FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

O.B. Graves, Ltd. Worry

JOHN FRIEND

is now ready to supply housekeepers

Christmas Cakes and Puddings.

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AZALEAS, CYCLAMEN, POINSETTIAS. PRIMULAS, Etc.

The Choicest of Cut Flowers for Christmas. Order

DARCH & HUNTER

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CHRISTMAS LIGHTING.

Now is the time to order your Electric Designs for Christmas decorations. Don't delay. We will get them ready for you. Telephone 958, and we will call upon

London Electric Co.



AND PYTHIAS." A thigh-class production of this cele-brated tragedy was given last night at the Grand, and thoroughly enjoyed by a good house. The stage settings and costumes were very elaborate, the com-pany fully capable, and the tout ensemble very pleasing. Thomas Jeavons, as Damon, and Irene Jeavons, as Calanthe, were the stars, and both proved themselves artistes in this line of work. Their support was good, and the performance that the start of the start formance throughout very meritorious

"THE FORTUNE TELLER" CHRIST-MAS MATINEE AND NIGHT. "The Fortune Teller" is divided into hree acts. The first shows a garden adjoining the Royal Opera House Budapesth, the second the chateau and ground of a nobleman on the Danube not far from the city, and the last the camp of the Hungarian forces. In selecting a company the side out; never turn the hose on Santa Messrs. Aborn are reported to have Claus. been most careful and to have go: together an organization which is one of remarkable strength. The chorus is a very large one. The Fortune Teller" comes to the Grand Christmas matinee and night, Monday, Dec. 26.

Pocock Bros.

Christmas Gifts Sale

the popular styles, in VICI KID and COZY FELT BATH SLIP-

50c to \$2.50. Good Slip-Proof Rubbers and Overshoes.

Fine Stock of Trunks. Valises and Satchels. Prices always right, quality considered.

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For Christmas Presents. Men's Persian Lamb Caps, \$6 50, \$9 00

Persian Lamb Gauntlets, \$15 00 Men's Persian Lamb Collars, \$11 00 and Children's Gray Lamb Gauntlets, \$3 75 Children's Gray Lamb Collars, \$5 75, 6 90 and \$6 50. Ladies' Alaska Sable Round Muffs, 10 00, \$11 00 and \$12 50. Ladies' Alaska Sable Flat Muffs, \$15 00 Isabella Fox Ruffs, with head and tail

HARRY RANAHAN **OFFERS**

PLUM PUDDINGSper pound.....25c CHRISTMAS STOCKINGSeach 10c to 75c

TABLE RAISINS per pound 20c to 45c MALAGA GRAPES-

per pound ... 20c and 25c ORANGESper dozen 20c to 50c

FANCY BOXES CANDY per box 15c to \$3.50 LAYER FIGS-15c, two pounds for 25c;

and 20c per pound. Cucumbers, Radishes. Lettuce, Celery, Parsley,

Cauliflowers, Ripe Tomatoes. HOLLY.

HARRY RANAHAN.

Diamond and Pearl Brooches

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of Diamond Hall quality is one of the finest Christmas gifts for a lady. Our display is one of the finest to be seen anywhere, and will meet with the approval of the most critical. Prices, \$2 to \$10. Prices, \$10 to \$125.

W. G. YOUNG DIAMOND HALL, 214 DUNDAS STREET.

LONDON AND DISTRICT

-Dr. Homer McLay, of this city, is isiting his parents at Aylmer. -See that your stockings are right

-Mr. Colemo Salt r. of Exeter, i seriously ill with pneamonia in the -Mr. Watson, of Belmont, recently sold a team of fine block horses to Me. Fred Hunter, of South London, for

-Mr. John McFadyen, principal of Fingal school, who has resigned his relatives in this city.

-Mr. J. B. Oliver, of this city, has been appointed to the committee on the redistribution of districts in con-nection with the Grand Lodge of Ontario, I. O. O. F.

-Probate of the will of the late Frederick Wiltshire, of this city, has

CHRISTMAS ..GIFTS..

PEARL RINGS. GENTS' PEARL TIEPINS, in

S 14-k. gold, make a useful Christ-

SUMNER, THE JEWELER, 380 Richmond St.

********* Christmas Furs...

BELTZ,

been granted to the London and Western Trusts Company, the executor named in the will, Mr. J. W. G. Winnett is the solicitor of the estate. -The general passenger agents of all he Canadian railways have notified Secretary Robinson, of the Commercial

Fravelers' Association, that in accordance with the request of the travelers, arrangements have been made whereby mercial travelers may buy weekend tickets between any two Canadian stations east of and including Port Arur, Sarnia and Windsor, for one single first-class fare, one way, instead of the sale being confined to certain destinations as heretofore.

-The pupils of the Richmond street north school held their Christmas entertainment on Thursday. The walls gramme was rendered by the following: Hadley Trott, James Bryant, Harold Steele, Fred Templar, Lizzie Bibbings, Ethel Clixby, Gertrude Morgan, Verna Nelson, Dave Lamont, Clare Sproull, Depnis Connors, Sophia Burt, Wilbur Sloman, Arthur Hexter, Frank Connors, Vera Steele and George Burt. -The following is taken from the Toronto Globe of a recent date: Chief Game Warden Tinsley has received from the Canadian Express Company, a return showing that the company carried 2,522 carcasses of deer shot in the Province during the season that closed last month, weighing 285,-847 pounds. Last year, which was a record year for sportsmen, the com-pany carried 2,950, and in 1902 2,286 carcasses. The largest number from any one point was 499 from Burk's Falls. The returns from the Dominion Express Company, who usually carry between 300 and 400, have no

yet been received. CHRISTMAS AT THE HOME. Some of those interested in the Home for Incurables intend getting up a Christmas tree for the inmates on Tuesday night next. Subscriptions will be gladly received.

PRESENTATION TO LONDONER. Mr. Arthur Hodgins, foreman of the Canadian Northern freight sheds at Port Arthur (formerly of Albion street, West London), was presented with conskin coat by his fellow employed the other evening. GIFTS FOR INDIANS. Rev. S. Brigam's Indian mission on

Walpole Island is receiving many Christmas subscriptions and gifts from the members of St. John's Church, London township. The Women's Auxiliary have sent Mr. Brigam a large package of useful articles. TRAVELERS' CLUB. The annual meeting of the Tra-

important matters to consider. THE WEATHER A YEAR AGO. A year ago today London was enjoying favorable weather for the

Christmas shoppers. The day was quite mild,, the temperature reaching 35.5 degrees above zero, while the lowest mark was 16 degrees above. STELLA'S NEW OFFICERS. The following officers have been

elected by Court Stella, A. O. F., for the ensuing term: C. R., A. W. Jen-kins; S. C. R., George Chapman, treasurer, John Nutkins; secretary, F. O. Woosley; S. W., Bro. Taylor; J. W., Bro. McNeil; S. B., Thomas Chamberlain; J. B., Bro. Brown; physician, W. M. English, M. D.; trustees, R. Moule, T. Shaw and J. Connors; auditors, W. Livermore and F. Montrose; minute secretary, R. Moule. BYRON SCHOOL CLOSING.

The closing exercises of the Byron public school were held on Thursday afternoon. The pupils' parts were very well given. Mr. W. E. Saunders, of this city, was present and gave a very pleasing and instructive talk on birds. at the close of which the pupils moved him a very hearty vote of thanks. The people of the section who were appreciated the talk very much. After the programme was completed many boxes of confectionery, donated by the McCormick Comrany, were distributed among the The pupils also took the opportunity of moving Mr. McCormick a vote of thanks.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS. The musical services at St. John the Evangelist Church on Christmas Day, under direction of Mr. H. L. Milligan, with Mr. T. Mitcheltree at the organ, will include: Processional hymn, No. 61, A. and M.; Venite (Twile), Psalms (Twile and Lahee), Te Deum (Hopkins), Benedictus (Goss), Anthem, "Be Glad and Re-loice" (Hayward); Lyrie (Mitcheltree), Horia (Warren). Hymn, No. 59, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come." Evening— Hymn, No. 60, "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing;" Psalms (Handel and Gregorian), Magnificat (Vincent), Nunc Din itis (Micheltree), Anthem, "We Have Seen His Star;" Hymn, No. 62, "While the pherds Watched;" Hymn, No. 18, "Hail! Gladdening

WILL NOT HAVE STRAIGHT TICKET

Temperance Party Will Only Secure Pledges of Candidates for the Council.

temperance party will not have a straight ticket for the municipal elections. When the question of candidates was considered at a meeting held behind closed doors a few days ago, a sub-committee was ap-pointed to prepare a slate, the idea be-ing to name candidates for the council

This committee has been at work, but a member of it today announced that the temperance party would not have a straight slate. All it desired was to secure a majority of members on the council who were favorable to the cause, and if they secured this they would be satisfied. Already four candidates for aldernanic honors had been waited upon satisfied. Already four candidates for aldermanic honors had been waited upon, and they had pledged themselves, if elected, to vote for a reduction of the licenses in London. Other candidates would be waited upon by the representatives of the temperance party, and all who would make a similar pledge would receive their support. support.

The member of the sub-committee was asked if all candidates would be approached, and the reply was that the temperance people would only see those who were looked upon as having a good chance of election.

"All we want to get," said the committeeman, "is the pledge of a majority

TOMORROW'S CONVENTION

EAST MIDDLESEX LIBERALS

The convention of the Liberals of in the Auditorium promises to be the largest in the history of the East Riding Association. The various subdivisions have met during the past two ceks and named their full delegaions, and with anything like favorable weather conditions the Auditorium will be filled with enthusiastic Lib-

The nomination of a candidate for he Provincial Legislature will be taken up at the convention at 1:30, adname of Dr. Routledge, of Lambeth, were decorated with specimens of drawing by the pupils, and a good pronection with the candidature, and it is pretty well assured that it will be the Dr. Routledge is extremely popular in all parts of the constituency, and his friends are bent on again having him

The business of the convention will be completed in an hour, and at 2:30 thrown open to the public. Addresses are to be given by a number of leading Liberals of the city and the adjacent

The Choicest of Everything Good to Eat is Kere For You. Let Us Fill Your Christmas Order.

PINK MALAGA GRAPES, a GREEN MALAGA GRAPES, a BEST MIXED NUTS, a pound, GOOD MIXED NUTS, a pound 15e

WEBB'S PLUM PUDDINGS, The finest, direct from Baltimore to us

Large Standards, a quart .. 40c STUFFED DATES { 35c Box STUFFED FIGS ... Christmas Crackers You should have a box for your

Christmas gathering. Lots of fun for old and young. Each cracker filled with an amusing assortment of fancy paper hats, caps, bonnets, Japanese novelties, etc., etc. Come and see 15e up to, per box, \$1 25 SANTA CLAUS STOCKINGS, filled with toys, 10c up to 75c

TELEPHONE 317. T. A. ROWAT & CO 234 Dundas Street.

MAYOR BECK ENTERTAINS CIVIC **BODIES AT A FAREWELL DINNER**

Large Gathering at the Spread in "The Board of Health," and Dr. A. O the City Hall Last Evening -The Toast List.

at a farewell banquet in the city hall. The affair was unique in many respects, because for a first time in Londefending the expenditures. He also don at a public function, the company announced that the debenture debt of sat down to dinner at 7 o'clock; the London has been reduced to \$98,000 in menu was particularly appetizing from the years 1902, 1903 and 1904. But he "home-made" manner, and during the ation society," he said.
evening some excellent vaudeville was Mr.T.G.Meredith, after paying tribute relers' Club of this city will be held in their new club house on Richmond street tomorrow (Saturday) evening at street tomorrow (Saturday) evening at also favored with a number of solos in artistic style, as did also Mr. Cyril pany responded in a hearty manner. Dwight-Edwards, and the harpers added to the pleasures of the evening by rendering many beautiful selections. Mrs. Dr. Drake was accompanist to the

Though it had been announced some days ago that there would be no speak- had been showered upon him by the ing, the resolution was foregone, and city solicitor. a lengthy toast list was carried out, though the company dispersed shortly after midnight, a very seasonable hour, Mayor Beck took his place at the head of the board, and on his right was Sir John Carling, and on his left Ald. Judd. The guests included all members of civic bodies, all civic officials. Major Beattle and a few other friends of the

The first toast was that of "The Board of Education," coupled with it was the name of Chairman E. J. Mac-Robert, who replied in a happy man-"The Board of Police Commissioners" was the next toast on the list, and

Police Magistrate Love made one of his characteristically pleasant speeches, complimenting the mayor upon the services rendered the police commis-"The Water Commissioners" was re-

sponded to by Mr. William Jenes, who spoke highly of the mayor's work on the water commission. Coupled with the toast of "The Hosall the municipal charities of London

Jeffery to that of "The Library Board." Sir John Carling, who was given charge of the toast list by Mayor Beck, spoke of the olden days, "fifty years ago," and his speech proved one of the Mayor Beck last night entertained a company of about seventy-five guests forth a lengthy speech from Ald. Judd, who launched into the overdraft matter at once, and devoted much time to the fact that it was served in the wasn't indulging in a "mutual admir-

The mayor replied on behalf of Mrs. Beck and himself, eulogizing the members of the different bodies with which he had come in contact during the year. Auditor Jewell also took occasion to reply to some words of praise which

This ended the evening's enjoyment, and all dispersed, after wishing the mayor and Mrs. Beck the compliments of the season.

RECEPTION TO PASTOR

Congregation of Proudfoot Memoria Chapel Welcomes Rev. T. Nixon.

The London Presbytery recently ar ranged to have divine services every Sunday evening in the Proudfoot Memoria! Chapel, West London, commencing on Dec. 25 (Christmas Night). Last evening, a reception was given to the pastor, Rev. Thomas Nixon, the chair being occupied by Mr. J. A. Carrick. Mr. A. S. McGregor gave a synopsis of the work that had recent ly been accomplished, showing that the prospects for the cause of Presbyterianism in West London, for the future pital Trust" was the name of Mr. were particularly bright. Rev. Dr. Thomas Purdom, K. C., who said that Ross and Rev. J. G. Stuart also spoke encouragingly of the work. A large should be under one management. He Sabbath school has been built up and declared that there is no money ex- with divine service every Sunday evenpended by the people for which they ing, a large congregation will without secure such value as they do for taxes. doubt soon be in attendance. Refresh-Dr. English responded to the toast of ments were served by the ladies.

Christmas Gifts Bought The Purdom - Gillespie



Hardware Co. represent far greater value than you'll find elsewhere. CARPET SWEEPERS, \$2 to \$5 CARVING SETS, \$1 to \$15

TABLE KNIVES, DESSERT and TEA KNIVES, in sets, a set \$2 to \$7 POCKET KNIVES, .. 10e to \$2 LADY'S COMPANION, 50c to \$3 SKATES, HOCKEY STICKS, TOBOGGANS, SLEIGHS, BABY CUT-

TERS, and a great many other CHRISTMAS GIFTS that might be SELECTED from our IMMENSE STOCK.

English Plum Puddings Christmas Cake Christmas Shortcake Mince Pies Patties Mincemeat (Our. Own Make.)

GEORGE PETERS, Confectioner

Ready for the Final Round-Up.

STRONG LIST

Including many New Novelties, prepared for Friday and Saturday-the last two days of the

Christmas Shopping Season

See SCREATON'S STRONG SHOWING of Practical and Pleasing Presents:

Imported Statuary, each, from.....\$1.50 to \$7.50 Sofa Pillows, each, from......\$1.25 to \$7.50 Eiderdown Comfortables, each, from...\$4.00 to \$15.00 Cotton-Filled Comfortables, each, from......\$1.25 to \$3.50 White Satin Counterpanes, each, from......\$1.25 to \$5.00 Lace Bed Sets-Sham and Bolster, each, from. \$7.50 to \$10.00 Cushion Forms, 18 to 26-inch, each, from40c to 85c Cushion Covers, various patterns, each, from 35e to \$2.75 Cushion Girdles, every \approx anted combination, each, from

Pillow Shams, large assortment, pair, from ... \$1.50 to \$2.50 Bedroom Boxes, made to your order, each, from

Dresser and Stand Covers, suitable sizes, each.. 50c to \$1.25 Art Silks, for light draperies, yard 65c to 75c Colored Madras Draperies, yard......35e to \$1.25 Cream and White Madras, yard......25c to 75c Art Sateens, for covers and draperies, yard......20c to 75c Printed Silkalines, dainty and effective, special, yard.....20c Plain Colors, in Silkalines, yard......13c Sash Nets, all widths, yard, from......20c to \$1.25 Tapestry Coverings, 50 inches wide, yard....... 75c to \$2.50 Silk Coverings, 50 inches wide, yard......\$2 00 to \$6.00 Screens, oak frames, 3 and 4 sections, each....\$1.25 to \$5.00 Oak Costumers, each, from......\$3.00 to \$5.00 Carpet Sweepers, best makes, each, from......\$2.75 to \$3.75 Carpet Squares, all sizes and all makes, each.. \$6,00 to \$75.00 Floor Rugs and Mats, each......50c to \$7.00 Couch Covers, each\$6.00 to \$10.00 Tapestry Table Covers, all sizes and colors, each

......50c to \$4.00 Japanese Lanterns, each......25c to 50c A. SCREATON & CO

Dundas Street. Carling Street.

OPEN FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS.

Lawson's FUN-CREATING For Wee Folk as Well as Big CPACKETS

LAWSON'S 21st CHRISTMAS Mistletoe and Holly.

Let the little folk see our window. It will be filled with Christmas Crackers never shown before in London. Donkeys, Elephants, Horses, Cows, Bears, Pigs, Rabbits, Cats, Dogs, etc., all with their load of Crackers. Bring the children to see them. Another consignment of Florida Oranges for 25c per

dozen, that will cost you 40c in any other store. We

also carry a large stock of the very choicest Navels.

John Lawson,

Grocer, etc. Phone 565. 261 Dundas Street.

SCHOOL CLOSING

Exercises Held in the Various Grades at Colborne Street.

Grades I. and II. combined their proand flags. A great many parents were present, much to the gratification of the teachers and children. Mr. T. H. Purdom, K. C., entertained the children with a very pleasing speech. The Parsons, Merlyn Pococke, May McCul-Tarbons, Merlyi Pococke, May McCul-programme was rendered by Jack Tanton, Nina Crittle, A. Raymond, Ethel Kernan, Eva Metcalfe, Nettie Jones, Willie Crittle, Bessie Winters-gill, Charlie and Aubrey Sligh, Everett Wright, Edith Pook, Marjorie Skinner, and Eric Steven

Wednesday afternoon. The programme consisted of songs, recitations and gramaphone selections, after which refreshments were served, and the chilfor the Christmas season. In Grade V. the programme was A very pleasant time was spent in given by Walter Steven, Ivy Radway, Grade I. of Colborne street school, when Lillian Purdom, Chrissie Ross, L. Purgrammes. The room was beautifully Bessie Kew, May McCullough, Gordon decorated with Christmas drawings Edgecombe, Mabel Rose, Walter Dixon.

The population of Japan increased from 33,110,793 in 1872 to 46,304,999 in 1893, and is The closing exercises of Grade IV., increasing rapidly.