

# POOR DOCUMENT M C 2035

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, MAY 20, 1918

## Firm of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd., Eighty-four Years in Business

*Maple Street, St. John, N. B.*  
*John Dew Brunswick*  
*Oct 22 1887*  
*Boughty Thomas McAvity*  
*John Dew Brunswick*  
*7.2.22. T. McAvity & Sons Ltd. - St. John*

Fac-simile of one of the first invoices issued by the McAvity firm. It will be noted that it is made out in pounds, shillings and pence.

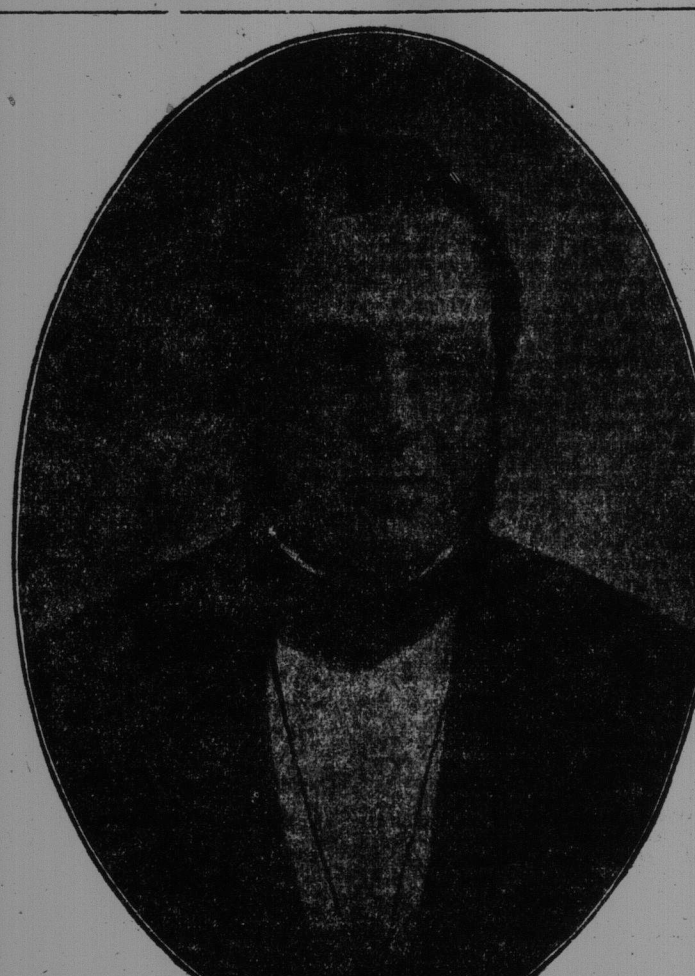
Thomas McAvity, Sr., First Established Store May 19, 1834

GROWTH OF THE FIRM  
KEPT PACE WITH CITY

Many Changes in Quarters With Activities Constantly Enlarged—Firm Now Employs 1,000 Hands—Younger Generation Prominent in Military.

Eighty-four years in the service of the public of St. John was the milestone in the business history of the firm of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd., reached yesterday. Back over the years that have passed since the late Thomas McAvity, Sr., founded the concern, the members of the company look with pardonable pride. The advancement of the firm of T. McAvity & Sons has been synonymous with the advancement of the industrial and commercial life of the city of St. John. The founding of the firm dates back to May 19, 1834, and from a small beginning it has gradually increased until now it gives employment to more than 1,000 hands. Thomas McAvity, the founder of the firm, was a man who had the reputation of being a straightforward business man, a good friend and an upright citizen. From 1859 to 1868 he enjoyed the distinction of being mayor of the Loyalist city and was in office when the late King Edward, then the Prince of Wales, visited St. John in 1860. The site of the business activity of the firm was first on North Market wharf under the firm name of Thomas McAvity & Company, and later under the name of J. & T. McAvity in water street. The firm is now conducted under the name of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd.

The late James H. McAvity started the new extensive branch and today the business is a part of the firm. In 1863 he bought out James Kennedy, who conducted a small foot lath business on the corner of Water street, opposite the present site of Powers' undertaking parlors. Messrs. McAvity later removed to the corner of Water street, known as Main street, near Charlotte street. It is a curious coincidence that this site, with its addition, is the same as now occupied by the Vulcan Iron Works, which was established in May, 1868. The number of employees was then twenty. Finding still larger quarters necessary the firm in the year 1869 moved to the corner of King and Water streets, where it remained until 1877, when they went to temporary quarters in Sydney street, opposite St. Malach's hall, as well as temporary quarters in Market



THE LATE THOMAS McAVITY, SR., founder of the McAvity firm.

square and in the City Market building until the present building in King street was ready for occupancy. Then they rebuilt on the old site in Water street which they have occupied since 1879. In this year they also opened a hardware store in King street. Messrs. McAvity came to their present building in Water street in November, 1882.

The Rothesay avenue plant was started in April, 1916, and is now used for the manufacture of munitions. It is the first of a series of buildings to be built for the McAvity interest.

The first telephone in operation in St. John, and in fact so far as is known, in Canada, was a private line erected by the Messrs. McAvity connecting their Water street and King street establishments.

Members of the Firm.

For many years, Thomas McAvity, Jr., the senior member of the old partnership directed the activities of the business, ably assisted by his brothers, James H. John A. George, and Stephen S. In 1907 the company was incorporated, and in 1910 Thomas retired from active participation, still retaining an interest in the business as a director of the corporation.

The personnel of the company at the present time is as follows:

George McAvity—President.  
John A. McAvity—Vice-president.  
Stephen S. McAvity—Director.  
Lieut.-Col. J. L. McAvity—Director.  
T. McA. Stewart—Director.  
Charles Coster—Secretary.

The sons of the second generation in the business according to seniority are: Lieut.-Col. James L. McAvity, the only son of the late James H. McAvity, is a director. Lieut.-Col. McAvity is also president of McLean Holt & Co., Ltd. This concern is very extensively engaged in manufacturing railway equipment, stove founders, etc. Colonel McAvity is also director of the N. B. Telephone

Devonshire.

[L.S.]

AND WHEREAS by the regulations approved by our Governor General of Canada in Council on the 18th day of April last, in the execution of the powers conferred by our War Measures Act, 1914, it is among other things in effect provided that Class I under our said Military Service Act, 1917, shall, in addition to the men included therein as in our said Act mentioned, include all men, who are by this our proclamation required to report as hereinafter described, and that all men included in the said Class I by virtue of the regulations aforesaid, shall report to the registrar or deputy registrar under our said Military Service Act, 1917, as required by proclamation, and shall be subject to the penalties specified in our said last mentioned Act and the regulations thereunder.

AND WHEREAS our Governor General of Canada in Council has determined to exercise the power conferred by the regulations aforesaid, as authorized by the said regulations of 20th April last to report, and to subject them to military law at the time and in the manner by this our proclamation prescribed.

Now, therefore, know ye that we do hereby strictly command, require and enjoin that every man who is a British subject resident in Canada, not within any of the classes described in the regulations mentioned in the schedule to our said Military Service Act, 1917, who has attained the age of nineteen years, but was on or after the 18th day of April last, included in the said Class I, shall, on or before the first day of June, 1918, report in writing to the registrar or deputy registrar under our said Military Service Act, 1917, at the place and within the time specified in the regulations aforesaid, and shall be subject to the penalties specified in our said last mentioned Act and the regulations thereunder.

NOTE: The men required to report by this proclamation should address their reports as follows—

ONTARIO—To the Deputy Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, London, if they reside in the County of Kent, Lambton, Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, Waterloo, Wellington, Peel, Huron, or Bruce.

QUEBEC—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Kingston, if they reside in the County of Durham, Northumberland, Victoria, Peterborough, Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox, Addington, Frontenac, Halliburton, Carleton, Renfrew, Hastings, Russell, Stormont, Grenville, Lanark, Leeds, Prescott, or the District of Nipissing south of Mattawa River exclusive of the Township of Heintzelman.

NEW BRUNSWICK—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, St. John, if they reside in the Province of New Brunswick.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Charlottetown, if they reside in the Province of Prince Edward Island.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Vancouver, if they reside in the Province of British Columbia.

SASKATCHEWAN—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Regina, if they reside in the Province of Saskatchewan.

ALBERTA—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Calgary, if they reside in the Province of Alberta.

MANITOBA—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Winnipeg, if they reside in the Province of Manitoba.

YUKON—To the Registrar under the Military Service Act, 1917, Dawson, if they reside in the Yukon Territory.

Company, and other large corporations.

He recruited and commanded the 28th N. B. Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, proceeded to England on June 12, 1915, and went to France from there on September 13, 1915. For nine months Colonel McAvity participated in most of the fighting on the western front until he was invalided from France on June 5, 1916. He is now in command of the Depot Battalion in St. John.

Allen G. McAvity, eldest son of John A. McAvity, was formerly vice-president and general manager of the Canadian Buffalo Forge Co., of Kitchener (Ont.), where he was in charge of the manufacturing railway equipment, munitions plant, Rothesay avenue.

Major T. Malcolm McAvity, D. S. O., is the second son of John A. McAvity, vice-president of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd. Major Malcolm McAvity was educated at Rothesay Collegiate School, Rothesay (N. B.), and at the Royal Military College at Kingston (Ont.), from which latter institution he graduated with honors.

Upon graduation he entered the brass foundry branch of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd., beginning at the bottom rung of the ladder and working up to the position of works manager. Before the war he was a captain in the 62nd St. John Fusiliers. When he returned from overseas he was gazetted captain and attached to the 26th New Brunswick Battalion, which he commanded. He was promoted to the rank of major in that battalion, and before going overseas he was appointed brigade major to the 5th Infantry Brigade. In recognition of the efficient manner in which he discharged his duties in this exacting position, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order medal, figuring in the king's list of birthday honors in June, 1916. Later Major Malcolm McAvity was advanced to the grade of general staff officer and is now attached to the general staff, Canadian corps, B. E. F., France.

Major Ronald A. McAvity, is the eldest son of George McAvity, president of the firm of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd. Previous to the war he was captain and quartermaster in the 62nd St. John Fusiliers, and on offering for active service overseas he was attached in a like capacity to the 12th Battalion, C. E. F., which he joined at Valcartier. He later assumed the duties of transport officer at Plymouth and was given his majority. Further advance has come to Major R. A. McAvity in his appointment as deputy assistant director of ordnance services and he is now in France attached to the 2nd Canadian Division.

In civil life Major Ronald A. McAvity was purchasing agent for the brass foundry branch of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd. He was educated at Rothesay Collegiate School, Rothesay (N. B.), and at McGill College, Montreal.

Major Percy D. McAvity, is the eldest son of Stephen S. McAvity, director of T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd. He, like the other members of the family, was an officer in the 62nd St. John Fusiliers, and along with the other officers of the battalion, offered his services for overseas, leaving St. John as lieutenant in the 26th New Brunswick Battalion, C. E. F.

Since being at the front he has been promoted to the rank of captain and later to that of major, with a company command. Major Percy McAvity was seriously wounded by shell fire in the



## PROCLAMATION

GEORGE the FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To all to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same may in anywise concern.—GREETING:

A proclamation calling for reports by the men comprised in the extension of Class I, authorized by the regulations of 20th April, 1918, under the Military Service Act, 1917.

WHEREAS by our Proclamation bearing date the 18th day of April last, in the execution of the powers conferred by our War Measures Act, 1914, it is among other things in effect provided that Class I under our said Military Service Act, 1917, shall, in addition to the men included therein as in our said Act mentioned, include all men, who are by this our proclamation required to report as hereinafter described, and that all men included in the said Class I by virtue of the regulations aforesaid, shall report to the registrar or deputy registrar under our said Military Service Act, 1917, as required by proclamation, and shall be subject to the penalties specified in our said last mentioned Act and the regulations thereunder.

And we do hereby declare that all the men by this our proclamation required to report as aforesaid shall, from the date of this our proclamation, be deemed to be in the military forces of Canada and subject to military law for the duration of the present war and of demobilization thereafter unless sooner discharged; provided that every such man shall until the first day of June next be deemed to be on leave of absence without pay, and that thereafter every such man who shall have duly reported on or before the last mentioned day, as by this our proclamation required, shall be deemed to be on leave of absence without pay until the day upon which he shall be required to report for duty in the Canadian Expeditionary Force and be placed on active service. And we do hereby moreover notify and inform our loving subjects who are hereby required to report that if, on or before the first day of June, 1918, they report, as by this our proclamation commanded and enjoin, they will not be required to report for duty, or be placed upon active service as aforesaid until a day not earlier than the last day of July, 1918, which will, by our registrar or deputy registrar for the registry district in which they are hereby required to report, be notified to them in writing by registered post at their respective addresses as given in their reports, or at such substituted addresses as they may have respectively signified to our said registrar or deputy registrar; and we do hereby inform, forewarn and admonish the men hereby required to report that if any of them shall, without just and sufficient cause, fail to report for duty, at the time and place required by notice in writing as posted, or as otherwise by law required he shall, be subject to the penalties, pains and penalties by law prescribed as against deserters.

Of all which our loving subjects and all others whom these presents may concern, are hereby required to take notice, rendering strict obedience to and compliance with all these our commands, directions and requirements, and governing themselves accordingly.

In Testimony Whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed. Witness Our Right Trusty and Right Faithful Beloved Counsellor and Counsellor, Victor Christian William, Duke of Devonshire, Baron Caversham, Baron Caversham of Keighley, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, One of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Our Dominion of Canada.

At Our Government House, in Our City of OTTAWA, this FOURTH day of MAY, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and in the eighth year of Our Reign.

By command,  
*Thomas Mackay*  
Under-Secretary of State.

## NEWS OF SOLDIERS

The names of four New Brunswick soldiers who were killed in action, were announced yesterday by the War Office. They were: W. H. B. Stevens, Moncton; died, Sydney B. Nickerson, Sharnish; prisoner of war, P. Turner, St. John; Henry T. Parlee of Stewiack, N. S., has been advised that his son, Henry Andrew Parlee, was killed in action on May 1. Prior to going overseas he was a student in the Bank of Nova Scotia in Moncton. Four brothers are serving with the Canadian forces.

Word has been received by Joseph Parley, 189 Millidge avenue, that his brother, Private Albert E. Parks, had been admitted to a London Hospital suffering from gunshot wounds.

Major Eric Macdonald, who already all the D. S. O. and has been mentioned in despatches on several occasions, received the Military Cross for leading a raiding party with such skill against the enemy that hostile lines were successfully penetrated, and considerable casualties were inflicted. This officer was entirely responsible for the organization, and all ranks participating showed enterprise. Major Macdonald was one of the first to join the Canadian army, joining up at Valcartier at the outbreak of the war. He went to France in June, 1915. His father, Major Macdonald, Baptist minister, is assistant director of chaplains in London.

On Church Parade.

The Depot Battalion made an excellent appearance yesterday on church parade. The Protestant members of the battalion paraded to St. Luke's church for service, while the Catholics attended mass in the Cathedral. Following the church services, the two sections came together again and marched through several of the city streets of the city. They were watched with interest and pride by the citizens and the men looked their best.

BOY DROWNED.

Harvey Ferguson of Moncton, about sixteen years old, was drowned Saturday in the creek at the foot of West Lane, Georgetown, P. E. I. As he did not return to his home for dinner his brother went in search of him and found his body in the bottom of the creek. A cousin of his was drowned in the same creek about two years ago.

On Saturday the Free Public Library celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary. There has come to light the card of the person who took the first book out of the newly opened library in 1883. His name is William J. Clark, the veteran printer on the Telegraph.

## Cereals Mixed By Master Bakers

No new or careless methods are used in the making of Canada's foremost breakfast cereal—

## Grape-Nuts

From this superior cereal dish you may discover the secret of the delightful flavor concealed in wheat and barley, and brought out, not by ordinary cooking, but by the skill of master bakers of Grape-Nuts. At the same time you will be conforming to government wishes in saving wheat.

"There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts

Made by Canadian Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Windsor, Ont.

## 1834 May 19 1918 Our 84th Birthday

In announcing the 84th anniversary of the establishment of our business we are well aware that age counts for little unless the experience gained and strength acquired make for better service and greater usefulness. These are the days of high speed, high tension and greater responsibilities. Wide awake new methods are necessary to meet the demands of modern business, and we are keeping right up to the times as to methods and the use of modern machinery.

We like to think, too, of our business associates as our friends. We like to feel that in a broad sense our customers are our partners; that our success is but the reflection and the result of their good-will and patronage. We shall strive to continue to deserve your esteemed patronage with meritorious goods and courteous treatment.

THOMAS McAVITY & CO.  
Have received per Ship's Bille, from London, Clyde, Edward Thorne, and Ward, from Liverpool—

20 B. COBBS,  
2 Bales Cotton, Suez Canal and Woolen  
120 Casks and Cases Sheffield and Birmingham  
GOODS, comprising a general assortment of Ironmongery, Cutlery, Toys, Pipes, &c.  
180 Casks Fine Canada Iron Nails, 40 to 600.  
50 Bags Sykes, from 4 to 12 inch.  
5 Casks short link Chain, 4 to 8 inch.  
12 Smith's Anvils, 100 lbs. and 150 lbs.  
4 Kegs patent Shovel, assorted, B & 10.  
40 Dishes Spade and Shovels.  
2 Casks masonry do 20 lb. and 15 lb. Plates.  
100 cases Iron Wire, assorted numbers.  
1000 cases Iron Pins and Caps, Green.  
2000 Cradles and Spindles.  
Register and ball register Grates.  
1 Dictator Agent's Store.  
100 Kgs WHITE LEAD; 50 lbs. Paint Oil.  
Casks Lampblack, Whiting, Yellow Ochre, Red Ochre, rosin Stone, Glass, Black Lead, Salt Peter, Alum, &c. &c.

All the above Goods have been selected by the subscribers in the best markets in England, and will be sold wholesale or retail, at a small advance for prompt payment.

40, John, 1918, May, 1918 (Continued)

This is a reproduction of our first advertisement 80 years ago. We reproduce it here as of historical interest only. We do not now keep dry goods, but the thousand and one things in the hardware, mill, plumbing, steamfitters, contractors, automobile and motor boat line you will find in our establishment are worthy of inspection and your trade.

Yours respectfully,  
T. McAVITY & SONS, LTD.

USE THE WAY