

**THE HAMILTON TIMES**

MONDAY, DEC. 23, 1907.

**THE POWER FIGURES.**

How many of those who have read the estimate given by the Hydro Electric Power Commission as presented by Mayor Stewart at last Friday night's meeting have an intelligent understanding of it? Does the Mayor understand it? Admitting that both he and the public understand it, what reliance can be placed upon it? The estimate is the estimate of Mr. Sothman, the Commissioner's expert, but while he gives out these figures his employers, the Commissioners, tell us that they cannot guarantee anything more than the price they have to pay at the Falls for the power. It is useless to attempt to give estimates of cost of power to Hamilton until the Commission knows what the outlay will be. There are a hundred things to be taken into consideration until any reliable estimate can be given of the ultimate cost. The cost and maintenance of transmission line, transformers, buildings, wires, operation, etc., must be definitely fixed before estimates can be given—with any certainty as to their correctness. Mr. Sothman may be an expert, but he cannot know these things. We have no guarantee of the correctness of his figures, and from the position he holds he cannot be regarded as an unbiased person. Then he is here to-day and perhaps in Denmark to-morrow. If Mayor Stewart wants expert opinion as to the comparative merits of the Hydro and Cataract offers, why does he not hire an independent expert—a man who is not connected with either concern? If he did so, the public might have more confidence in the figures submitted. Mr. Hawkins declares that they can and will undersell the Hydro Company. Well, let definite, binding offers be made by both concerns, not estimates, and let us have an independent expert, if necessary, to judge as to the relative value of the offers. Mr. Hawkins' figures are just as worthy of credence as are Mr. Sothman's and more so, because they are bona fide offers, and not mere haphazard estimates. All the speakers of Friday night's meeting cheerfully admitted that they were not electrical experts—that they got their information and views at second hand. Mr. Barrow, the City Engineer, admits that he is not that kind of an expert. In fact, electrical experts seem to be scarce. The Herald seems to be the only one that would have us believe that it is an expert, but as it has so much to say on the subject, we infer that it is not so much an electrical expert as a producer gas expert. Get your independent expert, Mr. Mayor, or perhaps it might be as well to wait until Mr. Beck's company is able to lay before the public a guaranteed offer. In the meantime, the by-laws may get the six months' hoist or its equivalent.

**THE MERCHANTS' BANK OF CANADA.**

The report presented at the forty-fourth annual meeting of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, held in Montreal on the 18th inst., was of the sort to please both directors and shareholders. The change in the date of closing the books of the bank, they being closed now upon the 30th of November instead of the 31st of May, as heretofore, made the statement of affairs show the condition of the bank at the close of the half year's business, on the 30th of November last. The net profits for the half year reached the very handsome figure of \$473,144.20, out of which two quarterly dividends at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, amounting to \$240,000, had been paid. There was carried forward to next year a balance of \$267,400.73. The reserve fund now amounts to \$4,000,000. The assets of the bank now amount to over \$32,000,000, and the security they afford is such that those whose money is invested in the bank can have no misgivings. It is pleasant to notice that frozen finance has no place in the management of the Merchants. Mr. Hebdien, the General Manager, in addressing the meeting, declared for a policy of moderation in both public and private affairs. He said this was a slowing down time, and time to take stock of positions, to retrench and to be mutually helpful. At the same time he spoke hopefully of Canada's financial position in comparison with that of the States. The Directors expressed themselves highly pleased with the report and the prospects for the year.

**THE SONGS OF CHRISTMASTIDE**

The song of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill Towards Men" went welling around this old world yesterday, as the millions of followers of the Man of Nazareth sang his praises throughout all Christendom. What a softening, love inspiring and joy producing effect the songs of the Christ-mas-tide have! The beautiful melody of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "Glory to God in the Highest," and "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," the magnificent harmony of "The Hallelujah Chorus," and "Adorate Fideles," the rich "Break Forth, O Beauteous Light," and the simple and sweet "While the Shepherds Watched Their Flocks," how they appeal to all that is noble and generous in one's nature! How they open the heart and make one look around to see who there is in need or whose life could be made brighter by a Christmas remembrance. Surely the songs of the Babe of Bethlehem breathe the very spirit of happiness over the world. The greatest composers and the greatest song writers have found their inspiration in Him who "in a manger lay so lowly!" What would the long winter be without the brightest of all bright spots of the year

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**SHEA'S** STORE OPEN TILL 10 O'CLOCK EVERY EVENING

**The Day Before Xmas**

**Stylish Christmas Mantles at 50c on the Dollar**

What more practical or pleasing gift than an elegant Mantle or Cloak—what will appeal more to your business instinct than getting it at half price? Here is the proposition.

Women's stylish Mantles, made of swell tweeds, rich kerseys and beavers, and fine broadcloths, in both tight fitting and newest loose back styles, some lined, some partly lined, and a few unlined, all the newest style, touches of braid and velvet-trimming, very newest sleeves, some light shades that would make elegant evening wraps. Every garment perfect in cut and material, the same can be said of the workmanship. All on sale at about half regular prices:

\$10.00 Coats for	\$5.00
\$12.50 and \$13.50 Coats for	\$7.50
\$20.00 Coats for	\$10.00
\$22.50 Coats for	\$12.50
\$35.00 Coats for	\$20.00

**A Sale of Skirts**  
Another Gift Saving  
**WOMEN'S SKIRTS AT \$3.95**—These are made of fine Venetians and Tweeds in the very newest designs. All colors, black, greens, navys, browns and swell mixtures, worth every cent of \$6.00, on sale Saturday for each \$3.95

**WOMEN'S SKIRTS AT \$5.00**—We intended to sell these at \$5.95, for they are worth \$7.50; but \$5.00 is such a popular price for a gift that we marked them \$5.00. Voiles, Broadcloths, Panamas, kilts and pleated, trimmed with self folds and silk folds, good \$7.50 value, on sale for each \$5.00

**Women's Fur Coats Misses' and Children's Coats**  
Guaranteed  
Made by the best and most reliable manufacturing firm in Canada, of hand-some Astrakhan fur, perfect in pelt, fit and workmanship, durably lined, special each \$37.50

Newest styles of Coats, made of very rich near seal by the same firm, very strongly lined, perfectly made, heavily furred skins, special value each \$48.00

**CHILDREN'S ULSTERS AT \$3.50**—Made of warm German Tweeds and good heavy plain Cloths, pleated backs, velvet collars and cuffs, worth \$5.00, on sale for each \$3.50

**MISSES' COATS AT \$4.95**—Made of very stylish Plaids, mixed and plain Cloths, self strapped, with belts, velvet collars and cuffs, worth \$7.00 and \$7.50, on sale for each \$4.95

**Hand Bags for Christmas Gifts**  
Large assortment and all priced at less than usual by a full third. All most dainty in style and made of most durable materials.  
Small Belt Purses, each 15c.  
Teddy Bear Bags 25c.  
Bead Trimmed Squaw Bags, in colors, each 50 and 75c  
Hand Bags, in blacks and browns, all leather, at 50, 75c, \$1.00 to \$2.50.  
Strap Handle Bags at \$1, \$1.50 and \$2.00.  
Hand Purses, in greens, browns and blacks, each 50, 75c and \$1.

**Gift Umbrellas**  
For variety of handles our assortment of Gift Umbrellas exceeds any we have ever shown before. Elegance and quality in every one and a full third cheaper than you can buy the same qualities for elsewhere.

**Gift Umbrellas \$5.00**  
Previous seasons we have sold more at \$5 than any other figure; so we set out to have the best showing in the city at this price. You will say we have succeeded.

Women's have handles of ivory, etched silver tops, tan length pearl, mounted in gold and silver, long gold chased handles, in hooks and straight gun metal and silver, metal and silver.

The Men's are Cape Horn and buckhorn, gun metal, etched silver and gilt hooks and caps, richly handsome styles of high-class workmanship. Etched work is seen on many of them, and that's "all the go" this season. Real value \$6 and \$6.50, for \$5.00.

Chaper Umbrellas, for both men and women at \$1.50 to \$3.95.

Better grades for both men and women, at \$6, \$6.50 to \$7.50.

**Gloves for Gifts**  
Kid Gloves, in the celebrated Pewee's make, every pair guaranteed, black, white and every wanted color, each pair put up in a neat gift box, and can be exchanged for right sizes after the holiday. \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

English Walking Gloves, pique sewn, tan and grey, single dome, regular \$1.25 value, for per pair \$1.00.

Ringwood Gloves, in every wanted color and very best qualities, on sale for 19, 25, 35 and 50c.

**Hosiery for Gifts**  
Beautiful All-wool, Fine, Open Work Black Cashmere Hose, for women, each pair put up in neat gift boxes, very special value at, per pair, 50 and 75c.  
Plain and Ribbed Black Cashmere Hose, pure wool, per pair, 50c.  
Embroidered Front Cashmere Hose, put up in gift boxes, per pair 35c.  
Women's Pure Wool Black Cashmere, either plain or ribbed, best values in Canada, for 3 pairs for \$1.00.

**Gifts for Men**  
House Coats, in a great variety of colors and styles, good, useful and handsome garments, well made, of first materials at less than the maker's cost.  
\$3.00 value for \$3.00; \$6.00 value for \$4.00.

**Women's Neck Furs**  
Rich Gifts  
Furs of good quality are like diamonds; you can always get your money out of them, and, like diamonds, make the richest and most acceptable gifts. You get the right kind here—grey and brown squirrel sets, large pillow muff and throw scarf of generous length and prime quality, per set \$25

Black and Isabella Possum Stoles, wide collar, long front, trimmed with heads and tails, beautifully blended, each \$11.50

Isabella and Grey Possum Stoles, fur lined, collar front, trimmed tails, special value, each \$9.50

Isabella Possum Muff, large Empire shape, lined with durable satin lining, each very special \$5.95

Beautiful Natural Mink Stoles, extra No. 1 quality, fully guaranteed, worth \$60 anywhere, our price, each \$45

**Waists for Gifts—Some Bargains Big Purchase of Silk Underskirts**  
Beautiful fine Cashmere and Delaine Waists, richly embroidered with silk, black, cream, navy and brown, tucked back and front, 3/4 sleeves, regular value \$2.50 and \$3.00, on sale for \$1.50

Beautifully Embroidered Waists, made of the best quality of Jap Silks, tucked back and front, trimmed with fine Valenciennes lace, very special at each \$3.50.

Waists at \$5.00—A big collection of Taffeta Silk, Jap Silk, Allover Lace, Plain Net and Point d'Esprit Net, black, cream and white, made in the newest ideas of sleeves and most attractively trimmed; this is another of those occasions when this busy store saves you a third the price you usually pay; \$6.50 to \$8.00 values, for each \$5.

Purchased from a leading maker yesterday for spot cash, at half price. They are made of fine taffeta silks and silk moirettes, most beautifully finished, some of them richly embroidered and appliqued. Pleated frills and fancy ruffles; black and all usual dark and light colors. Skirts that sell in the regular way at \$6.00 to \$20.00, on sale Tuesday for from \$3.95 to \$8.95.

**White Wool Blankets—Another Practical Gift**  
White Blankets, made of the finest Canadian fleece wool, thoroughly scoured and lofty finish, fast color border, full double bed size, worth \$6.00, for \$5.00, and \$7.00 value for \$5.75.

Splendid White Blankets at \$2.95 and \$3.50.

**Bed Comforters Make Gifts**  
Splendidly made Comforters, filled with pure cotton batting, covered with silkline and chintz, 72x72 size, at \$1.75, \$1.95, \$2.25 and \$2.50.

**Hamilton's Bigger.**  
(London Advertiser.)  
There are few cities of the size that could duplicate London's Christmas market.

**Play the Holes.**  
(Bradford Courier.)  
Those married men who have holes in their socks had better start darning them right away.

**Don't Forget the Mistletoe!**  
(Ottawa Free Press.)  
Plan your programme for Wednesday so that as many of your family as possible may be able to go to church. Christmas festivities are good; but Christmas gratitude to the Giver of all Good is better.

**Drunkenness a Disease.**  
(Toronto News.)  
Especially should Ontario realize that drunkenness is a disease, and adorn the harsh and forbidding face of her prison system with some smile of hope for unfortunate who are powerless to rescue themselves from the grip of the liquor habit.

**Has Nothing.**  
(Toronto News.)  
The Commission has not brought a volt of cheap power within reach of the people. It has no transmission line. All it has is an arrangement to get power from the Ontario Power Company at a certain rate, and "plugs" for a transmission line. Mr. McNaught, like Mr. Beck, deals with generalities and leaves details severely alone.

Mrs. McTavish, wife of Rev. D. McTavish, of Toronto, died in Baltimore Hospital.

A final dividend of 43-4 cents on the dollar was declared on Saturday by the liquidators of the Atlas Loan Company, of St. Thom.

**PARIS DRESS DESIGNER DEAD.**  
His Famous Dictum Regarding Female Dress.  
London, Dec. 22.—The death of Paquin, the Paris dress designer, recalls his dictum: "The chief components of true beauty in the female form are unity and variety. Beauty demands the coexistence of these attributes, the former for the satisfaction of sensibility and the latter for the satisfaction of intelligence. There is one thing we dressmakers seek more than all else in a perfect figure for women, and that is line."  
Paquin's real name is Isidore Jacob. His nationality was the cause of a stormy debate in the Chamber when the Cross of the Legion of Honor was conferred upon him at the time the anti-semitic fever was at its height.

**Saturday the Third Largest Day in Our History**

No sign of hard times or tight money here, the public are wise to the fact that this store is the place to purchase when you want goods at a reasonable profit. Now for the last day of the Christmas season.

**The following specials between 8.30 and 9.30 Tuesday Morning**

**Our \$1 French Kid Gloves 75c**  
Between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30 Tuesday morning we give you your choice of our real French Kid Gloves, full ranges of sizes and colors, and every pair guaranteed, regularly \$1.00, for . . . . . 75c

**Our \$1 Lined Kid Gloves 75c**  
We give you your choice of our Ladies' Lined Kid Gloves at \$1.00, for 75c, between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30.

**Fancy Pin Cushions at Half**  
Between the hours of 8.30 and 8.30 we offer you your choice of Fancy Pin Cushions at half and less than half price.

**Dresden Ribbons at Half**  
Great slaughter sale of handsome Dresden Ribbons at half price. Between the hours of 8.30 and 9.50 Tuesday morning we offer you your choice of every Dresden Ribbon we have in stock at one-half the regular marked price.  
\$1.50 Dresden Ribbons for . . . . . 50c  
50c Dresden Ribbons for . . . . . 25c  
25c Dresden Ribbons for . . . . . 12 1/2c  
You must be there between 8.30 and 9.30 for these Dresden Ribbons. After 9.30 you must pay the full price.

**\$1 Chiffon Scarfs 25c**  
Handsome Chiffon Scarfs, in a variety of different styles, every one good value for \$1.00, Tuesday morning, between 8.30 and 9.30, the price . . . . . 25c

**\$1 Guipure Lace Collars 39c**  
Handsome, Deep Guipure Lace Collars, sold ordinarily for \$1.00, Tuesday, between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30, we clear at . . . . . 39c

**25c and 35c Calendars 9c**  
300 Calendars, most of them nicely boxed, the kind we have been retailing at 25 and 35c; Tuesday morning we offer between 8.30 and 9.30 the choice of this lot for 9c

**25c Cloth Bound Novels 10c**  
For one hour between 8.30 and 9.30 we offer you your choice of cloth-bound Books by the best known authors of the day; our leader at 25c, Tuesday morning's price . . . . . 10c

**15c to 30c Lawns for 5c**  
Sharp 8.30 and from then to 9.30 we offer 1,000 yards of mill remnants of White Lawn, that would ordinarily sell at from 15 to 30c, sale price . . . . . 5c

**50c Glove and Handkerchief Boxes 25c**  
Only a limited number of Leatherette Covered Handkerchief and Glove Boxes, regular 50c, between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30 the price . . . . . 25c

**Hair Brush Sets \$2 for 99c**  
Just a limited quantity of Hair Brush Sets; some boxes contain an ebony brush and comb, others two military brushes; these are a great bargain at \$2.00, Tuesday morning's price . . . . . 99c

**Men's Mufflers at Half**  
Just 5 dozen in all samples of Men's Mufflers will be sold between 8.30 and 9.30 Tuesday morning at just 1/2 the regular price.

**\$10 Ladies' Coats \$2.99**  
50 Ladies' Coats, plain black cloth and tweeds, ordinary \$10.00 value, for . . . . . \$2.99

**\$15 Ladies' Coats \$5**  
25 only Ladies' this season's Nobby Coats, sold in the ordinary way for \$15.00, on sale between 8.30 and 9.30 for . . . . . \$5.00

**Great Sale of Ladies' Furs at Half Price**

**\$3.00 to \$4.00 Ladies' Shoes \$1.98**

**\$1.50 Slippers 89c**

**\$5.00 Men's Shoes \$2.50**

**\$2.50 and \$3.00 Ladies' Fancy Slippers 49c**

Between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30 we put on sale stock of \$5,000 worth of Furs, all this season's Jack-coats, Ruffs, Stoles, Capelines, etc., at just 1/2 the regular retail price.

Ladies Patent Calf Shoes, dull kid top with military heel, Goodyear welt, worth regular \$3 to \$4, between the hours of 8.30 and 9.30, the price . . . . . \$1.98

Ladies' Patent Leather one Strap Slippers, French heel, trimmed sole, regular \$1.50, from 8.30 to 9.30, the price . . . . . 89c

Men's Patent Calf Goodyear Welt, dull kid, fancy regular \$5, Tuesday between 8.30 and 9.30, the price . . . . . \$2.50

Ladies' fancy Slippers, white, green, pink and pale blue, sizes 3 1/2 and 4, trimmed soles, high heels, regular \$2.50 and \$3, 8.30 to 9.30, your choice . . . . . 49c

**Now for the Final Day Before Christmas In Our Great Basement**

SPECIAL prices have again been adjusted to dozens of lines of goods in our great basement for to-morrow, Tuesday. In some instances the prices are less than half; this you will notice by reading further. Come at 8.30 a.m. everything will be in readiness for you.

**China Worth to \$1.25 for 49c**  
A number of Salad Dishes, Figures, Jardinieres, Jugs, Bon Bon Dishes, Bread and Milk Sets, worth regularly up to \$1.25, will be sold Tuesday at . . . . . 49c each

**Dinner Sets 10 Per Cent. Off**  
From 8.30 to 10.30 a.m. Tuesday we will place on sale our entire range of Dinner Sets at 10 per cent. off the regular marked prices. This will be your last chance. Take advantage of this offer.

**Five o'Clock Tea Sets Half Price**  
A number of China Five o'Clock Tea Sets, consisting of Teapot, Sugar Bowl, Cream Pitcher and Two Cups and Saucers, will be sold on Tuesday at exactly half the marked prices.

**Every Fancy Piece of China at 10 Per Cent. Discount**  
Every fancy piece of China in the basement will be offered Tuesday morning and afternoon at 10 per cent. discount off the regular prices.

**Blue Willow Plates 10c**  
12 dozen Blue Willow China Bread and Butter Plates will be placed on sale Tuesday at only . . . . . 10c each

**Cups and Saucers Half Price**  
A wide range of shapes and decorations in German China Cups and Saucers, marked regular for 25 to 75c, will be sold on Tuesday morning only at half the regular marked prices.

**In the Toy Dept.**  
Commencing at 8.30 sharp Tuesday

**Wagon Blocks 25c for 12 1/2c**  
2 dozen sets of Wagon Blocks, marked regular 25c, at 8.30 sharp Tuesday . . . . . 12 1/2c

**Ring Toss 35c for 15c**  
3 dozen games Ring Toss, each in a separate box, marked regular 35c, for . . . . . 15c

**Nine Pins 15c for 7c**  
3 dozen sets of Nine Pins, complete with two balls, regular 15c, on sale for . . . . . 7c

**\$3.25 Kid Body Dolls \$2.19**  
1 dozen Kid Body Jointed Dolls, hair side parts, some with eyelashes, good size, marked regular \$3.00 and \$3.25, on sale Tuesday at 8.30 for . . . . . \$2.19

**Good Toys Greatly Reduced**  
1 Mechanical Train, regular \$12.00, for . . . . . \$6.00  
1 Skin Covered Rocking Horse, \$12.00, for . . . . . \$5.00  
1 Covered Rocking Horse, \$7.00, for . . . . . \$3.00  
1 Covered Rocking Horse, \$10.00, for . . . . . \$7.00  
1 Beautiful Dressed Doll, \$12.00, for . . . . . \$8.00  
1 Beautiful Dressed Doll, \$10.00, for . . . . . \$7.00  
1 Beautiful Dressed Doll, \$8.00, for . . . . . \$6.00

**Grocery Dept.**

**ORANGES 5c DOZEN**  
100 dozen Valencia Oranges will be sold Tuesday morning at 8.30 sharp for 5c dozen.

6 lbs. Dark Sugar	25c	Best Red Salmon	17c
Best Cranberries, qt.	20c	Choice Cheese, lb.	17c
Choice Coffees	25 and 40c	Plum Puddings, 50c, for	39c
Chow Pickles, bottle	15c	Mixed Nuts, lb.	15c
Shelled Almonds, lb.	45c	Pickled Walnuts, bottle	15c
Choice Cocoa, lb.	20c	Worcester Sauce, bot	10c
Figs, per package	10c	Poultry Dressing, tin	8c
Table Raisins	20c	Fancy Biscuits, lb.	15c
California Oranges, 25c and 40c		Dates, per package	5c
Messina Lemons, doz.	20c	Jelly Crystal, package	5c
Mexican Oranges, doz	15c		

**To-night at 7.45**  
These goods will be reduced

Boys' Sleighs, marked 35c, for	25c
Sliced Pictures, regular 25c, for	10c
Bulb Toys, animals, etc., 35c for	15c
Dolls' Furniture \$1, to-night	69c
Covered Horass 75c, on sale for	49c
Motor Cars (mechanical) 50c, for	35c
Balky Mules, regular 35c, for	25c
Tiddley Wink Games 25c, for	19c
Iron Trains 25c, for	19c

**China Dept. To-night at 7.30**

China Cups and Saucers, regular \$1.50, for	\$1
Fancy Jardinieres at 10 per cent. discount	
Hand-painted China at 10 per cent. discount	
Fancy Vases, regular 25c, for	15c
Souvenir China 25c, for	19c
Tea Plates, regular \$1.50 dozen, for	89c
China Articles, worth to \$1.50, for	\$1
China Articles, worth \$1, for	50c

**THE T. H. PRATT CO. LIMITED**

There are 38 entirely unprotected steam railway crossings out of a total of 80 within the city limits of Toronto. As a result of submitting their cause to arbitration, the Toronto Street Railwaymen's Union has obtained the reinstatement of Messrs. Scott, Crawford, Bonatton and Easley, the four motor-men who were discharged by the company for refusing to take out open cars some time ago.

Cases have come before the Toronto Associated Charities of late where immigrants were offered positions and refused to take them unless more money was forthcoming.

A boiler explosion at the Glace Bay collieries fatally injured two and seriously hurt three miners.