

Our Big Mid-Winter Sale

which opened up with such a grand rush is still continuing over Friday and Saturday.

There are still lots of bargains all over the store for everybody.

Now is the time for everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity to get the best possible value for their money.

Wm. R. Fraser & Co.

P. O. Box 817. 439 Queen Street. Phone 423

RUBBER GOODS

Flat Water Bottles from \$1.00 up. Fountain Syringes, Combinations, Combination Fittings, Enemas and Spray Syringes, Invalid Cushions, etc.

All goods are new and guaranteed. Mail orders given prompt attention.

ARTHUR J. RYAN, - Central Pharmacy
THE PENSLAR STORE, Corner Queen and Carleton Sts.
Phone 426. Mail orders promptly filled.

HALF-PRICE SALE

For a few days we will place on sale at HALF PRICE a lot of WINTER COATS, SILK DRESSES, SERGE DRESSES, SWEATERS, RAINCOATS, GIRLS' SUITS, SMOCKS, etc. The garments are mostly all new and the materials alone are worth double the prices we are asking. Besides the half price garments we will give 10 TO 20 PER CENT OFF ALL COATS, DRESSES, FLANNEL WAISTS, etc., not in this sale. Watch for our Waist and Whitewear Sale soon.

R. L. BLACK, YORK STREET
AGENT for STANDARD PATTERNS

MONEY-SAVING SPECIALS

MOLASSES

Fancy Barbadoes, \$1.25 gal. With a \$5.00 order of other groceries at the rate of \$1.10 a gal.

BUY YOUR SUGAR NOW.

7 lbs. Granulated Sugar for \$1 with a \$1 order of other groceries.

ONIONS.

Large onions, sound and good, 4 lbs. 25c.

CHEESE

Highest Grade Cheese, per pound 35c.

GOOD FISH VALUES.

Fresh Cod. 9c. lb.
Large Fresh Herring, 10c. lb.
Small Fresh Herring, 35c. doz.

VICTOR BRAND ROLLED OATS

Once you try them you will come back for more, 3½ lbs. 25c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.

Our buckwheat flour makes delicious pancakes, 3½ lbs. 25c.

TEA

Blue Banner Tea will please you. Only 55c. lb.

THE N. B. TELEPHONE COMPANY'S APPLICATION TO BOOST RATES BEFORE THE UTILITIES COMM'N

(Continued from Page One.)

Affidavits Read

Mr. Hughes then read affidavits proving the publication of notices as ordered by the Commission in all the daily newspapers of the province, Mr. Nesbitt, Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Thompson, the district managers at St. John Moncton and Fredericton had given these affidavits and another sign by J. D. Black, the publicity manager for the company, showed that all the daily newspapers in the province had been included. It was also stated by Mr. Hughes that the company, although not ordered to do so, had had notices published in all the weekly newspapers of the province as well.

Mr. Robinson's Statement

Mr. Robinson then made a statement in reply to Commissioner Connell's suggestion in respect to measured service. He said that there was no intention to have measured service effective in any centre except St. John until some other place had grown so that it had been 9000 and 10,000 phones and in St. John it was merely a recommendation as being probably the fairest method of distributing the raising of the increased revenue which the company must have. Increased operating cost and maintenance expenses were being faced and the company must get more revenue and the suggestion had been made that measured service be put into use in St. John, but the company was not wedded to the plan and would gladly endeavor to work out any other better scheme which anybody capable of doing so would suggest.

He then explained that measured service was only to apply under the proposed new tariff to Group No. 6 which meant exchanges of from 5000 to 12000 telephones and would refer only to business telephones. It was proposed to charge a rental of \$36 per year for business telephones in this class, or \$3 per month for a maximum of 60 messages per month; if more messages were used the charge would be 3 cents each for the next 100 and all over a total of 160 messages a month at 2½ cents each.

Continuing Mr. Robinson said that the proposed rates as included in their application had been taken to the American Telegraph & Telephone Company's head offices in New York, where there was a complete staff engaged in figuring telephone rates in the same way that an insurance actuary would estimate and their report had been that the revenue produced would be from \$30,000 to \$35,000 less

than had actually been expected.

Business Telephones

In reply to a question Mr. Robinson said that the present charge for business telephones in St. John was \$45 per year, which meant that for the same amount as now paid there would actually be about 85 calls per month under measured service before any additional cost was added over present rates.

Mr. McIntyre of Sackville said that measured service seemed to be looked upon with popular favor in some of the smaller places as a means of preventing congestion on certain lines.

Commissioner Connell asked if there was not some way the company could prevent the operators from talking so rapidly in the St. John exchange.

Handling the Traffic

Mr. Robinson replied that the tendency in speeding up operation in order to handle the maximum amount of business was for the Traffic Department to teach the operators to speak rapidly. However the matter which had been mentioned along with others was the explanation of the Company having had at St. John for some time an expert telephone engineer who was considering whether it was advisable in replacing and renewing to adhere to the same kind of equipment or to install the automatic telephones, which were being adopted in many of the larger centres as a means of getting away from operating troubles.

Chairman Otty said he did not think the articulation by the operators was as good as it used to be, but Mr. Robinson expressed the belief that the cause for the chairman's opinion was that many of the transmitters—just as was the case with much more of the plant—had outlived their usefulness.

The Board's Expert

Chairman Otty then made the announcement of the appointment of the Board's expert. He had written, he said, on December 20th to Hon. Mr. McLeod chairman of the Public Service Commission of Massachusetts, asking that he make suggestions as to a capable person for the duties required and had received a letter from William H. O'Brien, chief of the Telegraph & Telephone Division of the Commission, recommending Samuel H. Milldram, of Boston, as a consulting engineer and certified public accountant especially desirable for such a case and whom he could recommend without reservation. Mr. Milldram he said, had been for some time engaged in work at Springfield, Mass. and word had since been received direct from him that he could undertake the appointment and would be here not later than February 1st.

"It is the desire of this Commission to secure the services of an expert who is thoroughly capable and absolutely without bias," declared Chairman Otty, "and we hope that Mr. Milldram will prove to be the kind of a man we expect he is."

Did Not Earn Dividend

Mr. Robinson then urged that the Commission also secure the services of a rates-making expert so that all the investigations could be carried on simultaneously. This he asked, he said because of the urgent requirements of the company for additional revenue. Last year the company did not earn its dividend by more than \$17,000, and he could now see a material and substantial shortage in the earnings this year as salaries had had to be raised and materials had advanced in price. Only three months were left in which to keep the company in the dividend track in its present fiscal year and if it had to pass its dividend there would be much difficulty in getting money either from the present or new shareholders with which to carry on the extensive development program which must be put into effect just as soon as the rates were made sufficient to allow the work to go on at present-day costs.

Chairman Otty remarked that if the case was so urgent the application should have been made nine months ago.

"But surely this Commission will not penalize us for having tried for nine months to keep the rates down," replied Mr. Robinson.

Chairman Otty said that in 1911 the company's position had been established in a very thorough manner by Dr. Hammond Hays, the noted expert, and his investigation that was made would not have to go back of that date. Mr. Robinson said that an audit and investigation by one expert, aside from rates-making, would take approximately two months if thoroughly done. He hoped the commission would have all the work go on simultaneously.

Mr. Teed said the Retail Merchants' Association and the Grocers' Guild, of St. John, who he represented, protested that the proposed measured ser-

vice rates would be onerous and unfair for them.

Chairman Otty remarked that it seemed only fair that small tradesmen should not pay as much as large business firms which used the telephone many times more often. He believed however that the number of calls allowed daily under the suggested measured service was too small; only two calls a day would make a telephone of no use to anybody.

Col. Black's Views

Col. Black said that as one of 1200 stockholders he wished to join in urging the commission to have the matter of the applications for additional rates adjusted as rapidly as possible. Those who had been and would have to continue putting up the money for the development of the telephone service were vitally interested in having rates granted that would be sufficient for the Company to earn a just return on the investment.

Mr. Potts remarked that persons who held the stock should consider themselves lucky.

Colonel Black replied heatedly that the New Brunswick Telephone Company was the only corporation in this province or Dominion or anywhere in America not getting more for what it sold than it did before the war.

Mr. Teed said that economic conditions showed that some increase in rates must be necessary.

Mr. Tilley then proceeded to set forth his views as to what the commission should do and what the company should do in the matter of rates. After he had gone on for a few moments Commissioner Connell said that Mr. Tilley had no right to say he represented the public if he was going to talk as he did and at the conclusion Mr. Robinson remarked that Mr. Tilley knew more about telephone business than he had been able to learn in his fourteen years in that business, to judge from the way he talked.

Chairman Otty then said that the Commission would arrange to obtain the services of a rates-making expert at once and announced that further hearing of the case was adjourned until Wednesday, February 25th.

LUMPS OF INDIGESTION

"Pape's Diapepsin" at once fixes your Sour, Gassy, Acid Stomach

Undigested food. Lumps of pain; belching gas, acids and sourness. When your stomach is all upset, here is instant relief—no waiting.

The moment you eat a tablet or two of Pape's Diapepsin all the indigestion pain and dyspepsia distress caused by fine at once.

These pleasant, harmless tablets of Pape's Diapepsin neutralize the harmful acidity is relieved.

Your disordered stomach will feel full acids in the stomach, and give almost instant relief; besides they cost so little at drug stores.

VOTED MONEY FOR BOARD OF HEALTH

Gagetown, Jan. 21.—At the meeting of the municipal council of Queens county today, Hon. Dr. Roberts, minister of health, was present and addressed the councillors on the Health Act. He was given a cordial reception and as a result of his representation the council voted \$5,000 for the board of health, whereas last year it declined to make any grant for this purpose. Business transacted was mostly of a routine nature. In the estimates \$3,400 was voted for schools and \$5,000 for the contingent fund.

S. T. Terry, of Johnson, was chosen warden, and Donald A. Adamson of Gagetown, was appointed secretary-treasurer, replacing H. H. Gilbert, who had held that office for more than ten years. Inglewood Flowers was re-appointed auditor.

THANKS

We wish to thank our customers and friends for the generous patronage they have given us in the past year.

On and after January 1st, 1920, we will conduct our business in THE QUEEN STREET STORE.

Wishing you one and all a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

Shepherd & Haining
QUEEN STREET

Phone 454

Why Not Be Foxy Like Grandpa? Get a line of VICTOR TRAPS!

Boys, make pocket money fast. Be independent for your extra needs. We can supply a dozen Victor Traps for 2.50.

FOX WIRE, RABBIT WIRE.

LAWLOR & CAIN

Use Our Hardware—It Stands Hard Wear.

After January 24

We must raise our Hard Coal Prices.
Present price \$14.50 per ton.

ORDER TODAY

PHONE 418

R. T. BAIRD

"The Best Service at the Lowest Price."

352 GEORGE ST.

IMPERIAL COLD CURE

Will check a cold in a few hours. Price 25 cents. Sent by mail on receipt of price.

C. FRED CHESTNUT THE QUALITY DRUG STORE
572 Queen Street

Yerran's

BRANCH STORE - WOODSTOCK

NOTICE OF TENDER.

Sealed tenders marked "Tender for Gravel," will be received at the office of the Town Clerk up to the 24th day of January, 1920, for 1,000 cubic yards of gravel for road purposes.

200 cubic yards to be delivered below Neill Street,
400 cubic yards from Neill street to and including St. Marys street.
400 cubic yards above St. Marys street to the northern town limits.

Material must be a good hard road gravel and subject to the approval of the Road Committee. To be delivered before the first day of April next. All tenderers to state their source of supply. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

WM. JAFFREY, Town Clerk.
Devon, N. B., Jan. 16, 1920.