

CHRISTMAS NECKWEAR



OUR Christmas Neckwear is just—well its—wish we could think of some big long word that would do its elegance justice. Come, see it at any rate; New Weaves in Silks fresh from the looms—the Latest Shapes from the best makers.

Neckwear Perfection, and not expensive either. Whatever else you give him for Christmas, be sure to give him a Tie. One or a dozen, it makes no difference; he can wear every one of them and will be glad if he has got them.

This way everybody for Christmas NECKWEAR.

The John McLauchlan Co., Ltd.
Woodstock and Hartland.

SHEASGREEN'S WINTER SODA

IN ALL FLAVOURS

The Newest The Latest The Best

Our Big Soda Fountain is again in operation with a wonderful and varied line of the Finest Syrups, the Choicest Fruits and the Purest Cream that money can buy.

It has taken the public by storm because it's simply delicious.

THE SHEASGREEN DRUG CO., Ltd.
The Prescription Specialists.

SHOEPACK SALE.

This is what we have every day. Better than ever. Our stock this year is above the average. The bottoms are made of very heavy, firm stock and are worth two pairs of the common kind. Come in and see them.
All new stock.

GIBSON & ROSS,
Young Brick Building, Main Streets.

Come to **GUY. E. ARNOLD'S** at the
Marey Building, Connell Street, and have your
Furniture Upholstered
At a reasonable price and all work guaranteed. Carriage and Pung Trimming.

THE COURT HOUSE.

A FEW IDEAS AS TO THIS PERPLEXING QUESTION

THE DISPATCH has not, during its existence, been in the habit of assuming to itself the right to direct the duties of those who are elected the legislators of the county, be they members of the dominion parliament, of the local legislature, or of the town or county council. It has had occasion in the past to express its opinions, and in doing so, has refrained from speaking as an infallible oracle.

A question is about to come up, in fact it has been under discussion, more or less for twenty years past which is of importance to town and county, and that is the much debated question of a new Court House. In discussing this subject we wish to be candid, and to give credit to those who are for waiting awhile, as well as to those who think that the time is now opportune to begin the work. There are certain elements in regard to this Court House question, that have not arisen in other counties which have been called on to erect new buildings or to repair old ones. There is the question of location. When the present Court House was built, or when the oldest part of it was built, for it has been much added to in course of years, Upper Woodstock was much more in the nature of a rival to "the Creek" than it is now.

It was a business centre and bid fair to grow in importance. Even then, if we read local history aright, it was by a narrow majority of those who should decide the location, that the Court House was placed where it now is. However, there it is. And it is very inconveniently situated for the present times. Upper Woodstock had not grown. The town of Woodstock has. People from the country, who come to attend the sessions stay in town, as a rule. They must go to or from town to attend the council or the court, as the case may be. If a new Court House is to be built, there is now, no question as to where it should be built. The town of Woodstock is the place. That is admitted.

Now, public opinion having become united as to the location of a new building, the other question comes up, is the time ripe to make a start. THE DISPATCH honestly believes the time has come. It is said by some "pay off the county debt, first" That is rather a dangerous proposition to advance. The debt of the county is trifling. When has this county ever been free from some bonded debt, and what county is? What town is, what province, what nation is without its debt?

It is well that the councillors should see that the debt does not become too large, and to see that the debt is incurred for good reasons and for permanent works, but it must be remembered if the principles advanced by some of our county economists were carried out to its logical conclusion, we would be a small country, this Canada we talk so much about. It was the borrowing capacity of the country that has led her to become one of the leading countries of the world. By means of this she built her great railways and carried out her other large public works. And we all have to pay for this. The fact that we pay indirectly does not mean that we do not pay or that we do not pay as much as if we were directly taxed.

So much for that. We must have a few more words to say. It is a fact that most of the judges who have visited this county, and many of the Grand Juries from the body of the county, have spoken out strongly in favour of a new Court House. It must be remembered that each was within his or their rights and their duties. A county is morally bound to provide suitable buildings for the conduct of its public business, and while a county council may not in these days be bound to act on the intimation of the Grand Juries or the suggestions of the Judges, much consideration should be given to their opinions. The members of the Grand Juries, are, at least, ratepayers, and it is their particular province to inquire into such matters as the fitness of the court houses and gaols for the purposes to which they are devoted. When, therefore, they make presentations recommending a new Court House, these presentations should not be treated with contempt.

There is another feature of this case which must be brought to the attention of those, who conscientiously, no doubt, oppose the building of a new Court House. Their particular argument is the matter of expense. But such people are frequently penny wise and pound foolish. It is very easy to be so minded. Let us see how these economists have saved the county. It was they who voted for the expenditure on the old gaol at Upper Woodstock a goodly sum of money, which was practically thrown away. The

anti-new Court House people must be held responsible for this. Again, a considerable sum of money was spent on the Court House building. It was proposed to bring water to the building and to establish lavatories. All this cost a good lot of money. The drains were built, the water was brought, the plumbing was done. What good was it? The whole system froze up. It was a useless expenditure, and this was done by the penny wise and pound foolish economists.

It would be interesting, at the present stage to find out just how much was spent on the old gaol, so soon burned down, and on the water works system of the Court House, the main result of the latter being that in winter there is a skating pond in the Barrister's room, and in the summer pretty near a fishing pond. Let those who are for economy explain all this.

That there should be a sentimental feeling of regard for the old Court House is natural, and we appreciate it. There is always a sentimental feeling about an old Church, but that does not prevent its demolition and the erection of a new one in its place. Seriously the objections to this rich county building a Court House to be to its credit are not well founded. It is all very well to talk of the barefooted children and such, but there would be barefooted children if the county had a surplus of \$20,000. One more word to the councillors. It is surely their duty to lead, not to be led. They are for two years entrusted with the government of the county, and they are supposed to exercise their own judgment in the matter of the administration of county affairs. They are not to rush for instructions to every voter. They are supposed to be leaders not followers. Again, it is well to be economical. We should have a new Court House. The time demands it, but we do not need a \$30,000 building nor anything like that. We have the Record office, the gaol, the gaoler's residence. All to be built is the Court House proper. Why should it be such a huge building? Gloucester county has a wonderful Court House of solid stone. But one cannot but think that it is too pretentious. It cost perhaps \$40,000. To be sure they are very proud of their Court House. But this country need not follow. We believe for some \$15,000 such building could be erected, connected perhaps with the Record Office, as would fulfill every requirement. Surely this council which is to meet in January will tackle the question.

As the preachers say "now in conclusion." This is not a matter of the town on one side and the county on the other. There may have been a feeling in some part of the county against the town, years gone by. If it did exist, it was foolish and inexcusable. The man who lives to-day in the county, may be a resident of the town to-morrow. The town people pay their just share of the taxes quite a large share. To the ordinary man in the town, is not a matter of much consequence where the Court house is. He does not stand to gain by its being moved to town, except as a citizen of the county, he would wish to see a respectable and decent building put up in the most convenient place. It must be remembered that one fifth of the population of the county live in the town of Woodstock. The town and county are linked-together, in fact the town is an integral part of the county. It is only mischief makers who see any hostility between the two.

Lost Her Reason.

A patient was brought to the Provincial Hospital this week from a Carleton county village whose story is a peculiarly sad one, even among those of the inmates of the institution. The patient is the widow of a man who owned a farm near Debec Junction, and until recently their home was a happy one. Her husband became dispondent in November over reverses met with in his calling, his crop having been largely a failure, and the outlook correspondingly gloomy. Going to the barn one day he drank carbolic acid with fatal results. It was the wife's lot to find him before he died, but no efforts were available to save him and he passed away within a few hours. His death came as a hard blow to his wife, and her mind also became affected by the tragedy. Her condition was such that she could not be taken proper care of at home, and her relatives obtained her admission to the hospital. Her brother accompanied her, and she is now an inmate.—St. John Globe.

Why Not Stop The Snow.

It seems the people of Montreal want to have a winter carnival but two great powers the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Grand Trunk Railway have decided that the people of Montreal shall not have the Carnival or at any rate that the respective railway companies will do all they can to discourage it. They say they don't want to advertise Canada as a country with a winter. All very well. But we do have a big winter in Canada and why not let the truth be known. Or, if these great corporations mean to stop the winter Carnival why don't they prevent the snow from falling and the frost from freezing. Omnipotence would scarcely dare to forward snow and frost to Canada, against the wishes of the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Railway companies.

Social Events.

Mr and Mrs George Balmain entertained at Bridge on Friday evening. The first prizes were won by Miss Lou Smith, and Mr William Dibblee and the consolation prizes by Mrs J Rankin Brown and Mr Norman Loane. Among the guests were:—Mr and Mrs J T Allen Dibblee, Mr and Mrs E W Mair, Mr and Mrs A B Connell, Mr and Mrs J Rankin Brown, Mr and Mrs William Dibblee, Mr and Mrs G Hugh Harrison, Mr and Mrs W B Balmain, Mr and Mrs G L Holyoke, Mr and Mrs A D Holyoke, Mr and Mrs N R Loane, Mr and Mrs George Mitchell, Mr James Creighton, Mrs Charles Comben, Mr and Mrs D Newcombe, Miss Lou Smith, Mr George F. Smith.

Mrs and Mr J Rankin Brown entertained the choir of St. Paul's Church on Wednesday evening last.

Mrs. F. C. Dannon is the hostess at a five o'clock tea this afternoon.

Florenceville Consolidated School.

The following are those who made eighty or upwards in the Manual Training examination held in November, in order of merit.

HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE DEPARTMENT.

Grades IX and X.—Rose Perley, Edna Pearson, Elith McCain, Effie Lee, Mary Kavanaugh, Helena Cummins, Della Saunders, Ella Ebbett, Margaret Keenan, Lela McCain, Inez Grey.

Grades VI, VII, VIII.—Grace Bell, Mildred Birmingham, Ruby Ross, Ida Birmingham, Ruth Smalley, Faye Stephenson.

WOODWORK DEPARTMENT.

Grades IX and X.—Harley Boyer, Roy Hunter, Sanders Gillespie, Fred Ross, Bertram Perry, Clyde Gallupe, Arthur Shaw, Percy Smith, Sprague Flemming.

Grade VI, VII, VIII.—George Moore, James Turner, Fred Carle, Fenwick Waugh, Bliss McIsaac, Ernest Saunders, Barry McKay, Roland Fiske, Carleton Miller, Louis Taylor.

Yours truly,

JEAN H. PATTERSON,
Instructor Household Science.

Burned The Mortgage.

The Reformed Baptist church held an interesting meeting Thursday evening, called for the purpose of burning the mortgage.

Deacon J. E. Drysdale presided. Ten of the charter members of the church were present, viz, Rev. B. Colpitts, Deacon and Mrs. J. E. Drysdale, C N Scott, Dr. J. E. Jewett, Mrs. J. C. Arnold, F. L. Mooers, A. J. Marsten, Judson Burpee and Pastor S. A. Baker.

The meeting began with a selection by the choir. The pastor read the 148 psalm, Rev. B. Colpitts offered prayer, a mixed quartette composed of F. L. Mooers, Geo. H. Arnold, Samuel Turney and Mrs. Harleigh Watson sang a selection. The chairman called upon Mr. C. N. Scott who read a sketch of the progress of the church, after which H. G. Noble the church treasurer gave a financial statement beginning with the organization, showing the steady financial progress during the years to the present. The church is in good financial condition being now free from debt on the church building and all bills paid and \$125 in the treasury. During the past three months the church has raised in cash for all purposes \$950.10 which considering the stringency of the times, is an excellent showing; after the treasurer's report F. L. Mooers sang a solo and addresses were given by Rev. B. Colpitts and Rev. J. H. Coy. Solo, Geo. H. Arnold. Addresses by A. J. Marsten, Judson Burpee, J. E. Drysdale, J. E. Jewett and F. L. Mooers. Mrs. J. E. Jewett and Leroy Mooers presided at the organ.

H. G. Noble burned the mortgage while the congregation sung the doxology. A most enjoyable meeting closed by prayer and the benediction by Rev. B. Colpitts.

Trial Catarrh treatments are being mailed out free, on request, by Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. These tests are proving to the people—without a penny's cost—the great value of this scientific prescription known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Shoop's Catarrh Remedy. Sold by all druggists.

Masonic Election.

At the regular monthly meeting of St. Marks Lodge, F. and A. M., on Thursday evening last, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Dr. M. G. McLean, W. M.
Williamson Fisher, Treas.
E. L. Hagerman, Tyler.

Mr. Fisher has been elected to the office of treasurer of the lodge every year since 1888.

BORN.

McLEAN.—On Thursday, December 5th, to the wife of Mr. Ernest McLean, a daughter.

Shredded Wheat Biscuits at H. G. NOBLE'S Grocery.