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Popular Approval and Quick Acceptance of Great Offer Made by The Advertiser.

Popular approval and quick acceptance of the unprecedented dictionary offer made by The Advertiser which enables every one to obtain a standard, authoritative and complete dictionary of the English language at a cost never before deemed possible, has almost swamped the dictionary office with the demands of readers for this remarkable book.

Never before in the history of the world has an authoritative edition of the famous Webster's Dictionary been offered to the public under such remarkable circumstances. Here, in a compact volume, is offered all the information concerning word definitions, grammar, usage and literary guidance which even the most crudite scholar could demand.

The dictionary offered by The London Advertiser for six consecutive coupons clipped from The London Advertiser and the nominal charge of handling is the most remarkable work ever placed on the market. Besides giving definitions of all the words of the language, which the average man or woman would never have occasion to look up, it includes valuable charts of statistics regarding commerce, the latest census and hundreds of illustrations, many of them in the form of color plates, which are both interesting and instructive.

Every new word recently coined and adopted by custom has been included. For example, the word "Oslerize," taken from Professor Osler, who would chloroform people at the age of 45, when, according to his theory, they have outlived their usefulness. Also there are aviator and biplane and brainstorm and stovaine and taxicab and equilibrator, all of which have recently come into use by stress of necessity.

The illustrations are the most complete, elaborate and expensive that have ever appeared in a dictionary.

An Encyclopaedia as Well.

In fact, Webster's New Illustrated Dictionary, now obtainable at such a nominal rate from the office of The London Advertiser is an Encyclopaedia and Almanac as well as a dictionary.

All that is asked is that you come and look at it. There is no reason to take it until you see it. But those who come to see it invariably go home to save the six consecutive coupons, which, in connection with the small expense bonus, entitles any one to a copy of the work.

Do Farmers Work Harder in West?

The Thamesville Herald says: "Rural Depopulation of Ontario" was discussed in a thoughtful address by S. A. Cudmore, lecturer in political economy in the University of Toronto, before the Canadian Institute on Saturday evening last. He showed by copious statistics how townships in which manufactures, fruit raising and market gardening were the chief industries, there was growth rather than depletion in population, the latter being noticeable in ordinary farming districts. Labor, the speaker thought, was more mobile in English-speaking districts than in French or German communities. Lessening of the density of population, was not always to be deplored.

The depopulation of rural Ontario, is a question to which a great deal of attention has been given lately. The London Advertiser has been conducting a "Stay in Ontario" campaign and there can be no doubt but that it is having a good effect. The trek to the west has been largely the cause of rural Ontario's depopulation. The question is how can this be overcome?

It is the opinion of many that if farmers who go west from Ontario worked as long and hard here as they do out west, they would meet with an equal measure of success. A news item last week from the west told of farmers working 24 hours a day seeding, using powerful searchlights during the hours of darkness. No farmers in Ontario would do this. What Western Ontario needs is a more scientific understanding on the part of the agriculturists of the different kinds of soil, crops and fertilizers. Authorities tell us that there are hundreds of acres of light land in Kent County, at present bringing in comparatively small returns as pasture, which would grow excellent fruit and bring the owners in bountiful returns. There is a movement on foot to put more people on the land in Essex and Kent Counties.

NEW GAS LINE

Chatham Company Wants to Extend to St. Thomas.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

St. Thomas, May 8. — It is probable that St. Thomas will be supplied with natural gas some time in the near future, as the Central Pipe Line Company, through their representatives, J. S. Kerr, W. S. Ryan and D. S. Paterson, of Chatham, has made an offer to the city council to lay an eight-inch pipe from the Vienna fields, and to deliver in St. Thomas a million feet a day, or twice as much gas as is now being consumed in the city at a price of 45 cents per thousand to consumers. The company will accept 30 cents per thousand from the city for all gas sold, so that the municipality will make a good profit in distributing to their customers. A special meeting will be called at once to consider the offer of the company, and if the city accepts the proposition the company agree to start construction at once and have their gas main laid before the 1st of October of this year.

Pruning the Appendix

What thousands of people are rushed to the hospitals these days with the idea that pruning the appendix will rid them of the cause and effect of wrong habits of eating and living.

We eat too much, take too little outdoor exercise, breathe impure air, and when the system gets loaded with foul impurities, which irritate the digestive system and set up inflammation, we are told that the operating table is the only place for us.

Why not prevent appendicitis, as well as acute indigestion, peritonitis and Bright's disease of the kidneys, by keeping the liver active and the bowels regular. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills cleanse the digestive system of foul impurities more quickly than any treatment you can obtain. They awaken the liver and insure the healthful action of the kidneys and bowels.

MORE RUMORS OF BIG BANK MERGER

President Shaughnessy, of the C. P. R., Said To Be at Head of Plan.

WILL BE THIRD LARGEST

Bank of Montreal Reported About to Form an Alliance With the Royal-Traders.

Toronto, May 9.—The Globe this morning says:

While the average bank merger story assumes a somewhat fantastic view when it appears in type, there are some rumors afloat now in higher financial circles which indicate that the movement is not yet over. The genesis of all the expectations of a still larger banking consolidation is simply that the large interests in the Bank of Montreal are determined not to surrender supremacy. Two banking institutions, the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Royal Bank of Canada, are so well up in the second and third positions that they are pressing very closely upon the leader in the race. Beyond increasing its authorized capital to $25,000,000, the Bank of Montreal has apparently done little to keep ahead, but at a meeting of prominent members of the financial community yesterday it was stated that the absorption of the Traders' Bank by the Royal Bank of Canada was only a preliminary to a further amalgamation of the merged institution with the Bank of Montreal. Among the details furnished was that the plan was being worked out by Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, and that in the event of its successful completion the present head of the Canadian Pacific Railway would be the president of the merged bank, and Mr. Edson L. Pease (of the Royal Bank) would become the general manager.

A Definite Rumor.

This is the most definite of all the rumors heard in banking circles, and it comes from good sources. There is enough in it to indicate that the Union Bank deal is for the time at least making no progress.

The Globe's Montreal correspondent wired last night as follows:

Local Bank of Monteal and Royal Bank officials either ridicule the story of their prospective amalgamation or refuse to discuss it.

According to the story received here the Bank of Montreal was to absorb the Union Bank, and then this combination was to seek an alliance with the Royal-Traders' Bank. For months it has been rumored that the Bank of Montreal would shortly absorb the Union Bank, and the story has persisted, despite the recent denials by Mr. H. V. Meredith, general manager of the Bank of Montreal.

"Hoe Its Own Row."

The recent decision of the Bank of Montreal to increase its capital to $25,000,000 is regarded by many as an indication that this bank has decided to "hoe its own row," and to leave the merger business alone.

It is also pointed out that an amalgamation of the Montreal, Union, Royal and Traders' Banks would produce such an unwieldy organization that the merger would defeat its own object. "Canada is not ripe for such a large combination of capital," said one leading banker today. Later, he added: "The Royal-Traders' combination places that bank in the very forefront of our banks, and it does not seem reasonable to believe that they would now lose their identity by merging with the Bank of Montreal."

VERDICT RETURNED AGAINST GIBSON

Coroner's Jury Says Indications Are He Killed Rosenthal.

Toronto, May 9.—"That Joseph Rosenthal came to his death at the foot of Strachan avenue between the hours of 6:15 p.m. on April 5, and 7 a.m., on April 6, from injuries sustained, and we believe that the evidence adduced points to Charles Gibson, now in custody, as the perpetrator of the crime."

This verdict was returned by Coroner Cotton's jury at the morgue last night after an hour's deliberation at the close of the most sensational session of the inquest into the death of Joseph Rosenthal, whose lifeless body was found in rear of the hydro-electric station on Strachan avenue, on Saturday morning, April 6.

"You could have found no other verdict on the evidence," said Coroner Cotton, in receiving the verdict.

OLDEST POSTMASTER DEAD.

Dundee, Que., May 8. — Lieut.-Col. David Baker, the oldest postmaster in Canada, died here this morning. He had been a postmaster for seventy years and was 94 years old.

M'BRIDE MAKES PLEA FOR CANADIAN NAVY

At London Banquet Says Borden Promised to Provide Fleet.

London, May 8.—At the Canadian Club dinner tonight Sir E. Rose presided, and Sheriffs Hanson and Briggs were chief guests. There were present also Hon. Richard McBride, Sir Frederick Borden, Hon. Colin Campbell, John Hoxey, Sir Hugh Graham, Donald McMaster, M.P.; Hon. J. H. Turner, the Bishop of Saskatchewan, Major Malcolm Murray, Col. Burland, General Elliott, Captain and Lieut. Hanson and Sir T. Skinner.

Col. Burland, responding to the toast of the imperial forces, eulogized the work done by Sir Frederick Borden for the military body.

Hon. Mr. McBride, responding to the toast of the Dominion, referred to the wonderful success the Duke of Connaught was achieving, and to his gratification that his royal highne s intended making a western journey.

"The loyalty and patriotism of Canada has never been questioned," continued the speaker, "but lately it has been intensified by political exigencies which it would, perhaps, be unfitting to enter into here."

Discussing Navy.

Proceeding to discuss the navy question, Hon. Mr. McBride said: "I assure you intense interest is being taken in this question in British Columbia. We have an assurance from Hon. R. L. Borden that the Government purposes to take up this question at once, and deal with it effectively. We in British Columbia are reminded day by day of all what a navy means. I have confidence that when the Premier proposes, as he will do shortly, a strong policy, making for an active, efficient Canadian navy, he will have the entire Dominion behind him. One is very much encouraged to believe there will be results and quickly, too, when one has watched the earnest, splendid fashion in which First Lord of Admiralty Churchill has discharged the duties of his office, without meaning any reflection on his predecessors. I think I may safely say Mr. Churchill has made a name for himself unique in the annals of his department.

"I want to emphasize the strong determination of the Canadian people, as far as I can gauge it, to have this question dealt with quickly, and we may expect good results from the fact that at the head of the admiralty is such a personality as Mr. Churchill."

PATHETIC SCENE AT MABEE'S FUNERAL

Colored Porter Rose From Sick Bed to Pay Last Tribute to "Boss."

Port Rowan, May 9. — Tramping doggedly along the dusty country road, ever within a few feet of the hearse, the most heart-stirring figure in the funeral procession of the late Judge Mabee was the little colored porter of the dead commissioner's private car. James Pitt Mabee had a heart big enough to take more than a casual interest in those in the humbler walks of life with whom he came in contact, and the rare quality of commanding personal affection. The little colored porter idolized his "Boss." When the chief commissioner was stricken and taken to the hospital the porter began to haunt the corridors of the hospital. He was constantly an anxious inquirer as to the condition of "The Boss," and when the news of death came he collapsed. On Tuesday night he was taken to St. Michael's Hospital suffering from nervous prostration, but yesterday he appeared at the Union station eager to follow the dead commissioner's remains to their last resting place.

When the hearse moved away from the station at Port Rowan, carriages accommodated most of those who came in on the trains from Toronto and Stratford, but the little porter determined to follow the funeral carriage. And he held his place, regardless of the dust and the rough footing, all the long way to the church, although almost in a state of collapse.

The service over, the people who filled the little place of worship began to file past the casket. The last one had stepped away and the attendants had started to close the top when the little colored porter moved forward hesitatingly for a last look. He stood before the casket for a moment, then began to cry in a queer, silent manner. Someone led him away, and as he neared the door he began to sway, and would have fallen had not a kindly arm been thrown about his shoulders. He followed the remains to the graveside and stayed until the end.

Is there anything in all this world that is of more importance to you than good digestion? Food must be eaten to sustain life and must be digested and converted into blood. When the digestion fails the whole body suffers. Chamberlain's Tablets are a rational and reliable cure for indigestion. They increase the flow of bile, purify the blood, strengthen the stomach, and tone up the whole digestive apparatus to a natural and healthy action. For sale by all dealers. 3

$19.00 to $25.00 Has Never Bought Finer Suits for Women

Not Even at the End of the Season.

Every One Is a Correct, Distinguished Garment

Twenty-five elegantly tailored Mannish Suits, in Serge, Tweed, Whipcords and Gray Worsteds. Beautiful Serge Suits in navy and black, showing the new French styles, Tweeds in English fashion, Serges prettily trimmed with satin or corded silk—and the woman who has waited until the last minute to buy her spring suit will please remember this, that when she comes to our ready-to-wear parlors she is not met with only odds and ends of depleted stocks, which most stores glory in at this time, but hundreds of fresh and beautiful models are here for your selection, many of which are but a few days from the maker, which naturally, selling now at **$15.00** to **$17.95** are of the $25.00 and $27.50 kinds.

The same preparedness is evident all the way through these sections—among the little morning frocks and informal silk dresses, among the fine evening gowns, and among the coats and wraps and skirts, and you will find the variety in styles is fully equalled by the variety in prices.

Ladies' Suit of fawn tweed, coat satin lined, shawl collar and cuffs faced with satin, three-button closing, cutaway front, skirt 6-gore, panel back, pleats at side gores. A well-tailored suit. **$19.00**

Suits of Serge for stout figures; fine all-wool Worsted Serge Suits, coat semi-fitted with silk serge lining, straight front, collar and cuffs faced with satin, hip pockets; skirt 6-gore, panel back and front, with inserted foot pleats; colors, black, brown and navy; sizes 37, 39, 41, 43 and 45. Model specially designed for stout figures. Price **$19.00**

Ladies' Suit of light gray worsted, coat semi-fitted and silk lined, man tailored collar and lapels, inlaid satin and button trimmings, back panel and front of coat trimmed with satin; buttons and large worked button-holes; skirt 6-gore, panel back and front; side and back foot pleats. Price.. **$23.50**

Ladies' Suit of fawn whipcord, coat semi-fitted, satin-lined, 3-button closing, collar of corded silk, breast pocket, tailored cuffs, button trimmed; skirt 6-gore, high waist-line with inserted foot pleats at side and back. Price **$25.00**

Pongee, Messaline and Taffeta Silk Dresses

Pretty Dress of natural pongee silk; 3-piece skirt high waist-line, joined to waist with soft pleated girdle; set-in sleeve, round neck with lace collar, cuffs and girdle of alice blue silk. Small women's and ladies' sizes, 14, 16 and 18 years, and 34, 36 and 38 bust. Price..... **$9.50**

Ladies' One-Piece Dress of taffeta silk, in blue and white and black and white stripe; 3-piece skirt with panel back, joined to waist with girdle of silk, set-in kimono sleeve, collar and V yoke of lace (sailor collar), opens in front. Price..... **$15.00**

Messaline Silk Dress, in tan, 4-piece skirt, panel back, high waist-line, lace collar and V yoke front and back, set-in sleeve, trimmed with guipure lace in side effect. Price **$17.50**

Striped Messaline Silk Dress, in brown and white and black and white; two-piece skirt, front in tunic style, high waist-line, set-in sleeve, collar and yoke of lace, sailor collar of lace, trimmed with plain silk, color of stripe. Price..... **$22.50**

Ladies' Ready-to-Wear—Second Floor.

Last Days of "Omo" Dress Shield Demonstration

Two more days—Friday and Saturday. If you have not already taken advantage of this opportunity to have the merits of these odorless Shields explained and the proper Shield demonstrated for the various styles of dresses, come tomorrow or Saturday and have the free advice of an expert. You are not obliged to make a purchase. The demonstration is intended as more of an education for our customers. "OMO" Shields are odorless, washable and hygienic. Every pair guaranteed.

Demonstration in East Aisle.

Hosiery Must Be Dainty for Summer Wear

Big Display and Sale This Week of All Summer Lines

SEE DUNDAS AND RICHMOND STREET WINDOWS.

See Window Display, Dundas Street.

One of the heavy importing departments of this store is the Hosiery Department. We import direct from European makers, hence our values are far famed. We buy in quantities and our prices are always on the inside. This week we are making a great display of all our new importations, and invite you to examine the values and see the novelty lines.

See These Specials, 2 Pairs for 25c and 3 Pairs for $1.00

Ladies' Cotton Hose, Hermsdorf dye, extra quality.....2 pairs for **25¢**
See fine Lisle Thread Hose, black, white or tan, at pair ..... **25¢**
Also Special Silk Lisle Hose..... **35¢** pair, or 3 pairs for **$1.00**
Cotton Hose with balbriggan or cashmere soles. Special, pair ..... **25¢**
Fine Silk Lisle and Silk Ankle Hose, pair..... **50¢** and **65¢**
Silk Hose with lisle top and sole, pair..... **$1.25, $1.50** and **$2.00**
Children's Lisle Hose, plain or lace ankle, in black, tan, pink, sky, white and cardinal, all sizes.
Children's Fancy Socks with plain or plaid tops, all sizes now in stock.

Well assorted stocks of new and popular styles for men, women and children.

See Window Display, Richmond Street.

See assortment of Children's Fancy Socks, all Sizes.

See Richmond Street Window for Men's Half Hose

Great Sale of Special Import Lines Friday and Saturday

Special Quality Men's Fancy Cotton Half Hose, 17c or 3 pairs for 50c
Special Quality Men's Silk Lisle Half Hose, 25c pair.

In tan, navy, green and black. Extra value.

Extra fine Lisle Half Hose, in best colors, pair..... **35¢** and **50¢**

Richmond Street Section.

Greatest Basement Sale Today

A Half and a Third Are the Prices That Rule in Many Cases

Sale will continue Friday if any goods are left.

Table Cloths, Seconds and Mill Ends, Wash Goods, Muslins, Towels, Cottons, Sheetings and about 1,000 Remnants. Fancy stamped articles for working from Art Department. Battenburg pieces at less than half value, Tray Cloths, Scarfs, Shams, etc. If you cannot come today, come Friday.

Short Lunches 10c, from 3:30 to 5:30. Sliced Tomatoes, Bread and Butter and Cup of Tea or Coffee in Restaurant.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM LIMITED

Strawberries and Ice Cream—In Restaurant—Served for 10c—Every Afternoon, 3:30 to 5:30.