

hair checks, costume cloths, extraforts; also serges of very special value. There is a fine range of blouse silks, including the glace, both printed and woven, shot taffetas, and black and white chines. In low-priced stuffs the house is well placed, the buyer being in the market early. In the better fancy stuffs, principally in bright goods, mohair, mohair and wool, and silk and wool, the range is pretty. A large range of black lustrés, bought low and since advanced greatly in price, is shown.

#### A DRY GOODS ACTION IN HALIFAX.

A SUIT brought by Murdoch's Nephews, a wholesale house in Halifax, against Kane, Flett & Co., retailers in the same city, for 15 cents has created a great deal of interest in the dry goods trade. Judgment was delivered in favor of defendants. Writing to THE REVIEW they say: "When the trouble over the early closing movement arose, we owed Murdoch's Nephews considerably more than a discount of 35 cents would lead one to suppose, but on account of having been refused the regular discount, and to avoid trouble, we paid only the due portion of the account.

"On the first of the following month we were furnished with a statement of balance due, which was also subject to discount, but we only took off the discount on \$7.06, which was for goods bought two weeks previously, or, in other words, a day or two before the unpleasantness referred to.

"In answer to this we received word that they would not allow us any discount and a memo to the effect that they retained cheque, but afterwards claimed the word was intended for return cheque, but not finding the cheque in the envelope we thought we read aright and so dismissed the matter from our minds for the moment. You can imagine our surprise on being served in the County Court only a day or two afterwards and without the least warning or notice of any kind.

"We immediately wrote their lawyers, Borden, Parker & Co., stating the case and telling them we had no desire to have anything to do with their clients, especially over so small a matter as 35 cents and enclosed them the amount in full.

"In reply to this we were told that the writ would only be stopped on the payment of costs, but thinking this just a little too much for human nature to stand, we took legal advice and defended the suit.

"The plaintiffs admitted in their evidence that we were entitled to 20 cents discount at least, and so this writ was issued against us on a claim of 15 cents, for purchases of two weeks' standing, and without any warning."

#### A COLLINGWOOD MANUFACTURING FIRM.

The Williams, Hurlburt Co., of Collingwood, Ont., have just closed a successful year, their sales being 40 per cent. in advance of any previous year. Their Reliance brand of hosiery, "Fast Black," is well known and sought after by consumers. Their advertisement appears in this issue, and is worth a perusal.

#### A FIRM CHANGE.

It is announced that on Dec. 31st the following change took place in the firm of John Macdonald & Co.: Mr. Paul Campbell retired and Messrs. Duncan Macdonald and A. N. Macdonald were admitted as partners in the firm. Mr. Campbell's retirement is due entirely to the state of his health which, it is hoped, will entirely recover now that he is free of business

cares. He has been unable to do active work since last February. There are now four sons of the late Senator Macdonald in the firm, which continues, of course, its old name unchanged.

#### THREAD MEN IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. W. Samuel, of Thos. Samuel & Son, Montreal, returned from the Northwest last month. While there he met Mr. John M. Barbour, of William Barbour & Sons, Limited, Lisburn, Ireland, and Mr. J. E. Barbour, of Paterson, N. J., who have been visiting Western Canada as far as the Pacific Coast. While in British Columbia they looked into the suitabilities of the land for growing flax. The Barbours do a large trade in threads and nets for salmon fishing, and are now making gilling nets, having put in new machinery for this purpose.

#### SPECIAL LINES.

Special lines announced by John Macdonald & Co. this month include lace curtains 3½ yards long, in two patterns; plush mats, 12 by 30 inches; plush rugs, 2 by 4 feet; fifteen ranges of pearl buttons, 18 to 30 line; derby ties, new designs in knot ties, cashmere and silk mufflers; new veilings, new Swiss spot muslins, which are in demand, and embroideries; very special colored surah silks; also colored pongees, all shades; special 15-inch toweling, a low line; a special line of tea cloths, colored border, 23 inches wide; special pure linen crash, 24 inches; a special job in 56-inch loom damask toweling. The prices in these lines are something attractive.

#### PRETTY GIRLS IN BUSINESS OFFICES.

Here is a little story which seems to indicate that the pretty girl's business prospects are hampered by her prettiness.

The secretary of a large eastern insurance company decided a short time since that it would be better for his office work to introduce half a dozen or more women as typewriters, operators and assistant bookkeepers. He had noted that of the feminine employes in his office the pretty ones were the least effective and attracted the most attention, to the detriment of the work of other clerks. So he decided to engage only women who were of mature years and experienced in office work. First he advertised, stating that applicants should give age and number of years' experience. He did not succeed in getting a single satisfactory reply. Then he went to a well-known business college and told the manager that he did not suppose he would have any trouble in aiding him, as he did not want a young or attractive-looking woman.

The manager listened to him while he explained his wants, and then, going to a desk, took out a file of letters with a smile and laid them before his visitor. There were upward of half a hundred applications from banks and commercial institutions, and every one of them, without a single exception, asked for a woman of mature age. The manager said that it was absolutely impossible to supply the demand for employes of the description that business men now demanded, but he had rafts of pretty girls at all times who were applicants.—N.Y. Herald.

The commercial travelers of the United States expend in passenger fares annually \$172,000,000, book 600,000,000 tons of freight each year, pay nearly \$25,000,000 for excess baggage, and nearly \$1,000,000 in storage.