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Gifts for Baby, Miss and Lady that are essential.

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XMAS SPECIALS

NEW MIXED NUTS . 35c. lb. BARLEY TOYS 50c. lb.
XMAS CANDY 35c. lb. ROYAL Mixed Candy 25c. lb.

RAISINS

Choice Seeded Raisins, 18c. pkg. Seedless Raisins, 22c. pkg.
New Currants, 29c. pkg.

PEELS—Lemon and Orange Peel 60c. lb.

SUGAR	MOLASSES.
8 lbs. Granulated Sugar \$1.00 with another order for \$1.00 or more. 7 lbs. for sugar alone.	Extra fancy Barbadoes \$1.10 gallon—10c. less than whole- sale.
COFFEE	TEA
Our fresh ground Coffee is delicious—53c. lb.	Blue Banner 54c. lb. Red Rose 54c. lb. King Cole 54c. lb.
FLOUR	FEED
98 lb. bag La Tour . . . \$5.90 98 lb. bag Purity . . . \$6.10 24 lb. bag La Tour . . . \$1.60	Middlings \$3.75 bag Cornmeal \$3.75 bag

Don't forget our Cut Prices on Patent Medicines, Pills
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Yerran's

BRANCH STORE - WOODSTOCK

SIR ROBERT REFUSES TO AFFIRM OR DENY RUMOR

The Premier Seems to be Strong for Keeping His Own Counsel
—Told by Physicians That if He Wishes to Recover His
Health He Must Quit Public Life—An Early Election May
Clear the Atmosphere.

Ottawa, Dec. 15—Keenly feeling the circumstances which make it necessary for him to put an end to his own political career, Sir Robert Borden will even yet, neither affirm nor deny the truth of the published reports that he will soon retire. The reports however your correspondent is assured authoritatively tonight, are substantially correct. Sir Robert was faced by the fiat of physicians in three cities, "If you wish to get well you must resign and take things easily for some time. If you do not resign you will have a complete relapse from which you will not recover." When first the seriousness of his position was explained to him last October, Sir Robert decided to make a complete break with his official duties for a month or two by a trip to South Virginia hoping his nerves would recover, in that way, their old tone and he would be able to carry on a little longer. But he found that a premier cannot get away from his responsibilities.

As soon as the newspaper reports revealed where he was taking his "rest" a deluge of letters on all subjects of public policy went south, and prominent Canadians and cabinet ministers followed him to discuss matters too important to be decided by anybody but a premier. At last he came home some what better, but he soon found that he was not equal to the strain of the years ahead.

Conference of Ministers

The ministers met with Borden and discussed the matter from all points of view. For a time consideration was given to a proposal that the cabinet should be organized so that the premier could be relieved of a greater part of his duties and only spend a few hours a day to decide on matters of great importance. It was soon recognized that this would not do, that a premier had to have a decisive voice from day to day on all matters relating to public policy and that the absence of a strong hand would soon be apparent through ministers of opposing views pulling in opposite directions. On Friday afternoon last, after a series of interviews with members of his cabinet, Sir Robert decided finally to retire. It is thought that difficulties met in attempting reorganization of his cabinet and of getting capable new ministers, who would not be black-balled by at least some members of that exclusive club the Union cabinet, had a great deal to do with showing him he could not stand the strain much longer.

Old line Tories are getting in the first word and expressing the view that Unionism is done, and that to take Sir Robert's place either there must be a locum tenens until Unionism is officially laid in its grave, or that a Conservative like Hon. Arthur Meighen should be chosen against the time when this is done.

Election Possibilities

Their only difficulty is that the reelection of Liberals might mean an early election if this aim were too apparent without a franchise act, and to get a franchise act suitable to them they are willing to have and desire to

WANTED—Rotary sawyer, \$5.50 per day and board. Apply Employment Service of Canada, 70 York street. No charge to employer or applicant.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH,

IS THE DATE of the 5 O'CLOCK TEA and SALE of FANCY and USEFUL ARTICLES in the BRUNSWICK ST. BAPTIST CHURCH VESTRY, under the auspices of the Senior Mission Band. Tea served from 5 to 7 o'clock. Tickets 25c.

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Health and Vigor in Every Glass.

The Drink for Father, Mother and the Kiddies. None genuine unless bottled by

S. W. SIMON & CO.

have an acting premier as leader who will suit the Unionist parliamentary following.

Hon. Arthur Meighen has always been a Conservative but expressed low tariff views before caucus of western Unionist members last spring. There would be cross currents against him by believers in a high tariff. Among Unionist members Sir Thomas White still gets frequent mention as the successor to Sir Robert Borden and Hon. J. A. Calder while the name of Hon. H. W. Rowell is mentioned frequently.

Any of these three names would mean that the Unionist party as a permanent party is still considered a possibility.

There is not a robust belief in its chances for surviving an election among any but a few ardent advocates now.

Hon. Arthur Meighen is now delaying his series of western addresses and will return to Ottawa in a day or two. Half of the cabinet is away.

Other Rumors

Some of Sir Robert's ministers are suffering under the strain to which they have been subjected. Hon. C. C. Ballantyne after two serious illnesses is again ill in Montreal, though not so seriously as before.

Hon. Dr. Reid returning too soon to Ottawa after his attack of pneumonia has had to go home again.

Hon. A. L. Sifton is about Ottawa as usual, but it has been known for some time that only the difficulty of getting the cabinet ministers together has delayed his resignation.

Last week when the department of public works moved over to the Hunter building the minister remained behind, the only instance in Canadian history of a department quitting a minister before the minister quitted it. Since last July the customs and inland revenue department has been without a minister although it is the greatest revenue producing department of all.

PRIZES WON IN EGG LAYING COMPETITIONS

There are two prizes awarded each four weeks one for the highest pen, and one for the highest bird.

The ten dollar cash prize given for the highest pen was won in the first four week period by the Vale Poultry Farm, Montreal, Que., a pen of White Leghorns with a total of 119 eggs to its credit. The highest bird is a Barred Plymouth Rock in pen 49, owned by the Experimental Farm, which has 24 eggs to its credit for the 28 days. However, as the Experimental Farm pens are not in competition, the first prize is awarded to a barred Plymouth Rock pullet owned by Mr. J. R. McMullen, of Truro, N. S. with 22 eggs to its credit.

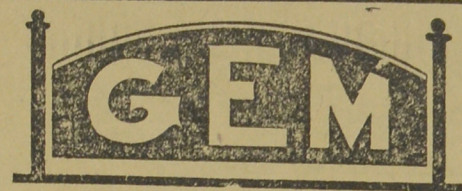
Among other good layers, the following pens come near the top:

Hope Poultry Farm, Ottawa, White Leghorns, 102 eggs.
Chas. Williamson, Woodroffe, Ont., White Leghorns, 95 eggs.
J. E. Rhoades, Ottawa, Ont., Barred P. Plymouth Rocks, 94 eggs.
W. H. Fisher, Ayton, Ont., White Wyandottes, 93 eggs.
J. F. Duncan, Brussels, Ont., Rhode Island Reds, 90 eggs.
Mount Greystone Poultry Farm, Val Morin, Que., Barred P. Rocks, 84 eggs.
Ernest Palmer, Westboro, Ont., White Leghorns, 82 eggs.
Among the good individual birds might be mentioned:
R. Guild, Rockwood, Ont., White Wyandotte, 21 eggs.
Chas. Williamson, Woodroffe, Ont., White Leghorn, 21 eggs.
J. F. Duncan, Brussels, Ont., Rhode Island Red, 20 eggs.
J. E. Rhoades, Ottawa, Ont., Barred P. Rock, 19 eggs.
Chas. Williamson, Woodroffe, Ont., White Leghorn, 19 eggs.

Following these there are quite a number with 18 eggs.

The total number of eggs laid for the four weeks was 2340, of the 500 birds in the contest there were 222 laying and the number is increasing rapidly each day.

F. C. ELFORD,
Dominion Poultry Husbandman.



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Evening, 7.15, 8.45 p.m.

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Men's Draw Strings, \$4.49. Men's Ordinary \$2.49.
Men's Moccasins, \$1.49. Boys' Packs, \$1.79.
Youth's Packs, \$1.79. Gent's Packs \$1.79.

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