	107	170 436
McDaid	178	145	120 443
Lewis	146	134	141 421
737 680 734 2151			
Internationals (won three)			
Moon	157	133	135 425
Irwin	150	198	179 527
Bolton	191	149	173 513
Ford	179	164	208 551
Green	158	194	126 478
835 838 831 2494			
Hamilton B. C.			
Martinson	161	178	188 527
Becker	144	134	168 446
Laing	190	135	165 490
Cooper	134	158	137 429
792 726 814 2332			
General Office (won one)			
McMullin	157	131	190 478
Geddes	148	136	120 404
Wiggin	117	108	130 328
Herald	149	107	130 446
Clancy	176	127	164 467
747 669 707 2123			
S. & I. (won two)			
Dodds	109	142	132 403
Geddes	172	144	139 455
Becker	132	146	138 416
McFendrie	143	125	157 425
Berkley	166	163	155 484
722 720 741 2183			

WHERE IS COOK?
Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—The rumor that Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the discredited North Pole discoverer, is undergoing treatment at Mount Clemens, the famous mineral water bath town, receives considerable credit in that place. The numerous hotel-keepers deny that Cook is their guest, unless under an assumed name.

THE SWITCHMEN.

St. Paul, Dec. 23.—That the Switchmen's strike would end to-day and that the men would be back at work to-morrow, was the opinion expressed by President H. B. Perham, of the American Federation of Labor Railway Department Council.

THE WISSAHICKON.
Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—A Cleveland despatch says the underwriters have asked the wreckers for bids for floating the wrecked steamer Wissahickon and delivering the boat and cargo in port, and a contract may be closed on Thursday.

CITIZENS FLOCKING AROUND THE MAYOR

(Continued from Page 1.)

doubtful if ever before in the city's history Hamilton has had such a good business administration as this year. The frantic effort of the opposition clique to offset this by a campaign of misrepresentation promises to prove a boomerang. Already it is having its effect. Many prominent citizens, who are in sympathy with the Hydro project, called at the Mayor's office yesterday and today and pledged him their support. They are satisfied that Mayor McLaren has always kept Hamilton's best interests before him during his regime in the Chief Magistrate's chair, and they are confident that the record of his business administration, as summed up in the number of important questions settled this year, will result in his being returned with a sweeping majority.

Said a prominent politician to-day: "This opposition to McLaren looks like a neat little scheme to give the minority Tammany ring control of Hamilton's civic affairs again. Not satisfied with the job it got last January, its supporters are trying to galvanize the tiger into life again. It will be smashed for good this time. The better element in this city, the people who have the interests of Hamilton at heart, the people who do not want to place the government of the city at the mercy of pull, operated by heelers and hangers on, will throw their solid support behind McLaren. Among the chief supporters of the opposition are men the city has not employed since this year's business council organized the city work on a business basis. And these are the type of men who are clamoring for opposition to McLaren and asking the people to elect them to the Board of Control."

The C. P. R. notified City Engineer Macallum this morning that any further extension required in the construction of drains to protect the high level bridge would have to be done by the city.

Thomas J. Russell was granted a permit to-day for a brick stable in rear of 299 Wilson street to cost \$300.

U. S. WARSHIP.

Greatest Battleship Ever Built in States Launched.

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—The battleship Utah, the greatest warship ever built in the U. S., was launched from the yard of the New York shipbuilding company at Camden, N. J., to-day. The Utah is the fifth of all the big gun type of battleships launched for the U. S. navy. When completed she will be more powerful than the Delaware and North Dakota, the Dreadnaught class, and a member of Congress has dubbed her the "Skorod" "O'Nathan." The Utah has a length on the load water line of 510 or 521 feet, displacement 21,825 tons or 2,000 tons greater than the Delaware and North Dakota, and her speed is expected to develop 20 knots or more an hour.

The Utah will be fitted for a flagship and her complement as such will consist of a crew of 10,000, of whom 450 will be officers.

TO-NIGHT THE TIME

Toys, Furs, Ladies' Coats, Etc., All Reduced at the Right House.

Despite the fact that its stock and service have been put to the severest supplying test in all its 66 years of existence, the Right House assortments are still as complete and as comprehensive as ever, which means the greatest Christmas stock ever brought to Hamilton. There will be quite a number of quick selling sales at the Right House to-morrow night. Many lines will be cleared regardless of price, and the management will want the room for new 1910 stock. Just now is the very best time to get furs or ladies' coats. Every piece of fur and every garment has been reduced in price.

SOUTH POLE.

Commander Peary at Banquet Says He May Go After It.

New York, Dec. 22.—Commander Peary very strongly intimated to-night, in a speech at the banquet of the New England Society, that the expedition which he led successfully to the North Pole might also try for the South Pole. However, he did not commit himself definitely as to his own share in such an expedition.

TWO CRUISERS.

Canada to Purchase Them From the British Government.

(Special Wire to the Times.)
Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 23.—The first Canadian warship will be in commission in Canadian waters next spring. The Government has arranged for the purchase from the British Admiralty of the second class twin screw cruiser Rainbow, one of the unarmored classes, and the vessel is now in dry dock in Great Britain, undergoing the necessary alterations and repairs preparatory to being sent across the Atlantic next spring.

Arrangements are also being made for securing from the admiralty another second class cruiser of a somewhat larger type for service in Canada next summer, both vessels being used in the dual capacity of fisheries protection cruisers and training ships. The Rainbow will probably be in commission on the Pacific coast and the second cruiser will be stationed on the Atlantic Coast.

It had been the intention of the Government at first merely to secure the loan of the Rainbow from the Admiralty during the construction of the seven new ships contemplated in the initial naval construction programme, but arrangements now made are for purchase outright, the vessels being offered to the Canadian Government at a most reasonable price. The purchase price is not yet divulged, but will be announced in the Commons next month.

The vessels will be manned at first, of course, by British officers and men, whose places will be taken by Canadians gradually, as officers are trained. The main object of getting the cruisers at once is to secure the speedy training of crews for new warships, which will, of course, not be completed for probably a couple of years or so.

The complement of the Rainbow's crew is 273. She was launched in 1891, and cost \$920,000. Her tonnage is a little over 3,000 tons; length 360 feet; beam 43 feet; draught 16.5 feet; armor 4.12 inches, and speed 20 knots. She carries two six-inch guns, six 4.6-inch guns, eight 6-pounders and four torpedo tubes.

FATAL FIRE.

Downington, Pa., Dec. 23.—A fireman was killed and several other persons were injured early to-day in fighting a fire which badly damaged the large paper mill plant of S. A. Bicking & Son. He and a number of other men were caught under a falling smokestack. 125 men were sent to the fire, which was discovered. The loss is not known.

BLANCHFORD & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
67 King Street West.
Established 1842. Private Mortuary.

MARKETS AND FINANCE

Thursday, December 23.—Christmas offerings on Central Market this morning were large and choice. Turkeys were the main feature, the average price being 23 and 25 cents. A few farmers early in the morning were asking as high as 30 cents, but no sales made them quickly lower the price. A great many people bought chickens and geese this year, making the prices of them high. Dairy produce was selling rapidly at the same prices that were quoted on Tuesday. There was an extra good showing of Christmas beef, the price being from \$8.50 to \$10. The grain and the hay and wood market were firm at Tuesday's prices.

The prices this morning were:
Dairy Produce.
Cooking Butter 0.23 to 0.25
Cream Butter 0.27 to 0.28
Dairy butter 0.28 to 0.32
Creamery butter 0.28 to 0.32
Eggs, new laid, dozen 0.35 to 0.50
Eggs, cooking 0.30 to 0.35

Poultry.
Chickens 0.90 to 1.60
Turkeys 0.20 to 0.25
Ducks, pair 1.00 to 2.00
Geese, lb. 0.11 to 0.14

Fruits.
Hickory nuts, bushel 2.00 to 2.00
Walnuts, bushel 1.00 to 1.90
Raspberries, bushel 0.20 to 0.25
Northern Spices, per bushel 0.50 to 0.58
Greening 0.30 to 0.58

Vegetables, Etc.
Celery, dozen 0.40 to 0.60
Lettuce, per bunch 0.03 to 0.05
Cauliflower, dozen 0.25 to 0.30
Potatoes, basket 0.25 to 0.30
Spinach, bushel 0.40 to 0.50
Cabbage, dozen 0.35 to 0.40
Beets, basket 0.25 to 0.30
Carrots, basket 0.20 to 0.25
Parsnips, basket 0.20 to 0.25
Onions, basket 0.40 to 0.50
Hubbards, each 0.40 to 0.50
Pumpkins, each 0.05 to 0.10

Smoked Meats.
Fair supply, demand small, prices steady.
Bacon, sides, lb. 0.15 to 0.22
Bacon, backs, lb. 0.17 to 0.19
Hams, lb. 0.15 to 0.17
Shoulders, lb. 0.14 to 0.15
Lard 0.15 to 0.18
Corners, lb. 0.08 to 0.10
Pork, sausage, lb. 0.09 to 0.10
Frankfort, lb. 0.09 to 0.10
New England ham, lb. 0.10 to 0.12

Flowers.
Palms 1.50 to 2.50
Becunias 0.15 to 0.25
Asters, dozen 0.15 to 0.25
Roses, dozen 0.25 to 0.30
Fuchsias, dozen 0.25 to 0.30
Cyclamens, dozen 0.25 to 0.30
Carnations, pot. 0.25 to 0.30
Succulents, dozen 0.15 to 0.25
Chrysanthemums 0.50 to 0.60

Meats.
Christmas beef 0.20 to 0.25
Beef, No. 1, per cwt 0.50 to 0.60
Beef, No. 2, per cwt 0.40 to 0.50
Live hogs 0.50 to 0.60
Dressed hogs 0.50 to 0.60
Dressed hogs 0.50 to 0.60
Veal, per cwt 0.90 to 1.00
Spring lamb, per lb. 0.11 to 0.12

Fish.
Salmon, Trout 0.15 to 0.18
White fish, large, doz. 0.25 to 0.30
Halibut, lb. 0.15 to 0.18
Cod, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Smoked salmon, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Lake Erie herrings, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Smelts, 2 lbs. 0.25 to 0.30
Perch, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Mackerel, lb. 0.20 to 0.25
Haddock, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Cluttered Herrings, 2 for 10

The Hide Market.
Calf skins, No. 1, lb. 0.15 to 0.18
Calf skins, No. 2, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Calf skins, flat, lb. 0.14 to 0.16
Calf skins, each 0.20 to 0.25
Horse hides, each 0.20 to 0.25
Hides, No. 1, per lb. 0.14 to 0.16
Hides, No. 2, per lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Hides, flat, each 0.15 to 0.18
Lamb skins, No. 1, lb. 0.10 to 0.12
Wool, pound, unwashed 0.12 to 0.14
Wool, pound, washed 0.10 to 0.12

Grain Market.
Barley, new, No. 1, lb. 0.35 to 0.40
Wheat, No. 1, lb. 0.35 to 0.40
Oats, No. 1, lb. 0.25 to 0.30
Rye, No. 1, lb. 0.25 to 0.30
Buckwheat, No. 1, lb. 0.25 to 0.30
Corn, No. 1, lb. 0.25 to 0.30
Peas