

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 22, 1917

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SPECIAL TO MR. HANNA.

Within the last ten days a carload of eggs was brought from Montreal to St. John in expectation that space would be found to export them overseas. The eggs were not found and the carload of eggs was hauled back to Montreal. The price offered in St. John, high as it is, was not attractive enough, and they were not offered for sale here. To the original cost has been added that of sending them from Montreal to St. John and from St. John back to Montreal. At a time when there is a great shortage of eggs, and merchants complain that they cannot get delivery of goods, it is possible to get car space to haul eggs back and forth between Montreal and St. John. At a time when enormous quantities of eggs are held in cold storage, and the holders recently had the effrontery to suggest that the country should pay half of the advertising bill to induce people to buy eggs for patriotic reasons at exorbitant prices, the speculator still holds his grip. What will the government do about it?

A GOOD BEGINNING.

Nowhere will the announcement that the new government at Ottawa has decided to prohibit the importation of liquor into Canada, and very soon prohibit its manufacture in Canada for beverage purposes, be more heartily commended than in this city and province. One of the serious complaints against the old government was that it did not offer protection to the dry provinces. Now that imports into Canada are to be stopped, as a first step in the needed reform, it will soon follow that provinces outside of Quebec will not be plagued by the traffic which is centred in the cities of Montreal and Quebec. The government is to be congratulated, and should not allow too long a time for the absorption of existing stocks before giving another turn of the screw. Only a serious and sober nation can successfully solve the problem of liquor, even if the liquor itself were not an enemy to be destroyed. Canada should have taken the present action earlier in the war, but there were powerful interests to reckon with. The new government is more courageous; and, while it proceeds with moderation, it gives those interests to understand that they are not to stand in the way. Let us hope this is an indication of what will be done in every direction, to strengthen the fighting arm, put an end to profiteering, profligacy and waste, and mobilize the country in the strictest economic as well as military sense for war work.

SIR WILFRID'S POSITION

Of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the course he is likely to pursue, the Toronto Star says:—"Notwithstanding the overwhelming nature of the victory for the government, there will be an opposition, by no means insignificant in numbers, under the leadership of a veteran statesman upon whom we may rely for counsels of moderation and conciliation. On the question of compulsory service he was at variance with the government, and, as it now appears, at variance with the country. But apart from this issue, which has placed him in a minority, there is no reason to doubt the sincerity of his utterances of sympathy with our common cause, and we have no reason to fear that he will adopt obstructive or factious tactics. Sir Wilfrid has often declared that his most cherished aim was the unity of Canada, and his career bears out the claim. To unite Quebec with the rest of Canada on the question of compulsory service was a task which he would not undertake, and which perhaps would have been beyond his powers. But he will not widen the breach, and he may do something to restore good feeling."

DEALING WITH BOYS.

Under the heading, "Boys of Today, Men of Tomorrow," Canadian Finance, of Winnipeg, says:—"That the Winnipeg Rotary Club was able to secure from the citizens of Winnipeg over \$15,000 in three days for the Knowles Home for Boys, is indication that the public is not altogether deaf when appealed to along these lines. But personal interest and direct service are even more essential than money in tackling the 'boy problem,' and it is gratifying that Winnipeg Rotarians are going to act in an all-the-year-round 'big brother' capacity to the lads in the home they are now backing."

Referring to the necessity for more active effort to promote boy-welfare, the same journal says further:—"Never in human history have boys changed so grown-ups so quickly as they must do in the next few years. The sacrifice of millions of the world's older boys and young men means that many, many after-war gaps will have to be filled by mere lads four or five years before their rightful time for manhood's responsibilities. To these boys of today—men tomorrow—society now owes a special care. And not alone for the boys' sake, but for the sake of the world."

community's weal. Juvenile delinquency has increased greatly during the war—a fact commented upon by A. M. Macdonald in his address before the Social Welfare Congress of Manitoba. This is attributable doubtless to the fact that so many fathers, teachers, Y. M. C. A. workers and scout-masters have left home. In Canada, however, it is encouraging to be told that as yet there is no increase in serious crime, most of the delinquencies being the effect of youthful efflorescence. But from Germany, and from Britain too, there comes word of more serious developments of youthful crime, under the vastly greater stress of war conditions overseas. It behooves us in all possible ways to offset any such course in Canada.

The boys live in a world of their own. Without interested guidance, which is not tyrannical, but sympathetic, many will go wrong. There is in every community a lamentable indifference on the part of many parents to the moral and intellectual welfare of their boys, and society in its own defence must take action or suffer serious consequences at a later period. It is the right of every boy to be given a good opportunity to develop the best that is in him, and if that right is not recognized the worst that is in him may develop to plague the society which failed to do its duty. We need boy playgrounds, evening classes for working boys, and a general oversight of boys' activities such as will encourage them to grow up to intelligent, honest and useful manhood. All that is done by the schools, churches, Y. M. C. A., cadets, boy scouts and the like is useful, but it does not reach all the boys. It was a recognition of the importance of the work that moved the International Convention of Rotary Clubs at its last annual meeting to specialize on the boy.

The Halifax Echo says:—"Nova Scotia has evidently not yet broken away from party politics. No unwillingness to carry on the war to a finish can properly be charged against the province, but a distaste for change, a 'loyalty to party' which almost amounts to fetish worship is characteristic of many sections. The country will now settle down and the war will go on while Canada maintains her proud position before the world."

A. M. MacGregor, defeated Laurier candidate in South York, says that as a result of the return of so many Liberals and Union-Liberals to parliament the centre of political control has shifted, and that the union government must sincerely and efficiently fulfil its repeated pledges of helpful democratic legislation for all the people or quit.

If there is any ground for the statement that some members of the school board regard one doctor with no nurse a sufficient beginning for medical inspection in the schools of St. John, a most earnest protest should be made. The work should be properly begun, and the additional cost would be a mere trifle compared with the value of the work of the school nurses, not only in the schools but in the homes of many of the children.

Hon. Dr. Roberts availed himself of an excellent opportunity yesterday to place before the Teachers' Institute and the people generally the need of a public health department, and of medical inspection of the schools. A careful reading of the report of his address, given in today's Times, will afford a great deal of valuable information of special interest at the present time.

England must make greater demands upon her man-power. The war has reached another critical period. The announcement that Canada is with her to the end will greatly hearten the Mother Country and make the people all the more eager to manifest the same spirit.

Hon. C. J. Doherty very properly says that "the Canadian people as a whole can best serve their country by showing themselves to be generous and conciliatory towards the minority in the moment of victory."

There is some very silly talk in Quebec emanating from firebrands who have very little influence upon the great mass of the people. Quebec will do her duty in spite of them.

The situation on the Italian front is still a source of great anxiety. The Germans and Austrians are making desperate efforts to break the Allied lines.

The London Times says the next few weeks are likely to be the worst of the war, and calls upon the people to steel themselves to greater sacrifice.

The prospects of peace between Russia and Germany are not as bright as they were, but the internal situation in Russia is very bad.

PENDANTS AND BAR PINS

Especially at prices between \$4.50 and \$10, our display comprises many elegant styles, combining green and yellow gold—hand-pierced and engine-turned—while others are in gold and platinum set with popular stones in the new square-cut effect.

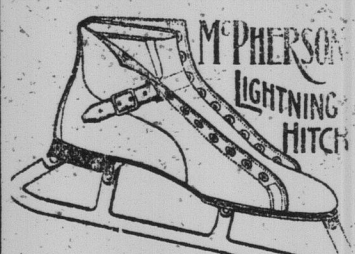
The Bar Pin is undoubtedly at the height of its popularity. Our new designs for the Christmas Gift Season are moderate in cost and unusually attractive.

There is also a good selection of Mourning Jewellery, in chaste designs of black enamel and onyx, relieved with pearl setting.

The distinguishing mark of these pieces is the Birks workmanship—a feature worthy of special consideration. Our Gift Book sent on request.

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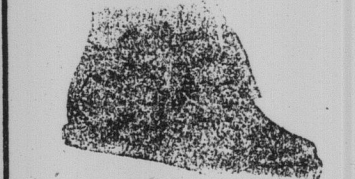
NEEDED FOOTWEAR ALWAYS WELCOME



Young people must skate to be healthy. Men's Lightning Hitch, \$3.00 to \$5.50. Boys' Lightning Hitch, \$2.25 to \$4.25. Ladies' and Girls' Lightning Hitch, \$2.75 to \$5.50.



"Albert" Slippers. Men's Woolen Slippers, felt sole, \$1.25, \$1.85, \$1.50, \$1.85, \$1.90. Men's Felt Slippers, leather sole and heel, \$1.85, \$1.50, \$2.25. Ladies' Woolen Slippers, felt sole, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.85, \$1.50, \$1.65. Dr. Jaeger's Slippers, \$2.50. Children's and Misses' Woolen Slippers, 65c. to \$1.00. Ladies' Felt, Fur Trimmed Juliet, Brown, grey and black, \$1.85, \$2.00, \$2.25. Laced, Jenny Lind style, \$1.85. Ladies' Cosy Slippers, in red, navy, maroon, blue and brown, \$1.00, \$1.05, \$1.25, \$1.50 to \$2.00. Ladies' Kid Boudoir Slippers to match the dressing gown, \$1.65, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.85. Ladies' Beaded Moccasin Slippers, grey or brown, fur trimmed, \$2.00 per pair.



Infants' Pussy Foot Boots and Slippers. Infants' Patent Boots with white or black tops. Infants' Fancy Moccasins. Infants' and Childs' Hurlbut Welts. Dolls' Boots and Slippers. Rubber Boots, Neolin Sole Boots, Dress Pump, Dress Boots, Tan Walking Boots, Waterproof Boots, House Slippers, Overshoes, Gaiters.

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SKATING BOOTS Men's \$4.00 Boys' \$2.25, \$2.50, \$3.50

Women's \$4.25 Girls' \$3.50 Snowshoes \$3.00

Slipper Trees .25 Boot Trees .75

Polishing Outfits .50 ENGLISH PLAID FELT HOUSE SLIPPERS

For Men, Women, Girls and Children Women's Kid House Shoes \$2.50 to \$4.50

Women's Fine Dress Slippers, \$4.00 to \$7.50 Women's Overshoes \$1.50 to \$3.00

Men's Overshoes \$1.75 to \$3.50 Men's Kid House Slippers, \$2.25 to \$4.50

Women's Gaiters \$1.00 to \$2.25 Women's Fine Walking Boots, \$5.00 to \$12.50

Men's Fine Walking Boots \$6.50 to \$9.50

Be sure and see the display of Comfy Slippers on our Christmas Tables.

McROBBIE FOOT FITTERS 50 King Street

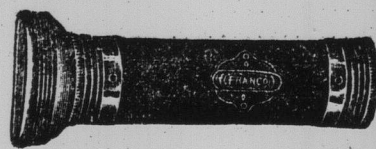
Christmas Cakes

Fruit Cake 6.40 Pound Cake 6.15 Colonial Cakes 6.15 Patties 1.60

PIES Mince Washington Lemon Jam Apple

ROBINSON'S FOUR STORES 173 Union St., 417 Main St., 109 Main St., 48-50 Celebration St.

Flashlights



Boys simply go wild over them, in fact, they are prized by every member of the family. There's always something to locate after dark, or a trip to the cellar, attic or storeroom, and its needless to mention the peril of lighting matches on such occasions.

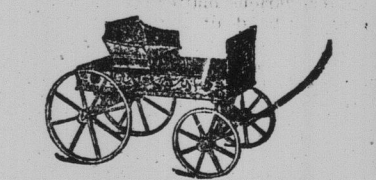
Our Christmas Pocket Flashlights are all new style, with modern, long-lived batteries and Mazda lamps and range in size from a cute little nickel plated vest pocket pattern to an 8-inch spot light, and at prices ranging from 85c. to \$3.50.

T. M. AVITY & SONS, LTD.



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EXPRESS WAGONS Strong and Serviceable Prices 95c. to \$9.50

SNOWSHOES Prices \$2.00 to \$3.50

Oval Serving Trays (Mahogany and Oak) \$1.69

1 Pint Thermos Bottles \$1.39

Round Casserole Dishes \$1.29



Just what the small boy will appreciate. Prices 75c. to \$3.00

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GET YOURS EARLY

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Oval Serving Trays (Mahogany and Oak) \$1.69

1 Pint Thermos Bottles \$1.39

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CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Special Clearance Sale Beautiful China and Glassware Samples

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MR. BIRRELL'S RETIREMENT. (London Correspondent.)

I am delighted to see the unanimity of regret at the news of the retirement

of Mr. Birrell from the house of commons. His record of statesmanship was rudely shattered by the Dublin revolt, but all loved him as a man. His wit, geniality, and frank sincerity, captured all hearts.

Since the house saw him in tears after the tragedy of the Dublin rebellion, Mr. Birrell has only spoken once, and then only to utter a few words. Mr. Chamberlain was speaking on Mesopotamia, when Mr. Birrell interposed an explanation. The house cheered him to the echo, and Mr. Chamberlain took advantage of



Besides the incomparable saving advantage offered by this up-to-date Grocery Store, you have absolute assurance that everything is of the highest quality.

We would like to call your attention to the fact that we carry a large and varied line of Xmas Candies, Stockings, Crackers, etc., besides everything in Fancy and Staple Groceries.

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the occasion to pay a tribute and express the hope that they might hear his voice more frequently.

Foley's Stove Linings THAT LAST

TELEPHONE MAIN 1601

Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Oven

Don't Let The Fire Burn Thru To The Oven