Americans and Seap.

There is a serious absence of cake soap from the hotels on the tourist belt of west Scotland, and nearly all of the soap supply is in liquid or powder form. A correspondent of the London Chron icle reports that the spray and the tric kle were safeguards against the Yankees. No American tourists, he was told, can see a hotel cake of sonp without putting it in his pocket; provided he is unobserved. "They are a splete did people to deal with," said one of the hotel keepers, "but unchained, portable soap is their undoing."

"That matter of soap is one of the international guarrels of manners," ob serves the Chronicle. "The whitest American is as dishonest about a cake of sonp as the blackest of his compatriots is about chickens. He will steni anybody's cake of sonp.

"And just across the channel you find countries where you carry your own soap and would as soon think of a public cake of sonp as of a public toothbrush."

When Right Seemed Wrong.

Brown, a stranger in a Canadian city, stopped a pert looking newsboy and asked directions to a well known park. He grew wrathy as he repeated the urchin's instructions.

"Take any old street car," Brown achord.

"Yea."

"And at the end of the line change to the first young street car. Is that what you said ?"

"Yes," answered the boy, with a grin Then be shied off at the gentleman's gesture toward his cheek.

"You'd better run," Brown called af ter him. "You needn't try your smart tricks on me or I'll thrash you." He walked away, stopped at a newsdealer's to buy a city guide and found the directions to the park as follows: "Take any Olde street car to end of line, then change to Yonge." - New York Press.

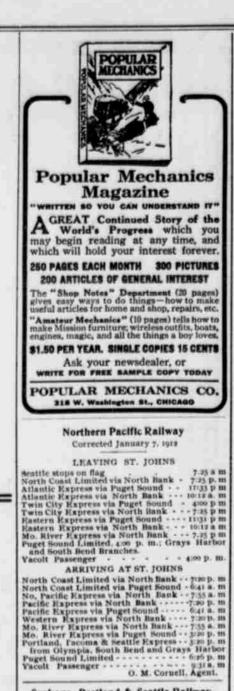
When Hoops Began

When were boops "in" for the first time? According to Strutt, "trundling the boop is a pustime of uncertain origin, but much in fashion at present' (1801). Dr. Murray's dictionary, Incl dentally remarking that the original hoop affected by boys was a barrel hoop, gives no English reference to it earlier than 1792. But the hoop was well known to ancient Greek and Ro man boys, who called it a "trochus" (wheel). Their hoops were made of bronze, and representations of them on gems show that they were driven by a little hook with a wooden handle, very like the modern boy's hoop stick. This was called by the Greeks "elater" (driver) and by the Romans "clavis" (key). Sometimes the ancient boop had bells attached to it.-London Mail.

Order of Gybgoggles.

"The gybgoggle is one of the rarest and most curious animals in existence and is found only in Madagascar and a part of Australia," didactically began Professor Lickcipher, the schoolmaster, during a recent session of the Sit and Argue club. "It is a sort of a vampire. something Hke a cross between a kangaroo and an enormous bat, and can swim and fly with equal case. It"-

"Fine, fine!" snarled the old codger, whose rheumatism was bectoring him with unusual severity. "Swell name for



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THE CLOSING **OF** 1912

Marks another step in the progress of our business in St. Johns. During the year we have taken over the Toggery stock and have now a well stocked Men's Store that is a credit to our community. We are finding it more satisfactory to maintain a Men's Store and a Ladies' and Children's Store as separate and distinct stores.

But we are equipped for doing more business, and we not only ask, but urge in particular those men who have found it impossible to get the desired shoe in St. Johns to try again at our Men's Store. From month to month we are taking on new lines. To give you an idea of the character of the stock at our Men's Store, we have the Florsheim and Nettleton Shoe agency and carry them in sizes and quantities the community justifies; the Cluett Shirts and Arrow Collars, the Ide Shirts and Silver Collars and workingmen's line of Headlight wearing apparel. We understand that one of the best stores in St. Johns is closing out its stock chiefly because their main store in Portland feels that it draws the business from St. Johns to the Portland store anyway and decides it unbusinesslike o incur the expense of a St. Johns branch.

Show us a community that sends most of its purchasing power away, and we will show you cheap real estate and a town that is a dead number.

The increasing of your patronage to your home store enables your home store to increase the stocks. Increasing stocks means larger business blocks; larger business blocks means more paved streets. Better stores mean better schools, better churches and a happier "at home" community.

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