

MAYOR BLAMES U. S. BANKERS FOR HIGH RATE OF EXCHANGE

Canada Humiliated by Neighbor to the South.

BANQUET TO COUNCIL

Impossible To Prove Canadians Buying More Goods Than Selling.

That the present rate of exchange imposed by the United States on Canadian money is a slap in the face to this country; that the banks and financial institutions of New York are not having and that the political leaders of this country are camouflaging when they ascribe the situation to an unfavorable balance of trade, was the statement made by Mayor C. R. Somerville, at a banquet which he tendered to the members of the city's governing bodies and officials last night, at the Tecumseh House.

"A humiliation has been put upon us by our neighbors to the south," he said. "It is a slap in the face we will not soon forget. There is nothing to warrant the situation. It is an arbitrary thing, and for our leaders to tell us to buy less and sell more is to explain the matter, and doesn't give us any advice by which this could be done."

"The bankers in New York meet and determine the rate of exchange. It is not the people who are selling us the goods that make the money, neither the merchant or the manufacturer is getting it. The point is, 'Who gets this ten per cent'?"

"It goes to no other place than the banks of New York, and whether it is the gentlemen robbers in that city or the thugs at Detroit, who double the rate, we won't forget. It is certainly a shame to Canada, and something we should not put up with."

"The money shipped to the United States does not stay there. If we have that reserve in Ottawa, why won't they take our word for it? I think, gentlemen, that these are things we can't forget."

"The banks of New York are making every dollar of this money, and it is a clear grab game on their part. The biggest banks in New York are not having today."

"Shaving Spirit of United States." "No person can prove that Canadians are buying more goods throughout the world than they are selling. It is only the shaving spirit of that nation that has got us in this predicament. They are not willing to treat with their ally in the war as it should be treated. I hope we won't forget when the rate of exchange does come down."

"Referring to the many compliments paid him during the evening, he said that he only wished he deserved them, but he felt that many men had done more and had been more effective and efficient in carrying on the work of this important city."

"I have feelings both of regret and pleasure," he said, "it has been a great pleasure to fill this position for the past two years, and it is a pleasure to feel in the closing of my municipal life that I have the honor of your presence here this evening. I never worked with better comrades than the city council, and all the men of the various departments."

"Aldermen Appreciated." "I don't think the work of an alderman is appreciated as it should be. It is not a position that a man would pick for life, but we have many public men who give their time to it, and there must be some attraction to it, although it means a sacrifice in time and pleasure. We ought to give them all the appreciation we can."

"I think the term of office is altogether too short. The council should be on the same basis as the board of education, the members being elected for two years, six returning each year, and the mayor elected for two years straight. This would give them time to get into harness and would make for continuity of work. We would get far better results, and it would be to the advantage of the men who represent you."

"Expenditures of City." "The estimates and expenditures of the city are enormous, and they all have to come into the city council. They have to compute the tax rate, and as we don't get the estimates until the end of March, we can't begin to collect the taxes until June. This means that the work can't be done properly. I think the estimates should be made at the end of a year, and not at the beginning. The old council knows better what is to be done than the new. We would then be able to collect taxes in May. At present every dollar we spend up until June is borrowed."

"Our finances are in a good condition in one way, but not in another. There is still a large sum of short-date paper, and we can't get a sufficiently low rate on the long-term securities. I think the property of our city, our county, and our country is great."

"Forward movements along all lines must be undertaken to meet our new responsibilities. While the amounts required for some of this work are large they will be an economy in working our city. We must economize. No man or city can gain what independence by living up to their income."

"Regrets Withdrawal." "Ald. E. S. Thompson, as toastmaster, expressed regret at Mayor Somerville's withdrawal from public life, declaring that in the two years of the city's life had seen some of the biggest moments of its history and the city was fortunate in having a man of Mayor Somerville's calibre to deal with them."

Mr. Philip Pocock proposed the toast to the mayor. He said Mr. Somerville would go down in history as one of the best mayors the city ever had. He had been broad minded and had done

his utmost to serve the people. He declared that it was due to him more than any one else that Western University had reached its present level. But for him that institution would hardly have been in existence.

A toast to the council and spending board was proposed by T. G. Meredith, and replied to by O. G. Kenealy, O. J. Cunningham, C. G. Moorhead, Dr. D. L. McFady, J. S. Barnard, R. M. Burns and Lieut.-Col. Gortchord. Mr. Meredith said he felt the people did not appreciate the work done by the council. He thought every body was doing its duty to the best of its ability and doing well.

Ald. Keene, in replying praised the city officials. Ald. Cunningham said while the points of difference between the various civic bodies were emphasized, he thought this was due to lack of acquaintance and not to real antagonism. Ald. Moorhead said there had never been a more conscientious man in the mayor's chair than Mayor Somerville.

Work of Council.

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Hospital Inadequate.

Lieut.-Col. Gortchord, in his address, stated that Victoria Hospital is altogether inadequate for this city. It was built when the population was only half the present size. The institution is now turning away patients and will have to face the situation of admissions.

Mr. Barnard commented on the success of the women members of the board of education. He thought that they, too, had learned from association with the other members that the man was endeavoring to serve all classes of the community, the women included. He pointed out that while the board of education spent money, the board of education was laying the foundation for the university. Referring to free text books he said the board had years ago endorsed this proposition but it had never been put in force, but as medical and dental attention was being given to the school children, he declared the technical school education was giving a better return for the money than other kinds.

Teaching in Schools.

R. M. Burns expressed sincere regret at the mayor's retirement. His address was being made to moral and character teaching in the schools and this he said, was the reason for the existence of the separate schools. There was no antagonism, simply friendly rivalry. They believed that the teaching of morality could not be done without religion.

Magistrate A. M. Graydon proposed a toast to the county of Middlesex which was replied to by Warden John Currie and councillor Archie J. Blake and James J. Robson.

A toast to the city officials was proposed by Ald. Wilson and responded to by Assessment Commissioner Grant, Inspector C. B. Edwards, Fred L. Landau, public librarian and City Clerk S. Baker. A toast to the press was proposed by Ald. E. R. Seabrook and responded to by A. E. Miller.

Our Victoria Record service occupies a position of distinct supremacy and offers facilities and benefits which greatly increase the pleasure of your Victoria. Among its important features are: Largest stock, musically competent salesmen to advise and assist you, convenient sound-proof rooms, free monthly bulletin, containing new Records and other valuable information, quick deliveries. Records to be sent on as Christmas presents will have careful attention. Mason & Kisch, Limited, 248 Dundas street.

Textile Workers' Union Has Increased 40 Per Cent, And Hundreds Now Members

Since its last regular meeting the local textile workers' union has increased in membership 40 per cent. Its strength is numbered in the hundreds, according to a count made by one of the organizers at a meeting held in Hyman Hall on Thursday night.

George Jackson, James Huxsey and Harry Wray of the trades and labor council assured those present that they would have the full support of that body in the work of organizing the textile mills employees.

John J. Thomas, international organizer of the craft, told of the benefits that organized workers received, and compared their status in the ranks of labor with those who had no union themselves together for a common purpose.

Today the work of organizing will be continued with renewed vigor. On Saturday, in the K. of P. Hall, Richmond street, another organization meeting will be held. This gathering is expected to be the largest held in this city since the opening of the campaign.

J. F. Thomson was in the chair at last night's meeting.

CHRISTMAS TRAVEL. TEMPORARY RESTORATION OF TRAINS ON GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM.

To assist in moving Christmas travel in districts where due to coal shortage temporary reduction has been made in passenger train service, the following trains will be operated:

December 24, 25 and 26. Leave London 9:30 a.m. for Wincham and intermediate stations. Leave Wincham 3:25 p.m. for London and intermediate stations.

December 24 and 25. Leave London 9:30 a.m. for Wincham and intermediate stations. Leave Wincham 3:25 p.m. for London and intermediate stations.

Train will leave Owen Sound 2:45 p.m., train will leave Southampton 2:45 p.m., train will leave Kincardine 2 p.m., train will leave Durham 4:25 p.m. for London and all intermediate stations.

Train will leave Stratford 12:30 p.m., Toronto and intermediate stations. Train will leave Toronto 3:55 a.m. for Stratford, London and intermediate stations.

In addition to the above extra coaches will be added to all other trains. For further particulars apply to Grand Trunk agents. Dec. 25

Saturday Sales Will Start Christmas Shopping

At Nine Tomorrow

Why? Because in many cases the merchandise advertised for these special sales Saturday will be all cleared in one hour's selling. The values are such that we would earnestly advise a careful study of everything listed in this space today. Out-of-town customers will find it profitable to come a distance and do your Christmas shopping tomorrow. Detail descriptions will not be given here, merely an outline of the Saturday pre-Christmas sales.



Hot Water Bottles---144 Saturday, 59c These will go with a rush, 12 dozen only preferred quality, guaranteed red rubber Hot Water Bottles, on sale at opening hour, 9 o'clock, Saturday 59c each

Main Aisle.

No Phone or Mail Orders.



Boudoir Caps 1-3 Off

These are samples, 7 dozen, all fresh and new; dainty styles in Silk Crepe, Satin, Georgette, net and lace; pretty, light shades of pink, sky, mauve, etc. On sale Saturday at just one-third off. Sale prices, 50c, 75c, 98c, \$1.50, \$1.98, \$3 and \$3.50 each.

Second Floor.

All Ladies' Suits Half Price

We need not say more, when every suit will be offered at half tomorrow. Come and pick it out. Some are fur trimmed with seal or beaver. Smart belted and tailored models, in taupe, green, navy, grey and black. We will list the size and quantities; a splendid choice; all the following sizes: 12 suits size 16 years, 11 suits size 18 years, 4 suits size 20 years, 12 suits size 36, 11 suits size 38, 7 suits size 40, 2 suits size 44. Every suit half price. Sale prices \$28.50, \$32.50, \$37.50, \$39.50, \$46.00, \$49.00, \$53.00, \$59.00 and \$83.00

Second Floor.

Winter Hats at One-Third to One-Half Regular Prices, \$2.85 and \$4.85

JUST FIVE DOZEN TO BE CLEARED SATURDAY MORNING.

Ladies' Winter Hats, in hatter's plush and beaver. Many very expensive hats are included in this group at not one-third the original price of same. Good choice of colors—black, navy, Alice, Burgundy, sand, rose, taupe, and white. Choose yours early. All are grouped into two lots. Sale prices \$2.85 and \$4.85

Second Floor.

Saturday Specials

98c PAIR HEMSTITCHED PILLOW CASES—Another lot of these for Saturday shoppers; a dandy pillow case, well made and of good cotton; the value is extra good, one size only, 42 inches. Special price 98c pair

HORROCKSES' HEMSTITCHED PILLOW CASES make ideal Christmas gifts and are made of lovely cotton, fine linen finish. We will put them in a dainty box to make the gift look more attractive; 40, 42 and 45 inches. Per pair \$1.50

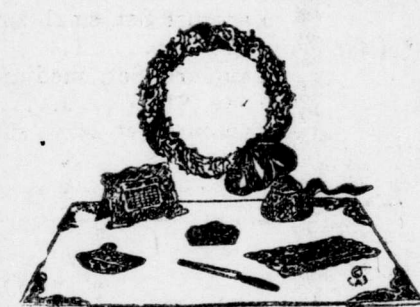
Also our best Hemstitched Pillow Cases, 42 and 45 inches \$2.25 pair

PLAIN HEMMED PILLOW CASES, made in Belfast, a fine linen-finished case that matches our best sheeting. This is a very exceptional value, and a gift the bride-to-be will appreciate; 44 inches only, 75c each, or 6 for \$4.25

Georgette Blouses, Saturday, \$5.95.

One table of Georgette Blouses, splendid quality, all daintily embroidered in front, finished with hemstitching and tucking, full-length sleeve with fancy cuff, in a variety of the newest shades. Special on Saturday \$5.95

Gift Suggestions at Stationery Counter



Christmas Boxed Paper-teries, 25c, 35c, 50c, 65c, 75c box.

Christmas Boxed Paper-teries, in pink, mauve, buff, grey and white. 55c box

Christmas Boxed Paper-teries, 85c, \$1, \$1.15, \$1.35 and up to \$7.50 box.

Christmas Correspondence Cards 85c and \$1.00 box

Large Hand-Tinted Scenery Calendars \$1.25 each

Calendars in pretty scenery 15c, 20c, 25c and 35c each

Stampkraft Books for the children, which are both interesting and educative. The children fit the stamp to represent the story 10c, 50c and \$1.00 each

Doll Outfits with the three-jointed dolls for the children to dress 85c set

Vest-Pocket Calendar for 1920, in suede leather 25c each

Bibles, Hymnals, Books of Praise and Comm n Prayer and Hymnal, and Testaments, all prices.

Snapshots Albums in leather \$4.50, \$3.50 and \$3.00 each

Snapshots Albums in good linen covers 85c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.75 each

Christmas Tags, Seals, Labels and Cards 12c package

Christmas Cord and Ribbon 12c spool

Christmas Gunned Ribbon 10 yards 18c bolt

White Tissue Paper, the best quality 15c dozen

Christmas Cards and Booklets, assorted prices.

Coin and Bill Folders 10c and 12c each

Linen Specials Saturday

DAMASK BORDER HUCK TOWELS, \$1.00 EACH—This is a snap in good quality Union Linen Huckaback Bedroom Towels, assorted borders, 19x36 inches. Special \$1.00 each

Also a few dozen larger size, 22x40 inches. At \$1.25 each

DOUBLE DAMASK TRAY CLOTHS, SPECIAL, \$1.25—Five dozen only in delightful quality Double Damask Tray Cloths, a most desirable gift, 16x24 inches. Special \$1.25 each

A practical Christmas gift—Five-Piece Turkish Set, consisting of bath mat, towels and face cloths, pink and blue. \$5.00 per set

30-INCH PLAIN HEMSTITCHED LINEN TEA CLOTHS, \$1.50—Four dozen in this one size, a particularly good quality, all pure Irish linen, very old stock. See this number for working initial for Christmas gift. Special \$1.50 each

Another five dozen Plain Hemstitched Linen Tray Cloth, as sold last Saturday, all pure linen, 18x27 inches. Special \$1.00 each

Breakfast Dresses, \$1.39

Five dozen One-Piece Breakfast Dresses in fancy stripe percale, with white or colored collar and cuffs, finished at edge with fancy braid; the garment hangs loose from shoulder with belt at waist. Special \$1.39

Japanese Quilted Silk Kimonos, \$5.95

Ladies' Japanese Quilted Kimonos, with full-length sleeve, turn-back cuff, comfortable round collar, finished with fancy stitching, cord and tassel at waist; black, copen, cardinal, navy and rose. Special \$5.95

BASEMENT SALES IN TOYTOWN

25 Wheelbarrows. Special 69c

50 Shoo-Fly Rockers. Extra special 98c

100 Nut Sets, one cracker and six picks. Special 38c

100 Nut Crackers. Only, special 19c

100 Child's Aluminum Set, one plate and cup and saucer. Extra special 29c

Child's Toy Pewter Tea Sets. Extra special 15c

60 Tintagraph Stencils Sets. Extra special 19c

50 Sets Square Solid Story Cake Tins, three to a set. Extra special 49c

STORY-CAKE TINS

Good Tweed Caps, with bands to pull down over the ears, in assorted patterns, medium and dark shades, an extra good lot, and priced very special; sizes 6 3/4 to 7 3/4. Price \$1.95 each

Boys' Underwear, natural wool shirts and drawers, the boys' favorite line, warm and easy to wear, Turnbull's make, for boys 4 to 16 years. Prices, per garment \$1.25 and \$1.50

Boys' Flannelette Nightshirts for boys 7 to 15 years, neat stripe patterns of good quality, collar attached. Price \$2.00 each



Pearl Necklaces 98c

12 dozen only French filled Pearl Necklaces, 22 ins. long, graduated size. While they last Saturday morning; a gift suggestion. Only 98c

Main Aisle.



Flannelette Special 48c Yard

A Cosy, Soft-Finish, Plain Pink Flannelette, lovely for nightgowns, baby garments, etc. Ask to see this big value. You will find it worth a place on your shopping list of staples; 27 inches wide. At 48c yard

White Flannel

PURE WOOL NURSERY FLANNEL. We have been very fortunate in being able to offer you All-Wool Flannels at these prices. Secure the baby's safety these cold days and ask for White Yorkshire Flannel; two weights: 25 inches at 95c yard

27 inches at \$1.10 yard



SPECIAL

Boys' Bath Robes \$5.00

A delayed shipment of Boys' Bath Robes for Saturday at a very special price. This lot should have been here long ago.

Don't fail to see them. A variety of colors, navy, green, brown and mixed shades. A good Christmas gift for the boys from 4 to 16 years. Price \$5.00 each

OPEN SATURDAY NIGHT

This store will be open Saturday night until 10 o'clock. The Jack Cortese Orchestra and Victrola on Main Floor Balcony.

Clearing Men's Overcoats Saturday

A Christmas Special \$27.50

Broken lines from our regular stock of first-class coats at a very special clearing price for Saturday, greys, browns and mixed shades, made up in the body-fitting, half-belt and belt-all-around styles, all tweeds of quality, good winter weight; sizes range from 35 to 46. Every man who can use a new overcoat should see this lot on Saturday. Price \$27.50

Men's Winter Caps, \$1.95

Good Tweed Caps, with bands to pull down over the ears, in assorted patterns, medium and dark shades, an extra good lot, and priced very special; sizes 6 3/4 to 7 3/4. Price \$1.95 each

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STORE CLOSING TONIGHT AT 5:30.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM

STORE OPENS DAILY AT 9 O'CLOCK.