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This quaint old-style teapot is one whose popularity "age doth not stale."

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"DIAMOND HALL"
118 to 124
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TORONTO

BUSINESS OUTLOOK

Full of Promise for the Dominion of Canada.

CONDITIONS REVIEWED AT BANK OF MONTREAL MEETING.

Mr. Clouston Hopeful the Dominion Has Entered Upon an Era of Great Prosperity.

Montreal, Dec. 6.—An optimistic tone pervaded the annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal, held at noon yesterday, when the annual financial statements were submitted to the shareholders, all of which showed that the concerns of the institution are on an excellent footing.

"The diminution in our profits," said General Manager Clouston, "is largely accounted for by the low rate of interest ruling in the foreign markets, where we have to loan most of the money we desire to hold readily available. I saw a statement the other day that in New York not in a quarter of a century had money ruled so low as it did a portion of this autumn."

"On the whole, it may be said that the past year has been a prosperous one for Canada, though there have been special industries which did not participate. Lumber markets have been very disappointing, and the prices for dairy products unsatisfactory. Certain industries have suffered from foreign competition, but on the other hand some of our important industries are now reviving under more experienced and intelligent management."

"The trade of the past year, both domestic and foreign, has been well maintained. Domestic trade shows a slight increase, while foreign trade, omitting specie, reached a value of \$454,642,000, as compared with \$450,040,000 in 1903."

"Taking a broad view of Canadian commerce the future is bright with promise, and there is increasing belief that this country has entered upon an era of great and enduring prosperity."

SIR GEORGE DRUMMOND'S SPEECH.

Sir George Drummond, the vice-president, who occupied the chair, said in part: "The general manager has referred to one cause of diminished profits, to which may be added

the fact that to earn dividends nowadays a much larger volume of business must be done, though that is only another way of stating the great reduction in the rates for money, and in the charge for banking services which have been going on."

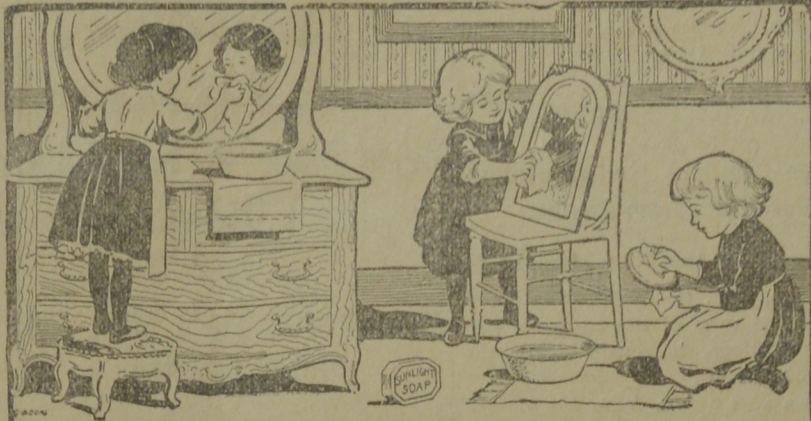
Sir George then spoke in glowing terms of the prospects that were held out for the country commercially through the rapid development of the Northwest and then proceeded: "While the evidences of progress are most marked in our Western Territories, the rest of the Dominion has not been standing still. One feature is noteworthy—the number of new manufacturing industries springing up all over the country. Some of them are essentially Canadian; others are branches of important American industries. It is impossible to give data even approximately correct, but I hold in my hand a list of over thirty in Ontario and Quebec, and may say that for three only in this city and district sites have been secured, averaging about fifty acres each. The steamship lines have suffered from various causes: the reaction due to the close of the South African war, and the keen competition in rates, inaugurated by the continental lines, which largely reduced earnings. This warfare is believed to be over. The continuance of the sanguinary struggle in the Far East, is of course, a menace to the general prosperity, but as regards our own country, surveying the whole field, I can see no reason to doubt that given normal conditions and favorable weather, we are about to enter upon a prosperous year."

Saw His Family Perish.

Pittsburg, Dec. 6.—In a fire which was remarkable for its rapidity and awful havoc, Mrs. Rock Perry and two of her children were burned to death last night. Rock Perry, the husband, and a son and daughter were forced to stand in the street and see the tragedy. The police kept them from rushing into the flames for their loved ones.

The fire is thought to have been caused from a spark of a coal stove setting fire to the carpet which Mrs. Perry was cleaning with gasoline. The flames were first seen issuing from the front door of the house. Neighbors who watched the fire from its start said that not a sound issued from the death chamber on the first floor.

Mrs. Perry from her position on the floor when found seemed to have been rendered unconscious instantly. One of the children had almost reached the door.



Sunlight Soap makes homes bright.

SUNLIGHT SOAP

should be used to clean your house as well as wash your clothes. It does twice the work of a common soap in half the time and with less labor. Don't take our word for it, but try it for yourself.

ASK FOR THE OCTAGON BAR

Sunlight Soap Washes the Clothes White and won't Hurt the Hands.

LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, TORONTO

5a

Pigs Perform in Court.

Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 8.—A novel exhibition took place before Judge Mahon in the local police court today in an effort to prove an ownership of three tiny guinea pigs that were found in the possession of Harry Story, sixteen years old, of Elizabethport. The pigs were claimed by William F. Krebs, a salesman of 129 Smith street. Krebs accused young Story of stealing the animals. The boy said that he had brought them from another boy.

Krebs took one of the pigs out of the box and the little animal ran down the front of his overcoat and dived into his pocket, while the other pigs were made to do various tricks, to the amusement of the court and spectators. Krebs said that the pigs had been taught by him to do the tricks.

Young Story's father, a former Council-

man, was in court, and refused to surrender the animals, whereupon the son was held in \$100 bail for the Grand Jury. The bond was furnished by the elder Story, who left the courtroom with the son and the disputed pigs.

A Slave to Method.

A medical specialist was very much in the habit of using a notebook to assist his memory and insure precision. In course of time it happened that his aged father died. The worthy doctor attended the obsequies as chief mourner with due solemnity. At the close he was observed to take out his notebook and carefully to erase the words "Mem. Bury father."

Funeral Collections.

In the course of a trial at Carnarvon it was stated that in north Wales the custom prevails of making a collection from those present at funerals, the money being handed to the clergy or ministers instead of burial fees.

SPECIALS FOR THIS SATURDAY.

... ON ...

SATURDAY, Dec. 10th

From 9 a. m. until 10 p. m., we will offer the following

WINTER GOODS

Under regular prices: Quantities are small. Early buyers will get first choice.

Heavy Ribbed Hose and Men's Undershirts.

50 dozen Heavy Ribbed Worsted Hose, sizes 7½ to 10, worth 45c., special for Saturday 25c. pair. 100 Men's Undershirts, fleeced lined and wool. They are all samples, choice of the lot at 39c. and 49c., not a Shirt in this lot worth less than 50c., and up to \$1.00. 10 dozen Men's Flannel Top Shirts, navy, grey and fancy colors, on sale Saturday at 68c. and 85c., worth double.

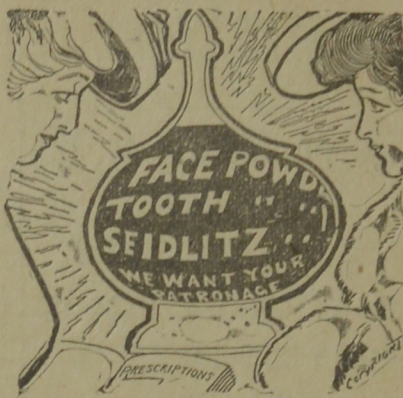
A Big Drive in Men's Separate Pants.

Exactly 100 pairs picked out of a lot of 800 pairs, all well made and good Worsted Pants, worth anywhere \$2.75 to \$3.00. If your size is in this lot we will let you pick at \$2.00. A chance for an extra pair of Trousers.

CUT PRICE ON FURS.

This Saturday and until Xmas we will offer the following values on Furs: 4 Ladies' \$18.00 Astrachan Jackets, to be sold at \$13.00. 6 Ladies' Astrachan \$20.00 Jackets, large sizes, to clear at \$15.00. 8 Ladies' \$33.00 Astrachan Jackets, to be cleared at \$20.00. 2 grey Lamb Jackets to be sold at \$30.00, worth \$50.00. 3 Raccoon Jackets to be sold at \$20.00. Cost us \$30.00. 20 per cent discount allowed on all Fur Collars, Muffs, etc. 12 Men's Wombat Coats to be sold at \$14.50 and \$18.00, and scores of other bargains. Do your holiday shopping at

M. FICKLER & CO.'S
BIG STORES.



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PURITY

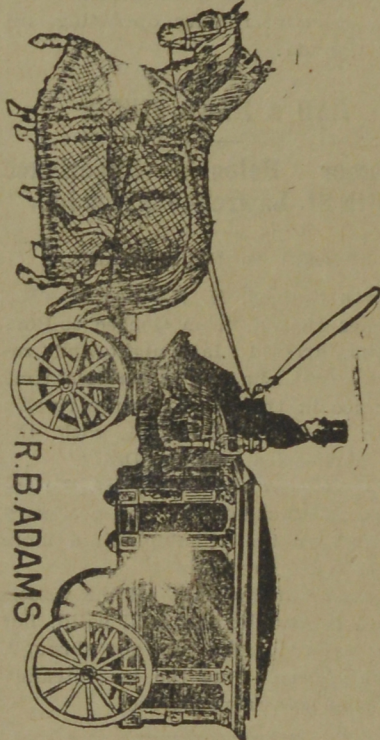
and freshness are absolutely necessary qualities of the drugs you use if they are to be of the service required. This applies with few exceptions to toilet preparations also.

YOU CAN DEPEND ON

every article we sell as being of standard quality and full strength. To household remedies of proven value we give particular attention and our prescription department has but one motto: "Absolute fidelity and accuracy." And low prices are a feature of every department.

Alonzo Staples

York Street Drug Store.



The only one of the name who owns two Hearses.

ROBT. B. ADAMS

Queen st., down town. Tel. 130

FOURTH

Maritime Winter Fair

Under the auspices of the Dominion, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Departments of Agriculture and the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association.

An Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, Apples and Apiary, at

AMHERST,

Dec. 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1904

The greatest educational event along Agricultural lines ever held in the Maritime Provinces. Practical demonstration of Market Requirements for all Meat Products.

Exhibition of Dairy Cows.

County exhibits of Apples, display by Dominion Fruit Division of representative commercial varieties of Apples from every Province of the Dominion. Lectures each evening by some of the best Live Stock authorities of Canada giving Live Stock education in its best form. Especially low rates for Passengers on I. C. R., C. P. R., Midland and Inverness Railways. All other lines single fare return.

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