

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

WOUNDED

Two Brantford soldiers are listed as wounded in yesterday's casualty list. Pte. A. McIntyre, who has returned to duty and Pte. A. E. Edwards.

VISIT HAMILTON.

An invitation has been received by the local Typographical Union from the Hamilton Typographical Union to visit them on Saturday next, when hockey and nine pins will be engaged in and a supper served.

SLEIGH-RIDE

Some thirty-five printers of the city participated in a most enjoyable sleigh-ride last evening to the home of Mr. Ed. Mordue, Smoky Hollow. Cards and dancing were the order of the evening, followed by a dainty luncheon, and the merry party dispersed at an early hour of the morning.

HIGH PRICES

Many complaints are being made over the action of some coal dealers in the matter of charging for small deliveries. Householders complain that no matter what quantity is ordered an excess charge is made for the small amount delivered, and that in some cases as high as \$20 per ton is being charged.

BELGIUM RELIEF.

The appeal of the Board of Trade continues to meet with a hearty response on the part of the citizens of Brantford, as the following further contributions received by Mr. George Hatley will testify: Donations—D. Brooks Estate, \$30.00, Account of Pledges: C. B. Heyd, \$15.00; Geo. H. Muirhead, \$10.00. Total monthly to date, \$276.77. Monthly objective, \$500.00.

OXFORD UNDERWRITERS.

Mr. T. Hendry of the Sun Life Insurance Company, has returned from Woodstock where he was the guest of the Life Underwriters, who organized there last night. The Oxford Life Underwriters' Association. A banquet was tendered in the Hotel Oxford, with addresses by Mr. Nesbitt, M.P., Mr. T. B. Parkinson, of London and Mr. Hendry. Some twenty new members were enrolled and all augurs well for the future of the newly founded organization.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION.

A letter was received today by City Clerk H. F. Leonard, from City Clerk A. H. Millar, of Kitchener, stating that the city council of that municipality were now considering the administration of the police department, and in their opinion, in view of the fact that the council has to provide the finances on which to

operate the force, it should be accordingly better represented on the Police Commission, and should also have a voice in the amount of salary to be paid to the Magistrate. If the local council concurs with these views, they are asked to co-operate in an effort to seek an amendment to the present law governing the matter.

A BANTAM.

David Couborough, the recruit who offered himself to the Bantams at the recruiting meeting in the Brant theatre on Sunday night, last night was examined by the medical officer and was successful in meeting the requirements. He is a single man, aged nineteen years old, and has been employed in the capacity of stockkeeper at the Cocksfoot Plow Company. He resides on Rose Avenue.

BASEBALL.

The Belmont Hotel team captained by Bill Fraser, won an exciting contest from the Verity's last night at the Automatic Baseball game. The game was decided by two points and was hotly fought from start to finish.

Score of yesterday's batting tournament.	
Belmont Hotel	Verity's
Wm. Fraser 121	McCauley 139
J. Carmody 117	F. Sears 139
Lunch Drake 142	R. Moss 129
Sam Fox 89	Bradshaw 76
S. E. Taylor 134	Davidson 137
694	692

EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The regular weekly meeting of the Epworth League of Wellington street Methodist church was held last evening, and in spite of the very cold weather, a large number were present. The missionary committee was in charge, and Mrs. (Dr.) Henderson presided. The subject of medical missions in China was taken up, and papers were read by Miss Hattie Hayward, Miss Gertrude Vanstone and Mrs. Fred Smith, each giving a splendid account of the work being done by our missionary doctors and nurses. Miss Nora Messer read the scripture lesson and a vocal duet by Misses Lily Darwen and Violet Clement was greatly appreciated.

ZION Y. P. G.

Rev. Mr. Martin of Wesley church addressed the members of Zion Church Y. P. G. last night on mission work. Taking as his text, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," Mr. Martin told of the great work accomplished by men and women, who had given up many comforts and severed themselves from friends in order that they might plant the seeds of Christianity. Work done in India, Africa, the Far East, and in fact, in all recesses of the world, was touched upon to the enlightenment of his hearers. Mr. George Traill, head of mission committee of the Guild, was the chairman of the evening. Mr. Walter Carpenter rendered a solo.

CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Brantford Choral Society got away to a good start last evening at a meeting held in the Y.M.C.A. It was decided to give Handel's "Judas Maccabeus" as the first performance. Rehearsals will commence on Thursday, March 1st. The chorus which rendered the "Messiah" so ably on Feb. 1st, is asked to be there in a body and any singers who are interested in works of this nature are asked to attend the initial rehearsal so that the work may get a real good start. It is hoped that a hall centrally situated, will be secured for rehearsals, this place to be announced later. The officers elected last evening were Mr. T. Darwen, chairman of the Executive, Mr. J. B. Pickering, general secretary, Mr. J. T. Schofield, conductor. The other officers and committees will be elected at the first rehearsal. The co-operation of all singers is asked for in this work, so that Brantford can take its proper place in the musical world of Canada.

55 P.C. OF YOUNG PUPILS HAVE DEFECTIVE SIGHT

Sarnia, Feb. 8.—Fifty-five per cent. of the pupils in the primary and first grades of Sarnia public schools are suffering from defective eyesight, according to the report of Public School Inspector Henry Conn to the Board of Education. This condition is declared to be very serious, and it is likely that the board will endeavor to determine the cause and find some remedy.





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Foot Trouble

R. J. ORR,
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Will be at our Store
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Mr. Orr is a specialist of wide experience and can prescribe for any foot ailment. Come and have him examine your feet. It costs nothing.

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Serge Showing Week
—IN THE—
Dress Goods Department

This week we are devoting our energies to the finest showing of *Serges* that the makers can produce.

Beautiful soft Botany Serges made from the old yarns—guaranteed dyes, bought and stored in our stock rooms over one year ago for our showing this spring.

The demand for French or British Serge in fine even twill to feature the long line Princess effect Dress is almost beyond conception. This line at—

\$1.25 to \$1.75

is 42 inches wide, is one of our strong features. Shown in navy, brown and black.

Note—We are prepared to stand behind every piece of navy or black serge in the department as to guarantee of dye. These are all old dye and absolutely fast.

Here is a list of prices to look over. For your own good we advise buying soon as the stock will become depleted

All Wool Serges

38 inches All Wool Serge in navy blue and black, fast dyes at	85c	40 inches All Wool Serge in navy blue and black, fast dyes, special	\$1.25
yard, 75c and		per yard, \$1.00 and	
46 inches All Wool Serge, made in a good hard finish and a good wearing serge in black and navy. Special price, yard	\$1.50	54 inches All Wool Serge in fine weave, our old special (Man's Suitsing Serge) for Women's Suits and Coats, in navy and black, at \$3, \$3.25 and	\$3.50
50 inches All Wool Chiffon Serge, made from pure botany yarn, suitable for suits or skirts or dresses, prices	\$2.00		
yard, \$1.75 and			

February Hosiery Sale
Buy Hose NOW! Buy Hose Aplenty!

Being in close touch with the Largest Hosiery concerns in the world, we are in a position to advise you correctly regarding the question, not so much the advancing prices, as the improbability of procuring hose at ANY PRICE later. Wools are soaring in price and are in most cases being completely commandeered by the British Government for war purposes. In the midst of all this upheaval we are endeavoring to give our patrons the best possible selection at prices of the old days—

Wednesday - Thursday - Friday

We are giving over one-quarter of our floor space on the main floor to our Hosiery Department.

Do Not Hesitate to supply your needs for a year to come at the prices we are offering

With every pair of Cashmere, Cotton or Silk Hose, we give you free a card of mending silk, wool or cotton, also needed.

Ladies Cashmereno and Silk Fleeced Hose, worth 35c., for **25c**

Girls' and Women's 2 and 1 Ribb Cashmere Hose, fast dye, spliced heel, toe. Regular 50c pair special at **35c**

Misses' and Boys' 1 and 1 rib Cashmere Hose, heavy double knee, sizes 8 1-2 and 9 1-2 worth 45c pair special at **29c**

Women's Plain Cashmere Hose, good heavy weight spliced heel and toes, seamless feet, good fast dye, all sizes, regular 65c., for **50c**

Boys' Worsted. Hose, pure wool, full range, all sizes, extra good value at 75c., for **50c**

Women's Plain Cashmere Hose, seamless feet, fast dye, all sizes, double heel, sole and toe, regular 50c., for **39c**

Women's Plain Cashmere Hose, extra fine quality from pure botany wool, fast dye in all sizes, double garter top regular \$1.00, for, per pair **85c**

Come prepared to supply the needs of the whole family, our lines will be so arranged on the counters you will have no trouble in selecting. The prices will be right.



Boys' 2 in 1 Cashmere Hose elastic top fast dye and good heavy weight, worth 40c pair, for **25c**

Ladies' Cream Cashmere Hose, special elastic top, spliced heel and toe, ankles and sole, all wool, seamless feet, all sizes regular 75c 85c for **75c**

Women's Tan Cashmere Hose, fine quality all wool, seamless feet, extra spliced heels, toes and soles, all sizes regular 85c., for, pair **65c**

Women's Silk Boot Hose, double garter top, sole and heel, fast dye regular 65c for **59c**

The Linen Supply
And The War

The principal sources of Flax supply for the Linen Industry are Belgium, Holland and Russia. Belgium supplies the fine Courtrai flax; Holland the medium quality; and Russia the coarse flax—the latter country produces by far the largest proportion of the world's flax supply.

Ireland, which is capable of producing flax of excellent quality and high tensile strength, has for years been gradually dropping back, till now the Irish crop is almost a negligible quantity in the flax markets of the world.

In the manufacture of "Old Bleach" linens the best quality Irish flax is given the preference, it having proved in practice to be stronger and more serviceable than other descriptions.

When war was declared in August 1914, Belgium was immediately over-run by Germany, and the supply of Courtrai flax, the finest imported flax, was at once cut off. Owing to German command of the Baltic, the Russian supply was also cut off, and Germany became a strong bidder for the available Dutch crop.

Later flax began to dribble in from Russia, at first through Sweden, till pressure by Germany upset this arrangement. Now the Linen trade has to depend on what flax can be got through from Archangel, while that port is free from ice during the summer. Obtaining flax by this route is beset by many difficulties, not the least being the long railway journey to that port, coupled with the shortage of rolling stock on the Russian railways.

Not only is the cost of conveyance enormous, but quantities of flax have been destroyed through want of buildings for shortage at the port, or by being side-tracked on the journey, thrown out of the waggons and left for months in the open.

Ships carrying flax from Archangel have been singularly unfortunate in encountering submarines, and quite a number have been sunk.

Materials made from flax are an essential in military equipment—tent duck, aeroplane cloth, dowlas, hospital equipment, linings for uniforms and last but not least, linen thread for tents, boots and uniforms.

The demands of the War Office have been enormous, and cotton substitutes have proved the reverse of satisfactory.

Coarse Russian flax is suitable for all these materials, with the exception of aero cloth and linen thread, which require strong fine flax of the highest quality, and for these we are dependent on the Irish crop, and what stocks of Belgian flax were in hand at the outbreak of the war.

Flax, has, of course, risen enormously in price, especially in the higher qualities, and all previous records have been left behind.

In the Irish market, flax that could have been bought in normal times for \$2.25 per stone has reached the record price of \$7.00 per stone.

In Russia flax costing \$126.50 per ton in 1913, now costs \$375.00 per ton.

The cost of bleaching, mill furnishings, coal, freights, in fact everything has advanced in price enormously, in cases to as much as 300 per cent.

Under these circumstances, and taking into consideration the demands of the War Office, which comes first, it is not surprising that the linen offered to the public is so expensive as that it is so cheap.

The stories about the large profits made by linen manufacturers are so much nonsense. What manufacturers are aiming at is to keep their customers supplied as well as they are able, and to find flax enough to keep their employees going at the rate of a 35 hour week, which are the prevailing working hours in the linen trade, rendered imperative, not by lack of demand, but by scarcity of raw material.

Pure linen goods are now getting very scarce, and prices are certain to go higher.

When the war ends there will be a sudden and acute slump in prices, for the all sufficient reason that stocks do not exist, and the trade in the higher class linen goods, requiring Courtrai yarns, will not assume the normal for at least two years, owing to the system of flax productions in Belgium whereby the flax cannot be retted and scutched until the summer after it has been grown.

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