

The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XII

CHATHAM, ONT. THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1903

NO. 84-68

THOMAS STONE & SON

SHIPMENT OF

Drapery Curtains.

These comprise the very latest colorings and designs in Drapery Curtains direct from the mills in Philadelphia—dainty Mercerized effects—equal in appearance to Silk Curtains at twice the price—every up-to-date feature—corded edges, etc. If you have Drapery Curtains in mind, you should see these.

\$6, \$7, \$8, \$10 and \$12.

LACE CURTAINS.

Some extraordinary good value. They have no equal for design or quality, and the prices the lowest you have ever seen, and at the same time twice the quantity you will find elsewhere to choose from. Place your curtain wants before our salesmen. They will fix you up elegantly and economically.

50c. to \$25.00.

Silk Waists at \$5.00
Here's something handsome we want to show you—any shade—perfect fitting and neat trimming. There is economy in our \$5 Waists and \$5 Skirts.

Dress Skirts at \$5.00.
Our range of \$5 Skirts will be a revelation to you—the very latest styles and materials beautifully made. There is economy in our \$5 Skirts and Waists.

Thos. Stone & Son.

Sherwin Williams

PAINT. 50 Barrels just opened at Westman Bros. . .

We have special paint for Outside House Painting, Inside House Painting, Floor Paint, Floor Finish, Varnish, Stains, Enamels, Buggy and Implement Paints.

PURE WHITE LEAD.

PURE LINSEED OIL.

ALL AT RIGHT PRICES AT

WESTMAN BROS.

BIG HARDWARE.

MY=O=MY.

House cleaning time is here again. The cost to you will be less if you buy at these prices for six days. We sell

3 lbs. fine soda powder 5c.
5c. package mepha powder for 4c.
5c. package Lever's dry soap for 4c.
5c. package washing compound, 4c.
Scrub brushes 5, 8, 10, 12, 15 and 20 cents each.
Brooms 20, 25 and 30 cents; great value.
6 bars Sweet Home Soap, 25c.
Gold Dust, Perlone, Cyclone powder, wash tubs, wash boards, mops, door mats, in fact anything you need for house cleaning you will find at our store.
10 per cent. off all dinner, tea and chamber sets, lamps, china and glassware.

John McConnell,
PAKRI ST., EAST. Phone 190

WOMAN DOES VANISH ACT

Suddenly Leaves Castle Mercer and Neglects to Bid Adieu to her Jailors

A Clever Escape of Annie Reaume, Sentenced to Six Months Imprisonment—No Trace of Escaped Woman

"You cannot imprison a sunbeam," is said to have been remarked by Annie Reaume's friends when she was convicted of perjury about six weeks ago and sentenced to six months in the Mercer Reformatory.

The person who made the sunbeam remark evidently knew Mrs. Reaume. She was in the jail yesterday morning but not in the afternoon. The woman has just, faded out of sight and vanished. All the authorities know for sure is that Annie has gone—where she is they don't know.

Miss Johnson, the bailiff from the Mercer Reformatory, came to the city yesterday to take the woman away to Toronto. The gaurder told her about it and instructed her to get her clothes together. This was about one o'clock. By four o'clock the woman was missed and the place that knew her once knew her no more. The authorities had intended that she should leave the jail yesterday. They even had the cab engaged. The woman went all right but she didn't go as was expected. She told no one and left no trace of her departure. Her clothes were left in a neat pile in the ward where she was.

Between the women's day ward and the kitchen there was only a wooden door. Mrs. Reaume forced this door and passed into the kitchen. She then secured easy entrance to the furnace room and thence to the jail yard by the entrance which Mr. Corbett, the man who tends the furnaces, uses. The gate in the jail ward on Ninth street was unlocked, as coal had just been delivered by way of this gate. The woman had evidently had some difficulty in forcing open the gate. She was then free and is still so.

Mrs. Reaume never took kindly to jail life and that is perhaps why she left it so readily. When sentenced, she went into hysterics and has been subject to periodic attacks of the same character during almost the whole of her sojourn in jail. The woman spent most of her time at the jail weeping and screaming. The confinement in jail seemed to keep her in a state of nervous prostration. She would scarcely eat or drink anything.

The authorities do not consider the escape of the woman a calamity. She had already served six weeks of her sentence, and would have been back in Chatham in her old haunt by July, but now Mrs. Reaume will have to shake the dust of Chatham from her feet for good and, if she will only stay away, it is scarcely possible that any particular effort will be made to secure her return.

CALLING OF PARLIAMENT.

The House Discusses a Motion to Fix the Date.

Ottawa, March 26.—Yesterday was private members' day. A wide range of subjects were dealt with in the House. The greater part of the afternoon was taken up with a discussion as to the fixing of a date for the calling of Parliament. A strong feeling in favor of autumn sessions was shown by a number of members, particularly from the western and the Maritime Provinces. Sir Wilfrid Laurier favored the end of January or 1st of February, and explained that the session this year would have been called at the usual time had it not been for the state of his own health. Last night the estimates for Ontario public buildings were taken up.

TELEGRAPH BREVITIES.

President Castro of Venezuela has withdrawn his resignation.

Mr. William Grill's house at Hespeler was burned. Loss \$10,000.

Samuel Van Horne, a Pittsburg Township farmer, had his eye hooked out by a cow.

The deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis in New York City last year numbered 1,751.

Sydney Cluff, Canada Atlantic brakeman, was run over and killed at Glen Robertson.

Mr. C. T. Currelley, M.A., of Toronto, has discovered the tomb of the Pharaoh who "knew not Joseph."

Frank P. Robinson was fined \$30 and his wife \$5 at Hamilton for swindling merchants with Mexican money.

Mr. James W. Hovey of West London has been appointed Division Court bailiff in succession to the late Ballif Burns.

The report that a British war vessel had seized the Venezuelan gunboat Resaudor for alleged acts of piracy is denied.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Berlin paper says that Russia is trying to negotiate a loan of \$100,000,000 in France.

The British antarctic expedition on the ship Discovery reached a point farther south than any other persons had previously been known to do.

FOOTBALL CLUB UNANIMOUSLY VOTE \$100 FOR NEW BUNGALOW

The Fund for the Proposed Athletic Building Definitely Started—Money Will be Promptly Deposited with His Worship Mayor McKeough—Delegation Appointed to Secure Interest and Co-operation.

"The motion is carried unanimously—without a dissenting vote," was the announcement of Chairman C. B. Sissons at the well attended meeting of the City Football Club in the old Town Hall last evening, when a poll was taken on the resolution submitted by President Frank D. Laurie to contribute \$100 to the project of erecting an athletic bungalow on Tecumseh Park.

Mr. Sissons' announcement was received by a round of hearty cheers.

On motion of Manager W. McK. Messer and W. E. McNaughton, the Club decided to appoint F. D. Laurie and H. W. Anderson as representatives to wait upon the other athletic organizations and solicit co-operation and support, with view to adding impetus to the enterprise.

It was decided—as was outlined in Mr. Laurie's motion—to deposit the money with Mayor McKeough and request his worship to open with it such a fund as can be supplemented and developed by the co-operation of other clubs and of public spirited citizens.

In presenting the motion Mr. Laurie said it afforded him much

pleasure and satisfaction to note the enthusiasm and encouragement with which the proposal had been met by the citizens at large—and the kindly support of the commanding officer, Colonel Rankin. He alluded to the evidences of co-operation extended by the Lacrosse Club at their meeting and by members of the other clubs individually in the press and took occasion to pay tribute to the liberality and public-spirited interest of Mr. N. H. Stevens as demonstrated by his generous offer. With this feeling manifest in the community he (Mr. Laurie) felt assured the enterprise could be carried through successfully. He had much pleasure in moving the Football Club's contribution and he trusted there would not be a dissenting ballot.

H. W. Anderson seconded the motion, which was then voted upon with the foregoing result.

Considerable routine business was transacted, practices arranged for and a committee appointed to purchase new uniforms for adjournment.

There were present at the meeting Messrs. Laurie, Sissons, Piggott, McNaughton, Messer, Ainsley, Angus, Smith, Fraser, Anderson, Taylor, Coltart, Elliott, Dean, Northwood, and others.

DELIBERATE SCHEME TO BUNCO AN UNSUSPECTING PUBLIC

Further Revelations Concerning the Wild Reports of Raleigh Oil Fields Which Were Inaugurated to Fleece Investors.

BANNER THE FELLOW CONSPIRATOR OR CATSPAW AND TOOL OF THE FAKERS.

The False Reports Incorporated in Untruthful and Exaggerated Advertisements—No Foundation in Fact for its Wild Reports—Mr. Gurd's Exposure.

Ever since the days of the South Sea Bubble Companies—and before—there have been wild cat and fake organizations formed. Many have read of the disasters which the formation and breaking of these bubble companies entailed. Almost everybody in Great Britain went wild to invest in those

fairly concerns, formed for the alleged purpose of trading in the South Seas. When the break came, the savings of years were swept away, and thousands were ruined. It took England a long time to recover from the disaster which these failures caused.

All this happened years ago, but the memory of it is still fresh and will never be forgotten.

A similar buncoing of the public took place very recently in the United States. Last year "Get Rich Quick" turf companies were formed all over the republic to the south of us. These companies proposed to furnish investors profits at the rate of 40 per cent. on their investments, and the money was to be made by speculation on the turf. Losing sight of the fact that this world is not peopled with philanthropists desirous of distributing fortunes and that, if there are fortunes to be made, the promoters of these companies would make the money themselves, without offering the outsiders a chance, many thousands of people put their money into these "Get Rich Quick" concerns. When the inevitable crash came, a howl went up from those unfortunate ones, who in their anxiety to accumulate wealth rapidly, had overlooked the impossibility of paying the big percentage of profits, which the promoters claimed to be able to pay. The public had to acknowledge that they were gulled, and an attempt was made to punish the promoters, but they had the money of their poor victims and escaped to enjoy their ill-earned spoils.

There are plenty other paper companies formed for the sole purpose of making money out of the sale of stock. Alleged gold mines have been responsible for many of these bubble companies coming into being, and many people in Chatham have felt the effects.

The fakes already mentioned show how the public have at various times been buncoed, and we have an example of something of the same nature on a smaller scale, it is true,—right at our own door. The discovery of the Gurd Gusher in Raleigh gave the excuse for the formation of an oil company. The glowing and wonderful advertisements were scattered broadcast, showing the gigantic profits which the oil company was making.

There are papers in the United States and Canada, whose sole purpose for existence lies in the advertising of fake companies claiming to possess something of the same nature. These companies are frauds, pure and simple; others are grossly over-capitalized. The newspapers, presum-

ably, know this, yet they accept the advertisements because they are well paid for their assistance in deceiving the public.

In Chatham, even, there has been evidence of a newspaper lending itself to such schemes, and it is a sorry sight, indeed, to see any alleged reputable newspaper descend to this means of livelihood.

The striking of the Gurd Gusher gave promise of oil in Raleigh. At once Yankee vampires saw more money in selling stock in an over-capitalized stock company than in developing the field.

Many companies, it is true, were formed to legitimately prospect for oil, and the shareholders went into the business with their eyes open, prepared to take a chance. But other companies were formed with no such apparent intention. The latter companies were organized, apparently, for the sole purpose of selling stock on the strength of grossly exaggerated reports of the Raleigh oil fields, which were circulated by a certain local newspaper. At first, perhaps, these reports of wonderful strikes in Raleigh were colored solely from enthusiasm and from ignorance, but afterwards, when the facts by no means justified the reports, there was no excuse for the wild stories of tremendous strikes that were heralded all over the country. The facts, not justifying the reports, it was necessary to look beyond for a reason for these false statements. The reason was apparent upon investigation. The local paper containing these untruthful reports was full of an advertisement offering for sale stock in the Dominion Oil Company that "owned the only desirable oil territory in the world." The company was capitalized out of all reason and, to make money out of the sale of stock, these doctored and imaginary stories of strikes in Raleigh had to be kept circulating. The paper tried to deliver its subscribers and friends into the hands of the Philistines. It tried to sell its friends for gold. Judas did not do better.

The promoters of the Dominion Oil Company had nothing to complain of so far as the alleged reputable newspaper was concerned. It certainly delivered the goods it was paid for, and the wonderful reports manufactured in the office of the publication referred to, had they been true, would have sold twice the stock offered.

The people in Chatham, fortunately, were too wise to invest, and a field of credulous fools had to be looked for beyond Chatham, where the reputation of the so-called Chatham "newspaper" was unknown, and where there was some chance of the false reports being credited. Here, the facts about the Raleigh oil fields are only too well known.

What The Planet has stated before, let it repeat. So far there is only one oil well in Raleigh which could be termed a paying producer, only one well from which oil has been shipped, and that is Gurd's Gusher. There are no other profitable wells, and it is to be hoped that there are, but, so far, there is no proof. Some 50 odd

holes have been put down in the Raleigh field, at a cost of some \$25,000, but up till now only three wells have oil in any quantity in them, and only one is producing oil for shipment.

"I think there is an oil field in Raleigh, but it hasn't yet been discovered," says Frank Carmen. It is only fair to Mr. Carmen to remark that he takes contracts for putting down wells. Wells have been put down all around the Gusher, but without success. Where the oil field is it is practically impossible to say, but if Mr. Carmen is right in his surmise, somebody should make a lucky strike one of these days. The Gusher is reported on reliable authority to be doing only from ten to twelve barrels per day.

As has been said, the sale of stock in the company, capitalized for the sole purpose of selling stock was not possible in Ontario, where the facts about the field were known. The United States was selected as the spot to unload the gold bricks. The absurd statements produced in the effort to sell stock made the knowing ones smile at the wonderful mental faculty of the promoters of this company.

The following is taken from an advertisement of the Dominion Oil Company promoters appearing in the Boston Herald, Friday, Feb. 6, 1903:—

"Not since the days of Petroleum, forty years ago, has there been such an addition to the material wealth of the Dominion as has been demonstrated in the past few weeks in the Raleigh township oil district."

The Dominion Oil Company, Ltd., is paying from its net earnings one per cent per month, monthly dividends, the next one being payable March 1st, to all stockholders of record Feb. 21st. This means 12 per cent per annum on the par value of the stock and at the price named for the present issue of stock, 50 cents a share, it means to the investor who goes in now 24 per cent, annually, or practically two per cent every month, on his investment."

Just look for a moment at this statement that the company is paying from its net earnings one per cent per month. The company is capitalized at \$850,000. Then they must be able to pay one per cent on \$850,000, or \$8,500 each month. The company claims, then, to be making \$8,500 each month. Where in the world are they making it?

Mr. Gurd stated to The Planet a week ago that the production from the Gusher "would not exceed 25 barrels per day." That might mean that the Gusher was only pumping from 10 to 12 barrels. Notice that Mr. Gurd says "would not exceed 25 barrels." He also says that the Dominion Oil Co. only have a third interest in the Gusher. Taking 25 barrels a day as the production, since Mr. Gurd assures us that the well is not doing any more, and thus being assured that if our figures are right they will favor the Dominion Oil Co. Consider a moment.

Of that 25 barrels the Canada Land Co. gets a royalty of every eighth barrel. This leaves 21 7/8 barrels. The Dominion Oil Co. has a third interest. Then they would get 7-24 barrels per day. They claim that the Standard Oil Co. is paying \$1.99 per barrel. The Dominion Oil Co.'s share then yields them daily \$11.51 1/4. Figuring the Gusher as running 24 days a month, which is as much, if not more, than it does, we get \$276.25 as the Dominion Oil Co.'s share of the oil output from the Gusher each month. At this rate, calculating everything in its favor, the Dominion Oil Co. could not pay 3-17 per cent per month on its capital stock of \$850,000. If this is so, how can the company pay one per cent per month? How can any company pay \$8,500 with only \$348.25 to pay it with? The \$5,000 discrepancy must be made up from somewhere. That somewhere, in all probability, must be the receipts from the sale of stock, if the profits do not furnish the amount. The Dominion Oil Co. has been given the advantage of everything in making these calculations. The reported yield of the Gusher is only 10 barrels, yet the profits have been figured on 25 barrels. Nothing has been deducted for the expenses of running the company. Add to all this the gradual decrease in production and the likelihood of the well playing out and you have about the hazard that investors take when

Continued on Page 8.

STYLE STRENGTH

Are Two of the greatest characteristics of our

Misses' and Girls' Footwear,

and the prices are within the reach of the slimmest purse.

\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 up to \$2.50. Guaranteed all Solid and Outer Soles.

Sole Agents for DOROTHY DODD for Ladies, and INVICTUS for Men.

PEACE & CO.