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For FALL and WINTER

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# BLAIR'S.

Our Values are absolutely the best obtainable.

This year's style in Coats is distinctive. The Coat with the Flare (or Wide Skirt) is the Fashion. Coats this year are either without belts or come with a belt effect. This is quite different from last season's Military Coat which had a belt all round and was much tighter in the Skirt. Despite increasing cost of Coats, through rising prices of materials, and the Fashions demanding more cloth in each, we are able to offer you the **newest goods** at the lowest prices. This we are enabled to do by our early contracts and consequent good buying as also by the moderate margin of profit we put on these goods, which has built up such a successful coat business, as it is well known our values are the best procurable. Our Prices for the Newest Styles (we don't talk old styles) or jobs are:—

**\$4.90, \$5.90, \$6.90, \$7.90 and upwards.**

We are also opening a Full Selection of

## Misses', Children's and Infants' Coats,

which you can depend on will be the best values obtainable.

N.B.—Customers by mail for Ladies' or Misses' Coat, please specify height, bust measurement, and length of sleeve from under arm, and enclose extra money for postage.

# HENRY BLAIR.

## How the British Government was Robbed by war Grafters—Quick Punishment was Handed out to Offenders.

The Globe, a few days ago, made reference to grafting by officials in London. The London Telegraph prints the following editorial article: A trial which must lead to a searching investigation into the affairs of the Royal Army Clothing Department—if not into those of other departments as well—was concluded at the Central Criminal Court on Saturday, when William Asseling was sentenced to five years penal servitude. The prosecution of this man resulted in the revelation of a state of carelessness which has aroused widespread indignation on the part of the public. This war has been described as a holy, crusade in the cause of freedom, and we know that it has been used in this important manufacturing and purchasing branch of the War Office to cloak a series of transactions so grossly dishonest as to give rise to most disgusting thoughts. The outbreak of hostilities threw immense pressure on work on all departments concerned with our preparations. Asseling, employed in the Army Clothing Department as a "leading viewer," or kind of super-inspector, concluded that this was the opportunity to enrich himself at the expense of his fellow-countryman who had so recently resolved to sacrifice everything in achieving victory—treasure without stint and life willingly, for the very existence of the Empire. Messrs. Hindes (Limited) were at this time supplying brushes and receiving complaints of deficiencies. When a new contract was being arranged, Asseling, taking advantage of his position as a "leading viewer," suggested that the "obstruction" to satisfactory business could be removed on terms. As a result of negotiations, it was agreed that he should receive a 2 per cent. commission for "greasing" the wheels of the official machinery. The contractors were obtaining a profit of 40 per cent. so, once they had admitted the vicious principle, they could well afford this "rebate." Asseling explained the exorbitant character of his demand by stating that he had to share his disgraceful profits with "many others." Complaints henceforward ceased, the contractors had no further trouble in getting their brushes passed, and, in addition to his salary of £200, Asseling was being paid by Messrs Hindes (Limited) at

the rate of something approaching £3,000 per annum. The managing director of the firm appears not to have regarded the proceeding as criminal, but merely observed, according to his own evidence, that "it was an unusually heavy exaction." If there is a usual rate in the case of Government contracts, it was not revealed. The payments were eventually suspended, not because they were wrong, but because they were "so large."

In the second case, Asseling arranged for the creation of a bogus firm in order to submit through a second party named Frank Turner, who wrote the necessary letters, a tender for 16,000 razors at 9s 3/2d. a dozen. The offer was accepted, and a limited number of razors were bought at a higher price than that at which they were to be passed on to the Army. Out of that deal Asseling got a matter of £231. Turner received £660, and the Government 7,500 razors instead of 16,000. This nefarious success encouraged the rogue to embark on a further venture. In similar circumstances another tender was put in and accepted, the order being for 8,000 razors and 8,000 clasp knives. Asseling, following his former procedure, arranged for the purchase of a limited number of razors, and those alone, and the Army obtained half the proper quantity of razors, but no clasp knives, while the "leading viewer" took £491 as his dues on the crime and Turner put into his pocket a sum of £290. That, in bald outline, is the sordid story unfolded in the Central Criminal Court last week. It does scant justice to the ineptitude of the department's machinery, but reflects, in some measure, the cold-blooded manner in which this petty official, with the assistance of men with whom he had come into contact, defrauded the country which he had undertaken to serve faithfully and well. As Mr. Justice Low remarked in passing sentence, he seems to have considered that he was in the department for the purpose not of doing ordinary work, but of committing every robbery to which he could lay his hand.

But the matter cannot rest there. The public has learnt something of the way in which one public department at least passes transactions that are valued at very many millions of money. The absence of business methods has encouraged dishonesty. The criminal who has gone to prison was eventually brought to justice only because the contractors, Hindes (Limited) came to the conclusion that they were paying too much. They closed the door, not because they were convinced that it should never have been open, but because they thought the draught excessive. Mr. Justice Low performed a public duty in expressing to the managing director of this business house of their conduct. "They leave this court free men," he remarked, "but they leave this court disgraced men, with their disgrace that should attend to men who have not hesitated to sacrifice the interests of their country to their desires to accumulate money." As Mr. Justice Low observed whippers are current that "it is difficult sometimes for honest contractors to compete because it is said that these practices are widespread." What is the truth? Does that suggestion apply only to one department, or to others? There is something revolting in the idea of corruption at a time when the nation is shedding its best blood in the effort to win the victory essential to the future of the free democracies of the world. It was hoped that the inquiries which followed the Boer War, and the legislation which was then passed had stamped out such crimes against the commonwealth. It is shameful if, after all that has happened, Mr. Justice Low's observation is well founded. The matter must be thoroughly sifted. At the same time, the law, as the judge suggested, should be amended in order to render bribery or attempted bribery of Government employes punishable by a long term of penal servitude. By some means or other, such crimes as those for which Asseling has been condemned, but ruinous to all concerned—officials and business men. Honest contractors must not be penalized for their honesty, and the community must not be bled or our soldiers betrayed by such creatures as Asseling. Furthermore, it is very necessary that the unbusinesslike departmental methods which invite such frauds should be swept away. We are engaged in a struggle which is taxing our strength to the utmost, and the nation cannot permit itself to be handicapped by stupidity breeding crime.

**In a Safe Place.**  
First undergraduate—Have you telegraphed to the old man for money?  
Second undergraduate—Yes.  
First undergraduate—Got any answer?  
Second undergraduate—Yes, I telegraphed the governor, "Where is that money I sent for?" and his answer was "In my pocket."



Published by Authority

Under the provisions of "The War Measures Act, 1914," His Excellency the Governor-in-Council has been pleased to order that the following Regulations shall come into effect on the 12th day of October instant:

1. The Port and Harbour of St. John's is closed entirely to the entry of shipping at night, from nightfall on the 12th October, until further orders.
2. Lights will remain extinguished, until further notice, at Cape St. Francis, Cape Spear, Bull Head, Ferryland and Fermeuse, also the Lights at Fort Amherst and the leading lights of St. John's.
3. No street or other outdoor lights shall be shown in the City of St. John's, or in or near any of the settlements in the District of St. John's East and West.
4. No lights shall be lit in any public building, shop or private residence in the Districts of St. John's East or West, except the windows in such public building, shop or residence are covered by suitable blinds or shades or such lights are otherwise suitably obscured.
5. No lights shall be lit on board any vessel or boat in the Harbour of St. John's unless suitably obscured.
6. No head lights shall be used on any motor car or motor cycle in or near the City of St. John's or in or near any settlement in the Districts of St. John's East and West, or on any roads approaching St. John's or any of the said settlements, upon which lights may be visible at sea. Side lights on motor cars, motor cycles or vehicles of any description must be obscured, and shall not be of greater strength than five candle power.
7. It shall be the duty of the members of the Constabulary to see that these Regulations are strictly enforced, and all orders issued by them for their better observance shall be forthwith carried out.
8. It shall be the duty of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to see that these Regulations are observed on all shipping in the Harbour of St. John's, and all orders issued by him for their better observance shall be forthwith carried out.
9. Every person convicted of a violation of these Rules and Regulations before a Stipendiary Magistrate or a Justice of the Peace shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Dollars, or in default of payment to imprisonment not exceeding Three Months.

J. R. BENNETT,  
Col. Secy.

## St John's Municipal Council PUBLIC NOTICE.

As the Port of St. John's is closed, the City Street Lamps not permitted to be lit, and automobiles not allowed to show their headlights, the Citizens are requested not to walk in the centre of any street, so as to avoid accidents.

Drivers of automobiles are also requested not to exceed the speed limit of ten miles an hour.

By order,  
JNO. L. SLATTERY,  
Secy.-Treas.

## Persian 'Holy War' Begun on Russians

LONDON, Oct. 14.—A report from Constantinople tells of the rout of Russian troops northwest of Hamadan, Persia. Tribesmen in Ispahan have risen in revolt and driven the Russians from the city. The report says: "Bakhtiari tribesmen, relying upon the successful combats of the Turkish army, rose in a holy war against Russians and liberated Ispahan from the enemy."

In Berlin.  
You are hiding your gold teeth, they must be given up to the government.  
"But then I can't eat."  
"Then you can go without eating, it won't be long before you'll have nothing to eat anyway."

## New Mexico to Have Greatest Dam in the World

### Unequaled For Capacity in the World ---Part of U. S. Government Irrigation Scheme.

It is 318 feet high from foundation to top of parapet wall. It is 1,674 feet long at the top, contains 610,000 cubic yards of concrete, and weighs one million tons. Placed on a city lot 125 by 25 feet the dam would make a block of concrete lacking only fifty feet of being a mile high. The reservoir, when filled, will contain 856 billion gallons—enough water to cover the State of Delaware two feet deep. ELEPHANT BUTTE, N. M., Oct. 13.—After five years of work, during which modern engineering skill has been taxed to the utmost, the famous Elephant Butte dam is ready for the dedication ceremonies to-morrow which will mark its completion. The ceremonies will be in keeping with the importance of the occasion. The participants will include two members of President Wilson's cabinet, the chief officers of the Reclamation Service at Washington, and the governors or other official representatives of many of the western States. Excursion trains will bring large crowds of visitors from Albuquerque and El Paso. From the last-named city will come delegations representing the International Farm Congress, the International Irrigation Congress, and the International Soil Products Association, all of which bodies are to meet in annual session in the Texas city the coming week. The Elephant Butte dam is the chief feature of the biggest irrigation project ever undertaken by the Reclamation Service of the United States. By its completion the turbulent Rio Grande has been conquered and the wealth of the valley through which it flows will at last be realized. While there are two other structures exceeding this in height and several in cubical contents, the Elephant Butte dam outranks all other dams in the capacity of the reservoir created by it. Behind this massive wall of masonry there has formed the largest body of water absolutely controlled by man. This artificial lake has an area of 45 square miles, a shore line of 200 miles in length, an average depth of 65 feet. When completely full the lake would furnish water enough to

## Cornell Professor Supports Wilson

### McMahon Gives Three Reasons for the Re-election of the President—Commends His Policies—Indorses International Law Enforcement, Mexican Dealings, and Constructive Achievements

NEW YORK, Oct. 14.—Professor James McMahon, who occupies the Chair of Mathematics at Cornell University, has written to the Democratic National Committee giving three reasons why he favors the re-election of President Wilson. This is his first reason: "Because his Administration in a great world-crisis has maintained, single-handed and alone among the governments of the world, the great principles of international law and the rights of neutrals on the high seas and elsewhere, and has accomplished this statesmanlike act in the face of determined opposition at home and abroad and in spite of the manœuvres of political opponents who were willing to play politics in a crisis involving far-reaching principles. "Second—Because his Administration took a step forward in refusing recognition to an unprincipled adventurer who had seized the Government of Mexico and who was maintaining himself in power by assassination. The old method of granting recognition and support of the United States to any successful rebel was a direct encouragement of revolutionary outbreaks, and it was high time to introduce some new principle of action. "Third—Because the many constructive and forward-looking achievements during the present Administration, as well as its enlightened Americanism, have made powerful enemies, who are determined to punish Mr. Wilson at the polls, and because his political opponents are evidently desirous of profiting by this resentment. This fact alone should lead independent and progressive thinkers to rally to our President's support." Professor Dexter Perkins and Professor Lawrence B. Packard, both of the Department of History at the University of Rochester, have also announced their decision to support President Wilson.

**Badly Timed.**  
Nephew—I tried to get a raise today, aunt, but the boss refused it.  
Mrs. Bill Ex Rod—Too bad, Dickie, perhaps you didn't approach him at the zoological moment.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

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TO THE WHOLESALE BUYER— In stock and ready for your inspection, at the Lowest Possible Prices:

POUND GOODS		YARD GOODS	
Percalé	Cheviots	Dress Goods	Art Muslin
Lawn	Sateen	Curtain Strim	Bed Tick
Cotton Tweed	Linolette	Curtain Net	Percalé
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Misprins	Mottled Flannel	Shirting	Toweling
Denim	Cretonnes	Blay Calico	Regatta
Shirting	Art Tick	Dress Gingham	Cotton Tweed
Striped Flannelette	Muslin	Apron Gingham	Lawn
White Flannelette	Towelling		
	Blay Calico		

Also the following, many of which are Jobs:—

Men's Underwear	Boys' Hose	Girls' Coats	Ladies' Coats
" Braces	" Overcoats	" Sleeping Suits	" Neckwear
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" Ties	" Rompers	Ladies' Underwear	" Underskirts
Boys' Underwear	" Rain Coats	" Corsets	" Sweater Coats
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