

THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, FEB. 23, 1909.

THE PEOPLE PAY.

Several important matters of business were transacted at last night's meeting of the City Council. The rate of taxation was increased from 20 to 21 mills on the dollar, a number of salaries were increased, and Engineer Barrow was sent to the guillotine, he being supplanted by Engineer Macallum, who is to receive \$3,500 a year. Mr. Barrow being retained to assist him at his present salary until the end of the year. The city hall caretaking was readjusted with a net result of increasing its cost \$200 a year, and the veteran messenger, Charlie Smith, is retired on an allowance of \$200. The general effect of the work of last night will be to considerably increase the expenditure. The change in the city engineer's department will involve a good deal of additional expense. Whether value will be obtained is a question for the future. By the addition of another mill to the tax rate, the Council finds itself in possession of a few thousand dollars over the amount which the School Board will absorb. The Finance Committee says there will be no overdraft this year. It is a good resolution. The Times will be pleased to be able to say at the end of the year that it has been lived up to. It is so easy to increase salaries and give way to requests for expenditures, and the unforeseen bulks so largely in the computation at the end of the year that the civic financiers will do well to begin the practice of economy before the treasury is almost depleted.

With regard to the treatment meted out to Engineer Barrow, the Times' views are well known. We should not be able to find the approval of our conscience were we in the position of the aldermen attacking Mr. Barrow were we to attempt to reconcile our course toward him with perfect manliness and fair play. We need scarcely say more. The Mayor and every man in the Council fully appreciate the situation. The interests of the city should be the first consideration, but every servant of the city is entitled at the hands of the Council to such fair treatment as one honest man is from another. Let it be understood that the new occupant of the Engineer's office should be fairly paid; should have a free hand in selecting and dealing with his staff; should have ample help; should not have an unreasonable amount of work placed upon him, and should not be interfered with and made to bear the blame of aldermanic blunders. For this measure of fair play the Times will not cease to contend. Engineer Macallum must have it. The Council never gave it to Engineer Barrow; and now it offers him up as a sacrifice for his sins.

Considerable talk has been caused by the proposal to increase a number of salaries. The matter of salaries is always a difficult one. Too often civic salaries are not regulated by value, but by influence. The man with a "pull" is always likely to be cared for. If increases are made only in keeping with the character of the work and the value of the service rendered, reasonable rate-payers will not object. At a time, however, when an increase of taxation is found to be necessary, they will closely scrutinize every item of increased expenditure, and aldermen who support salary increases must be prepared to demonstrate their reasonableness.

The Civic Fuel Committee will do business again this year, although one of the aldermen offered to deposit a bond to forfeit \$1,000 if he could not save the city 20¢ a ton of \$800 on the soft coal used as the Beach if the supply were asked for by tender. The Council's action in this fuel matter is, to say the least, somewhat peculiar.

RESPECT FOR THE LAW.

There can be no doubt that one of the strongest reasons for declining respect in communities for the processes of the courts of law is the frequent resort by lawyers to trivial technicalities to prevent their clients from suffering the penalties which the people have provided for their particular offenses. A confidence in and respect for the law are highest where it is surest of effecting its purpose, the punishment of the wrongdoer and the acquittal of the innocent. Wherever, by sharp legal practice and by resort to quibbling upon forms and mere verbal inaccuracies, a criminal is permitted to escape or an innocent person is forced to submit to hardship, the majesty of the law is detracted from.

Let us not be misunderstood. We should be far from contending that a person charged before the court should be deprived of any reasonable resort in his defence; or that the Crown should not be obliged to prove guilt beyond all reasonable doubt before it is entitled to ask for a conviction. Our objection lies to what is an all too frequent practice of lawyers in our criminal courts, seeking loopholes in technicalities which do not at all affect the guilt or innocence of the accused, to evade trial or to render conviction impossible.

Whether the somewhat remarkable incident at the trial of Chief of Police Malone, of Simcoe, yesterday, should be placed in this class, the public must judge. Malone is under five indictments, the case being of the most serious character. When the accused was asked to plead, his counsel moved that the indictment be quashed on the ground that the committing magistrate had last December moved that Malone, the accused, be struck from the list of county constables, he not desiring that such a man be allowed to carry firearms. His Lordship pointed out that this did not show bias, and while it was sufficient to quash the indictment the Crown would im-

mediately instruct the Grand Jury to bring another. It was simply delaying proceedings. Prisoner's counsel then took the ground that his client had already been acquitted, and claimed the protection of the statute which prevents an acquitted man from being tried again on the same charge. A jury was then sworn in to find whether Sir Wm. Muirlock had "acquitted" the prisoner, and it found, according to His Lordship's instructions, that he had not. All this preliminary to the real trial.

The question that will naturally occur to our readers is whether all this fencing should have been introduced, and whether it had, or could have, anything to do with the guilt or innocence of the accused. Supposing it had been possible to prevent the placing of the prisoner upon trial by this means, would it, or would it not, have been regarded by the people as defeating justice? And what would have been the effect upon the public respect for the law and the processes of the courts?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Queer that that civic coal deal arrangement requires so much "hugger-mugger" each year.

The Magistrate's course of "memory training" seems to work well with the "Indians."

Whitney might do worse than copy that anti-rakeoff law presented by Mr. Aylesworth at Ottawa.

The forcing up of the tax rate by the increased demands of the School Board is causing much comment. It will do good. The ratepayers should take more interest in school affairs.

The Telegram is proud of having tried to fight for public rights.—Toronto Telegram.

"Public rights" is a term the Telegram mouths much; but it is in most cases to cover an attempt at private wrongs.

Will that deputation of trustees which is to go to Toronto to see the Minister of Education about the technical school get a definite promise of that "great provincial technical institute" for Hamilton, think you?

The United States Steel Trust has cut the prices of finished products of steel and some semi-finished products from \$1 to \$12 per ton. That is taken to mean that in spite of the combination the Trust is obliged to recognize the drop in values.

The forger of the notorious Borden telegram has confessed to the Anglican Bishop of Columbia, attributing his act to "misguided political zeal." The forger's name is not given, nor are we led to think that he makes the "confession" in a spirit of repentance.

The article reproduced in another column under "The Investors' Guardian and Joint Stock Companies' Review," is a splendid tribute to Hon. Mr. Fielding's successful finance. The writer sees Canadian affairs from the business man's point of view, and to him the future of Canada spreads out in one great vista of prosperity.

We have heard a great deal about Manitoba's "surplus," and we have been told that it had a cash profit of something like a quarter of a million as the result of its Provincial telephone operations. Now, alas, we are informed that the Government is asking the Legislature for power to go into the market and borrow money to enable Provincial housekeeping to go on!

Taft is said to have nearly completed his cabinet. It will be observed that in this matter Taft is an autocrat, and the democratic people of the Republic have nothing to say in the matter. It is different in Canada and even in Great Britain, where a Cabinet Minister must have a position in Parliament and his choice must be approved by the people.

If those behind the Mayes, who profess much anxiety to get at the truth of his allegations about that alleged dredging "scandal," will persuade him to give that much-boasted affidavit, made during the election campaign, up, so that action may be taken for perjury against him, we shall probably have the matter cleared up in court. Why is the affidavit held back? It is either true or false. Should there be any objection to producing it, if it be true?

A contemporary affects concern at the idea of a United States packing firm getting a control of British army supplies, and seems to think the Canadian packers should have got it. We should have been very glad indeed to see the contract come to Canadian houses. There were reasons, however, for doubting that they could at present hope to compete with the Yankees on equal terms. Have we not been told by protectionist Canadian papers that without a big duty they could not even hold their own at home?

The Government of Alberta is going into the pork-packing business, and has appropriated \$30,000 as a preliminary grant for the establishment of the packing plant. Socialism is making great strides in the West. "Municipal ownership and operation" seems to be the great lever by which private property

and individualism are to be attacked by those who would uproot them from our civilization. Now, will any "ownership" eat pork that has not been killed and cured by a Government official.

The A. O. U. W. is protecting itself against what it regards as improper statements of critics by bringing suits for damages. That may be wise on its part. But how much better it would be for Whitney to hold a general inquiry into the fraternal organizations under provincial control, which, while not attacking any of them, or throwing on them unjust suspicion, would give all their members official assurance of their safety and solvency, or find means of remedying any defects found to exist! Whitney is neglecting a plain duty in refusing to so reassure the members.

The Stratford Beacon on Friday last turned out an excellent illustrated Grand Trunk number to mark the civic banquet to Mr. Charles M. Hays to commemorate the opening of the new locomotive shops in that city. We congratulate Stratford on this splendid industry, which does so much for its advancement, and we cannot forbear pointing out that but for the existence of the same un-Hamilton spirit which still shows itself in knocking our local electric industry and dealing with our railways and other great corporations as if they were enemies to be driven out of the city, the Grand Trunk shops might still have been in Hamilton.

In speaking of the failure of the Morning Tribune, of Providence, R. I., the New Orleans Item has a few things to say about what newspaper publishers have to contend against. Publishing a paper is in these days an exceedingly costly business. It places the cost to Mr. Hearst of publishing the American at from \$5,000 to \$7,000 a day, and he loses money in the business. It mentions another paper in a smaller field which costs \$600,000 a year to run, and although it was a carefully managed property, its net revenue was only a few hundred dollars. It concludes that the new newspaper of today "is up against a pitiless game." The number of newspapers in the United States in the great cities is diminishing. It takes a great fortune to establish a newspaper now, and the profits of the business are cut to the vanishing point.

OUR EXCHANGES

No Wonder We're Poor.
(Belleville Intelligencer.)
Hamilton's back taxes total \$127,000. Take the belt, gentlemen.

Boycotted.
(Toronto News.)
The Montreal ice palace was stormed in a shower of rain. The railways said they would throw cold water on it, and these corporations are so powerful.

What's in a Name?
(London Free Press.)
An application to quash the Toronto hotel reduction by law is brought by John Brewer. Yet it is sometimes said there is nothing in a name.

Borrowing.
(Ottawa Citizen.)
The practice of money lending has been prevalent so long in this city, especially in connection with the civil service, that borrowing has got a hold on many people almost like the opium habit.

My Dear Foy.
(Toronto Telegram.)
The last of the series:
My dear Foy,—Dr. Sweeney's elected. Hooray for the Irish. Yours, etc., S. H. Blake.

U. S. Tariff.
(Montreal Witness.)
How in save protection has become the desperate study of the protected interests of the United States. All are agreed that the present tariff must go. The question in the recent election was whether it should be reformed by its enemies or by its friends.

Tired of Buster.
(Galt Reporter.)
To-day Buster Brown makes his last appearance in the Reformer. The money formerly expended on this page will in future be devoted to other features, which we expect will be more appreciated by our readers.

Dreadnoughts.
(Toronto Globe.)
Great Britain has now in the water seven "Dreadnoughts." The original one, which gave the name to the class, was an important departure from all previous battleships, and the remaining six are improvements on her. The Vanguard, as the vessel just launched is called, is the heaviest of her class and the most modern in her equipment. She exceeds the Dreadnought by 650 tons and her cost is nine million dollars.

Denison's Idea is Absurd.
(Winnipeg Free Press.)
Despite such attempts at misrepresentation the truth about Canada is becoming more generally realized in Great Britain, and our fellow citizens of the empire who live in the British Isles understand that Canada's loyalty to the empire of which Canada is a part, is like the individual Canadian's self-respect, a thing which will be absolutely unaffected by the result of the coming elections in the British constituencies, whatever those results may be. Canadian loyalty to the empire has no more to do with British politics than British loyalty to the empire has to do with Canadian politics.

Oakville Well Lit Up.
(Oakville, Ont., Feb. 22.)—To-night the municipal electric light plant system was turned on for the first time, and there is not a town in the Province better lighted.

Scores of lights have been strung in the centre of the streets every few hundred feet from the station to the wharf, and from Dr. Stuart's at the extreme west end of the town to J. N. Sutherland's on the east.

GIVE THE CHILDREN PLENTY OF FRUIT

It Helps to Keep Them Well.

In a growing, active child the cells of which the body is composed are being worn out—and replaced—very rapidly. This dead tissue must be gotten rid of somehow, and the danger is that the eliminating organs—the Bowels, Kidneys and Skin—may not do their work well enough. Then the blood becomes poisoned and the child does not thrive.

Nothing has such an invigorating effect on these organs as ripe fruit juices. Apple juice increases the action of the kidneys; other fruit juices stimulate the liver to secrete more bile, and bile produces easy and regular movements of the bowels; others stir up the glands of the skin to throw off more waste matter.

The difficulty is that to get these effects a great deal of fruit must be eaten, and the excess of pulp and woody matter may upset the digestion. The better way is to give the children "Fruit-a-tives," which are tablets made of concentrated fruit juices with valuable toilet articles added.

"Fruit-a-tives" have the combined effect of the different fruit juices, helping all the eliminating organs to work properly, curing Constipation, toning up the system, and keeping the children plump and rosy. 25¢ for a trial box, 50¢ for regular size boxes for \$2.50. Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

NEW TEMPLE.

I.O.G.T. Organizes Lodge in the East End.

Under the auspices of the International Order of Good Templars a public meeting was last night held in the Salvation Army Hall, Barton street east. A. H. Lyle, Grand Treasurer of Canada, presided over a packed hall, and was supported by F. S. Morrison, N. G. T. Locke, McCrea, Grand Secretary, and Tom Macnaghten, Grand Marshal. After the opening prayer by numerous talented members of International Lodge, the chairman, in a short, well fitting speech, explained the purpose of the meeting, and called on the Grand Secretary, Geo. Locke, of Toronto, to give a short address on "Good Templarism." This the latter did in a most interesting manner, with the result that at close a goodly number in the audience remained and formed a lodge, and named it Britannia Lodge No. 2.

The Grand Treasurer, A. H. Lyle, who conducted the institution also installed the officers, who were capable of a keen competition for the first session, as follows:
Past Chief Templar—John MacGaughey.
Chief Templar—F. W. Ambrose.
Vice-Templar—Miss Maggie Lerner.
Secretary—Geo. Austin, Crown Point.
Assistant Secretary—Miss Fanny Druit.
Financial Secretary—Duncan Campbell.

Treasurer—Geo. H. Lauder.
Chaplain—Miss Bessie Ford.
Marshal—Benj. Lerner.
Deputy Marshal—Miss Lizzie Druit.
Guard—Alfred Bradford.
Sentinel—Joseph Hewison.
Organist—Miss Harriet Hanson.
Lodge Deputy—John Porteous.

Following the installation, short speeches were made by a number of those present, each speaking well of the newly formed lodge and capable of officers elected. The new lodge will meet every alternate Monday night at the Salvation Army hall.

Fatal Catarrh

Pneumonia, Consumption and Kindred Evils Follow in its Trail

Catarrhazone

The great inhaler treatment cures and prevents catarrh and should be used now

Have you ever had Catarrh? Have you been subject to coughs and colds lately? Do you feel run down? Do you take a cold easily? If so you are liable to a severe attack at any time and should have Catarrhazone on hand, because it is a marvelous guard against coughs, colds and catarrh.

Catarrhazone is the greatest protection against these complaints ever known. You just breathe it, that's all, and it cures. Don't let your inhaler be suitable to carry in the pocket or purse, and can be used while at work, in the church, theatre, any place, any time. Carry a Catarrhazone Inhaler, use it, and you will have colds or catarrh.

Breathe Catarrhazone for five minutes occasionally, and it cures coughs and colds. Breathe it five minutes four times a day and it cures Bronchitis and Catarrh.

Breathe it ten minutes every hour and it will cure consumption. Catarrhazone is guaranteed to do this and if it fails your money will be refunded.

It is highly endorsed by doctors and druggists as the most reliable and sure cure for bronchitis, colds and catarrh, and no case is recorded where it failed to give satisfaction. Don't let your cold run on any farther. Cure it now by Catarrhazone. Complete outfit, hard rubber inhaler, and sufficient liquid for three months' use costs but one dollar; medium size 50¢; small size 25¢. At druggists, or N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont. Buy it today.

The Western Way.

SHEA'S

A sweeping clearance of all kinds of Winter Goods, Dress Goods, Cloths, Women's Underwear, Coats, Suits, Skirts. A clearance sale that means the saving of nearly half the money you expect to spend on this class of goods.

PINS 2 FOR 5c— 365 needle pointed Pins, in a paper, 2 papers for 5c	FINGERING WOOL, 3 FOR 25c— Baldwin's 4-ply Fingering "Bee-hive," regular 10c, 3 for 25c	WOMEN'S COATS— Black and colors, worth \$3.50, for \$10.00, for \$4.95
NEEDLES 2 FOR 5c— Best Morall's Needles, all sizes, 2 papers for 5c	WOMEN'S ELASTIC BELTS— The Best Belt in Canada at the price, each 25c	WOMEN'S COATS— Black and colors, worth \$20, for \$10.00
TAPE, DOZEN 10c— India Tape, all widths, worth 3 for 5c, per dozen 5c	DRESS GOODS 50c— Black and colors, worth 75c to \$1, on sale for 50c	WOMEN'S SKIRTS— Worth \$4.00, for \$2.00
COLLAR SUPPORTERS 2 FOR 5c— Celluloid, Collar Supporters, usually sold for 10c, 2 for 5c	BLACK WOOL TAFFETA 50c— French weaves, pure wool, worth 75c, for 50c	WOMEN'S SKIRTS— Black and colors, worth \$5.95, to \$7.00, for \$3.95
COLLAR SUPPORTERS 10c— With fancy pin, usual 15c, for 10c	WOOL COSTUME CLOTH— Worth \$1.50, all wool, per yard 69c	WOMEN'S WAISTS— Made of saten and other cotton goods, \$1.25, for 49c
DARNING WOOL, 4 FOR 5c— Black or tan, usual 2 for 5c, 4 for 5c	MANTLE CLOTH— A variety of weaves, black and colors, \$2.00 for 99c	WOMEN'S WAISTS— Silk and net lace, black and white, \$4.00 for \$1.95
HAIR PINS, 2 FOR 5c— Invisible Hair Pins, 100 in a box, 2 for 5c	BLANKETS— Union, good large size, worth \$4 per pair \$2.50	WOMEN'S UNDERSKIRTS— Made of Moreen and Saten, in black and colors, \$1.50 and \$1.75, for 98c
ASSORTED HAIR PINS, 2 FOR 5c— 2 large boxes, worth 5c, 2 for 5c	BLANKETS— All wool, good solid quality, worth \$4.50, for \$2.95	WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR— In all grades, on sale at less than wholesale prices.
HOOKS AND EYES, 4 FOR 5c— Usual 2 for 5c, at 4 for 5c	FLANNELETTE BLANKETS— 15x9, 12-4, \$1.50, for \$1.29	BED COMFORTERS— 60 x 72 inches, worth \$1.95, for 99c
SAFETY PINS, 2 FOR 5c— Usual best card, 2 different sized cards, for 5c	FLANNELETTE BLANKETS— 15x9, 12-4, \$1.25, for \$1.10	WHITE QUILTS— 11-4 size, worth \$1.35, on sale for 99c

Skirts Made to Measure of Sale Goods for \$1.25

THE MEMORY OF DICKENS.

Local Fellowship Had a Most Delightful Night.

Banquet at the Conservatory of Music

And Recital of Nicholas Nickleby in Association Hall.

The first annual dinner of the Hamilton branch of the Dickens Fellowship, which was held in the recital hall of the Conservatory of Music last evening, was an unqualified success. The banquet hall was filled to overflowing with the elite of Hamilton and lovers of the immortal writer. Caterer Knapman provided the dinner and the banquet table groined under the weight of all the good things this bountiful country can produce. The guests having refreshed themselves turned to the toast list and after "The King" had been responded to by the singing of "God Save the King" "Our Guests" was proposed. Mr. Frank Speaight responded to this toast and in a few well chosen words told the pleasure it afforded him to be present. He conveyed greetings from London and concluded his remarks by informing the gathering that the Fellowship had the largest branch of the Dickens Fellowship in the world. Hamilton stands third. "The Immortal Memory of Charles Dickens" was responded to by Mr. E. S. Williamson, President of the Toronto branch.

Mr. Speaight, he said, on glancing across this table to-night, of the beautiful after dinner sentiment so eloquently voiced by Mr. Pecksniff when he said, "Even the worldly goods of which we have just disposed have their moral. Every pleasure is transitory. We can not even eat long. If we indulge in harmful fluids, we get the dropsy, if in exciting fluids we get drunk. What a solemn reflection is that! It is quite unnecessary to know, then, to assure you that I highly appreciate the honor of having my name coupled with this toast, 'The Immortal Memory of Charles Dickens.'" Not only did I feel it an honor, but a pleasure, to have an opportunity of paying tribute to the great writer whose life and works have been to me from childhood, a constant source of delight and inspiration. To patriotic Canadian the year 1812 is one of glorious memory. That year has, however, upon Dickens' lovers, a double claim to grateful remembrance, for it was on the 7th of February, 1812, that Dickens first saw the light in the little eight-roomed house at Porten. To quote his own words, "I was born, as I am informed and believe, on Friday at 12 o'clock at night. It was remarked that the clock began to strike and I began to cry, simultaneously. I have sometimes wondered whether it could possibly have been the same timepiece, or any near relative of it, to which Dickens referred in his letter to his clockmaker, years afterwards when he wrote, 'Since my hall clock was sent to your establishment to be cleaned, it has gone perfectly well, but has struck the hours with great reluctance, and after enduring internal agonies of a most disconcerting nature, it has now ceased striking altogether. Though a happy release for the clock, this is not convenient for the household. If you can send down any confidential person with whom the clock can confer, I think it may have something to say which it would be glad to make a clean breast of.'"

While we commemorate to-night the 97th anniversary of the birth of Dickens it seems to me that this particular toast brings to our minds more strongly not the 7th of February, but that dark day in the Literary Calendar, the 9th of June, 1870, when, in the prime of his manhood, and the zenith of his fame, the great master of fiction passed away. When it was said that the telegraph flashed from continent to continent and from city to city, the intelligence of the sudden death of Charles Dickens, and when that sad news was caught up and carried by word of mouth from hamlet to hamlet, the nations and the peoples of the earth seemed, with one consent, to pause for a brief space from the turmoil and bitter strife of their daily lives to unite in a spontaneous and heartfelt burst of sorrow at the loss of the old and constant friend. Throughout that large portion of the globe in which

the English language is spoken, the name of Boz is a household word, and none of men in other climes, though venerating him less than we, are yet not unfamiliar with his name and fame. Essentially a man of the people, having no sympathy or community of feeling with the proud, the haughty, the aristocratic, he touched in all his works a sympathetic cord in the popular heart, and drew the masses to him with instinctive impulse.

Dickens was something more than a novelist. He was even something more than a moralist and reformer. He was a Christian teacher. The Christianity of his works is a true Christianity, not of the head but of the heart; not of creed or sect, not of time, of place, but of humanity. Charity dwells in every page of his writings—human charity, that blends with every state or class, however lowly, sympathizes with every troubled, wounded heart, and finds a brother and a neighbor everywhere.

It is indeed hard to understand the point of view of those who contend that Dickens was an unreligious if not an irreligious man. Immense quotations from his writings might be given to prove the contrary but a single one from the "Old Curiosity Shop" will suffice for this purpose. "They saw the vault covered and the stone fixed down, then when the dusk of an evening had come, and not a sound disturbed the sacred stillness of the place, when the bright moon poured in her light on the tomb and monument, on pillar, wall and arch, and most of all it seemed to them, upon her grave, in that calm time, when outward things and inward thought were with assurance of immortality, and worldly hopes and fears are humbled in the dust before them, then, with tranquil and submissive hearts they turned away, and left the child with God." We can add nothing to the fact of Charles Dickens, the speaker said, Daniel Webster said of him that he had done more to ameliorate the condition of the English poor, and to educate and elevate the masses, than all the statesmen in the Parliament combined. Herein is his best monument. His epitaph is written in imperishable characters in the grateful hearts of the millions whose benefactor he was. In his earnest words for truth and freedom, as well as in his peerless imaginative creations, he will hold his place among the world's honored great, and his memory will keep fresh and green as the years roll on. We honor his genius, we revere his memory, and we feel that through his instrumentality the world has taken one step in Christian progress, one giant stride to the millennium of love, of love, eternal and almighty, not bounded by the narrow confines of this earth, or by the end of time, but ranging still beyond the sea, beyond the sky, to the invisible country far away.

The banquet over, the guests assembled in Association Hall to hear Mr. Frank Speaight's recital of "Nicholas Nickleby." The hall was packed to capacity and the audience had a genuine treat. Mr. Speaight has a splendid voice, and possesses a fine ear of flexibility and expression. The recital was divided into eight parts, dealing with the childhood of Nicholas Nickleby from the time his uncle Ralph provided for him, until the breaking up of Dotheboys Hall. His portrayal of the scenes was exceptionally fine, and the entire presentation of the incidents in Nicholas Nickleby's career was striking, pathetic and humorous. Mr. Speaight extracted effectively the abundant humor, the deep pathos, and the faithful representation of character which Dickens instilled into the work.

Several excellent songs were rendered by Mr. Edward Skelton, accompanied by Miss Laidlaw.

LIQUOR MEN'S PETITION.

Asking for Changes in Manitoba Local Option Law.

Winnipeg, Feb. 22.—To-night in the Legislature an enormous petition, signed by 25,000 names, of every one of which it is said to be a bona fide elector of the Province, was presented by the member for Centre Winnipeg on behalf of the liquor interests, who are urging amendments to the local veto law which will mean a return to the two-third vote to make the law applicable. They also ask that a clause be inserted in the act by which a vote may be taken only once in three years, and that compensation be provided for hotel men who are deprived of licenses by local veto. Tomorrow morning the petition will be backed up by a large deputation, who will endeavor to counteract the effects of the delegation from the Temperance and Moral Reform League which waited on the Government last week.

Notice has been given to Toronto of another attack on the license reduction by-law.

The Toronto City Council decided that Moss Park shall be used as a supervised playground.

RECEPTION TO BISHOP

And Clergy by the Laymen of the City Churches.

His Lordship Speaks For Unity Between Priest and People.

Short Addresses by Other Clergy of the City.

The first annual banquet of the Anglican churchmen of Hamilton to His Lordship Bishop DuMoulin and the clergy of the Hamilton diocese was a grand success. It was held last night at Christ's Church Cathedral, and there was a large turnout. Rural Dean Howie, of St. George's Church, gave an address on the Pan-Anglican Convention prior to the banquet. It proved to be very interesting, and was illustrated by views. A "Duties" lunch was then served. Mr. Charles W. Hemming was elected to the chair, and called on His Lordship for an address. Bishop DuMoulin praised the churchmen for the reception tendered himself and the other clergymen, and said it was a move in the right direction. He hoped it would be the first of many such meetings, which would help to bridge over the chasm between the clergy and laity. It would tend to make one body of all who have the spirit of Christ. His Lordship said that one thing he wanted to see in this city, and power would be very great on the young men of the diocese. He deplored the lack of brotherhood between the clergy and laity, and advocated the hall to help to bring about the unity he so much desired.

Rev. E. N. R. Burns, of St. Luke's Church, made a brilliant address on the division of Christians, and advocated the unifying of all Christians. "The Church of England has done more to unify Christians than any other body," he said. "For the last forty years she has been declaring her platform, but she does not want to be too hasty—she should make her voice slowly."

Rev. J. W. TenEyck closed the speaking with a brief address on the great good the laymen of a church can accomplish.

Rev. Archdeacon Forrester, Rev. Canon Wade, Rev. E. J. Etherington, Rev. H. Britton and Rev. S. Daw sent regrets. The Reception Committee was as follows: Cathedral, Messrs. Harley and Hall; Ascension, Messrs. Lamb and Myles; St. Thomas, Messrs. Gindler and McAndrew; All Saints', Mr. W. T. Jarman; St. George's, Messrs. Fairclough and Noble; St. Mark's, Messrs. Wright and Hemming; St. Matthew's, Mr. Wm. Thresher; St. Luke's, Mr. R. Woolley; St. John the Evangelist, Mr. Barton; St. Philip's, Mr. Alex. Ingh; St. Peter's, Mr. W. J. Holston; St. Stephen's, Mr. Walter Blandy.

WIFE INNOCENT.

Before His Death Husband Acquits Her of His Murder.

Leithbridge, Alta., Feb. 22.—Richard Vadhais, of Cardston, who died on Saturday, before his death made a declaration that his wife was not guilty of his murder.

At his request, Mrs. Vadhais was brought from Calgary Barracks, where she was confined on suspicion of the shooting. They became reconciled before his death.

Vadhais' declaration leaves the police in a quandary, as suspicion was directed in no other direction.

A new cavalry regiment is to be organized in Brant county.

Oakville's new electric light system was started in operation on Monday night.