

## Twice-a-Week Times

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## A LESSON FROM TORONTO.

Under what may be termed the voluntary system of municipal government the people occasionally rise and smite men who essay the role of bosses. At least this proposition is true of Canadian municipal affairs. The case of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt of Toronto furnishes an illustration of what we mean. The Doctor, being a man of influence in the Ontario Capital, as he thought himself and as the Whitney government acknowledged by appointing him to a sinecure worth nine thousand dollars a year, resigned his post. Dr. Nesbitt is by nature frank and confident. He did not hesitate to acknowledge the motives which moved him in resigning the magistracy of one of the divisions of Toronto. He candidly admitted that he was out for the spoils of office and inferentially gave the impression that there was more to be made in public life than in serving his country even on a handsome annual allowance—a maximum of remuneration for a minimum of service. But at the time of the Doctor's retirement from the public service few opportunities were offering for a patriotic citizen to serve his country. Neither provincial nor Dominion elections were in sight. He could not remain inactive for a year or two. Therefore he announced his intention of becoming Mayor of Toronto. That billet would fall in nicely and keep him in touch with "the boys" until circumstances admitted of the Doctor's stepping up higher.

Toronto is very strongly Conservative in sentiment. But it is evidently possible to outrage Toronto's sense of what is seemly and of good report in politics. The presence of Dr. Nesbitt in the field roused the citizens to a sense of duty to themselves. On New Year's day the elections were held and Dr. Nesbitt learned the lesson that the "boys" in Canadian political life has not yet dawned. He was defeated by an overwhelming majority by a man probably not so spectacular nor so cyclonic in his methods, but representing the sound moral and business sentiment of the community.

Mr. Joseph Oliver, the Mayor-elect of Toronto, is a Liberal in politics, but if he had been a Conservative he would probably have been elected by just as large a majority. The Conservative "machine," beyond question, has for some time been endeavoring to introduce the party system into the municipal affairs of the city, arguing that as the patronage dispensed annually is more than equal to the patronage at the disposition of the Ontario government, there is no logical reason why "the boys," as Dr. Nesbitt and his kind affectionately call them, should not divide all that is going up amongst themselves. The candor of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt in expounding his principles aroused Toronto to the danger that had compassed her. The people had had concrete examples of the iniquitousness of the system in the traffic in liquor licenses countenanced by the Whitney government. Consequently, it was not the politics of Mr. Oliver that counted in their estimation, but the personality of the man and the principles he represented. They went to the polls and razed the "machine" to the ground, leaving the political remains of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt under the debris.

This is the second time within recent years that the people of Toronto have cast aside their political principles for their city's good. Once before they were threatened with the thralldom of "the machine," and they elected Mr. Urehart, a Liberal, as Mayor, just to prove to all concerned that when the issue between corrupt politics and efficient civic administration is definitely raised they are prepared to do their full duty.

Would it not be a fine thing for Victoria if some issue could be created that would thoroughly arouse the people to a fitting sense of their duty now that the date of the municipal elections is drawing near? Something which would compel men of conspicuous talent, who are accustomed to doing things and have a reputation of generally doing things right, to give their services to the public during the coming year—a year of great possibilities in view of the important works that ought to be undertaken. We admit that if the right men were to volunteer they would be making great sacrifices, because their value to their fellow-citizens must be measured by the value of their work in their private business. But it is such men Victoria needs and whose counsel on the aldermanic board would tend to increase confidence in the civic administration.

## INCREASING IN STRENGTH.

Again we are gravely informed that the "hide is setting strongly against the present Ottawa government."

Proof of this assertion is to be found in recent bye-elections, one of which was held in Nicolet yesterday, at which the Liberal candidate was elected by over seven hundred of a majority. Other evidence may be collected by anyone in a proper frame of mind for the work from recent contests in the eastern provinces of the Dominion. Unfortunately, the Toronto Globe, which is chronically in another state of mind, presents to its readers the other side of the picture in a summing up of the situation since the general election of 1904. It says: The result of the three bye-elections for the Commons again emphasizes the fact that Mr. Borden is making no progress in his task of upsetting the government, and that Sir Wilfrid is still firmly in the saddle. Centre York, Ottawa and Labelle all return straight government candidates. In Centre York, Mr. Campbell's majority at last election was 75. Dr. McLean holds the seat by 19 against a very popular Conservative candidate, whose father had been a pillar of the party. In Ottawa Mr. J. B. T. Caron swept the city, and succeeds Senator Belcourt, defeating ex-Mayor Morris by 3,319 majority. In Labelle Mr. Bourassa is replaced by Mr. C. B. Major, a straight government supporter. As Mr. Bourassa was practically in opposition before his resignation, the Labelle election is really a gain to the government.

The last general election was held in November, 1904. Since that time there have been 42 bye-elections. The Liberals have carried 33 and the Conservatives 9. There have been but four reversals of the verdict of 1904 in all this series of contests. The Liberals won North Bruce and lost London in Ontario; they lost Colchester in Nova Scotia, and won St. John City and county in New Brunswick. Mr. Verreille in Montreal won a seat as a Laborer against a Liberal, but he votes more frequently with the government than with the opposition.

In three years the Conservatives have not made a net gain of a single seat. The general election cannot be more than eighteen months distant. Nothing short of a political earthquake could shake the government from its place in the confidence of the people in the short period before the next appeal to the people.

Writing from Victoria to the Toronto Globe, "Lally Barnard" says: Can this be the month of December? A rash mosquito, allured by the electric light, as the so-called "labor man" is allured by the fictitious value of an abnormally high wage, has just put itself in a position to be exterminated. The scent of a rose is wafted through the open window, and this is Canada, dear Canada—"Our Lady of the Snows"—and the rose.

A Montreal business man who is well known in British Columbia, when writing to a friend in Victoria during the last week, stated that the financial squeeze was easing up and that the outlook for next spring had greatly improved.

We think A. L. Fell was right in asking the council to delay in submitting a waterworks by-law to the ratepayers until all the details of Mr. Adams's report had been received and properly digested. The full report ought to be along very soon, and a delay of a few days could not have made a great deal of difference. But the council thought otherwise, evidently in the belief that the water problem has been unsolved so long that haste has at last become absolutely essential. The by-law ought to carry, but strong forces will be brought in operation to defeat it.

Another of the brightest and best known of Canadian newspaper men has laid down his trenchant pen and entered into rest. The late Mr. Cameron had sat in the chief editorial chair of the Hamilton Spectator for a great many years—almost since the day of the newspaper's birth, if we are not mistaken. He was a very trenchant writer, a genial fellow, and will be sincerely mourned by his fellow-craftsmen in Eastern Canada.

On this last day of the year Victoria is surrounded by snow-clad hills. But not a flake of the beautiful (to view from a good distance and to read about) has fallen within the favored zone of which this city is the centre. We must not be considered as exulting over our least fortunate neighbors—simply calling attention to a fact which is not by any means singular in our experience.

An authority reminds us that this day forty-five years ago slavery was officially abolished in the United States. But our neighbors are still in the bonds of fiscal slavery, a system which promises to prove more difficult to kill than the physical bondage of the negroes.

The Colonist takes a sane, albeit a somewhat pessimistic, view of civic affairs. It would be a fine thing for Victoria if every candidate for municipal service were imbued with a single idea of giving the best he possesses without regard to the exigencies, political or otherwise, of the future. It would be quite as grand if the opposition at Ottawa were inspired by a similar high purpose. In that case we would not have Mr. Borden making sectional appeals in every section of the country. But, to return to the topic of most importance at the present time, we hardly think our contemporary is justified in saying Victoria is in a bad way. Victoria is doing very well indeed—and she will continue to advance in defiance of the personnel of any council the people may choose to

select. Of course it is a trite saying that no human being or institution is perfect. There is a good deal of room for improvement in the city council of Victoria, and we hope, with a Mayor in the chair who can work harmoniously with the new council, to look back with a good deal of equanimity, one year hence, on what was accomplished in 1908.

Notwithstanding the effect of labor disturbances in the spring and of the decline in prices later in the year, causing a complete cessation of operations in some of the most prolific of the mines of the province, the mineral output this year is likely to be considerably in excess of that of last year. The decline in the volume and in the value of metalliferous ores is more than compensated for by a large increase in the production of coal and coke. But for the disturbing factors alluded to, the mineral production of British Columbia for the year 1907 would have been very much greater than the record for 1906.

On the whole our principal industry is making healthy progress. The markets at the beginning of the year are in a somewhat uncertain state, but with a return of confidence there is every prospect that the returns at the end of the year 1908 will also prove satisfactory.

Dr. Beattie Nesbitt's attempt to muzzle the press was vain. He instituted two libel suits against the Toronto Globe for saying things about him and attempted to obtain an injunction from the courts to prevent the Globe from saying anything more about him. But the Doctor was beaten in the majority contest, and some curious nightmares have been shattered or dispelled. One of them is the ambition of the Doctor to succeed R. L. Borden as Conservative leader. Dr. Nesbitt may now have great difficulty in securing a nomination when he aspires to a Conservative seat.

It was hardly necessary for the management of the Canadian Bank of Commerce to state that the absurd reports from Fernie affecting the standing of the institution were "absolutely untrue" and without apparent foundation whatever. The Canadian Bank of Commerce is one of the strongest of the financial institutions of the Dominion. What object was to be attained by the circulation of such wild rumors, passes human comprehension. Probably the intention was to deliver an assault upon "capital" or the "capitalistic system."

Representing the Russian people in parliament is one of the most hazardous of occupations. Under the British system a member of any of the Houses of Parliament is a privileged person. In Russia he has a choice of privileges. He may exercise the privilege of serving the people he was elected to serve at the peril of "doing time" in Siberia or he may choose the pleasant path of serving the ends of the grand dukes, the latter to his great material advantage. There will be doings in Russia when the day of atonement arrives.

The Mayor has called a meeting of ratepayers only for the evening of Thursday next. The object is to explain to those entitled to vote the purpose of the loan by-law which will be voted on on the day of the municipal elections. As every citizen who pays rent, and therefore pays water rates, is interested in the water question, it is not likely they will be content to be excluded from what ought to prove a very interesting discussion.

Mayor Morley has not yet officially intimated that he will be a candidate for a third term. His Worship ought to announce his intentions. Is he waiting for something to turn up that may be to his advantage as a candidate—or otherwise?

The Manitoba government has purchased the telephone system of that province. It will be operated as a government service. As Saskatchewan and Alberta are both installing government telephone systems, all three of the great prairie provinces will soon be united by one of the most useful of modern means of communication. What does the government of British Columbia think of this?

## UNTRUE AND WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

To the Editor:—We have been requested by our superintendent in Vancouver to deliver to you the following message:

"The authorities of the Canadian Bank of Commerce have been shown a dispatch from Fernie reflecting on the bank. The statements made are absolutely untrue and without apparent foundation whatever, and all newspapers are warned that they are made with criminally malicious intent."

"Yours faithfully,  
"GEO. GILLESPIE, Manager."

## PACIFIC COAST DEFENCES.

Portland, Oregon, Jan. 2.—The Oregonian to-day will say that the adjutants of California, Washington and Oregon have been invited by the war department to Washington, D. C., for a conference on coast defences, at the earliest possible date. It is assumed that the meeting will result in the assignment of national guards to coast artillery work.

## NEW DIVISIONAL POINT.

Humboldt, Sask., Jan. 2.—The C. P. R. is coming to Humboldt this year. The steamers have passed through here on their way to Prince Albert. This will make Humboldt a divisional point.

MAMMOTH  
JANUARY SALE

CAMPBELL'S

MAMMOTH  
JANUARY SALE

## MAMMOTH SALE

Commence 9 a.m.  
To-day

Our smart costumes and matchless coats at tremendous reductions, will be the centre of attraction to-day. Whilst you are securing those bargains here are other golden opportunities to be found in our show rooms:

Commence 9 a.m.  
To-day

## LADIES' NIGHT DRESSES

White and Striped Flannelette Nightdresses. Regular price \$1.00. Our Sale Price ..... 85c.  
Heavy White Flannelette Nightdresses, nicely ruffled. Regular price \$1.25. Our Sale Price ..... 90c.  
White Flannelette Nightdresses, embroidery trimmed. Regular price \$1.40. Our Sale Price ..... \$1.00  
Pretty White Flannelette Nightdresses, lace trimmed, silk embroidered. Regular price \$1.75. Our Sale Price ..... \$1.25

White and Cream Flannelette Nightdresses, trimmed with silk embroidery and ribbon. Regular price \$2.00. Our Sale Price ..... \$1.50  
Extra Good White Flannelette Nightdresses, trimmed with fine lace and embroidery. Regular price \$2.25. Our Sale Price ..... \$1.75  
Very Excellent White Flannelette Nightdresses, daintily trimmed with silk embroidery and lace. Regular price \$3.00. Our Sale Price ..... \$2.25

## UNDERWEAR

Ladies' Vests and Drawers, in white and natural, fleece lined. Regular price, per garment, 40c. Our Sale Price ..... 25c.  
Ladies' Vests and Drawers, in white and natural, extra fine fleece lined. Regular price, per garment, 75c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
Ladies' Vests and Drawers, in white, special fleece lining. Regular price, per garment, 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 35c.  
On This Table we have heaped up a large number of sample Suits of Ladies' Vests and Drawers, very reliable goods, in cashmere and all-wool. Regular price, per garment, \$1.25. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.

## HOSIERY

Campbell's Best Silkette Ladies' Hose, high spliced heels, strong double soles, Hermsdorf dye. Regular price 35c. Our Sale Price ..... 25c.



## HOSIERY

Campbell's Cashmere Hose, seamless, absolutely fast dye, black and tan. Regular price, per pair, 35c. Our Sale Price ..... 25c.  
Campbell's Llama Hose, seamless, guaranteed fast dye, in blacks and tans. Regular price, per pair, 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
Campbell's Lisle Hose, Hermsdorf dye, double sole, extra high spliced heels. Regular price, per pair, 50c. Our Sale Price ..... 40c.  
Transparent Lisle Hose, spliced seams, double soles, extra high spliced heels. Regular price, per pair, 65c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
Empire Lisle Hose, lace ankles, all colors. Regular price, 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
Special Black Cashmere Hose, silk embroidered fronts, worth every lady's attention. Regular price, per pair, 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
Special Lace Front Cashmere Hose, something extra smart and good. Regular price, per pair, 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.

## DRESSING GOWNS

In Fancy Flannelette, blue, red, pink, mauve, cardinal, fitted with large collars. Regular price \$1.75. Our Sale Price ..... \$1.25  
Long Kimono Robes, in red, purple, navy and mauve designs, trimmed with Japanese floral braid. Regular price \$2.75. Our Sale Price ..... \$2.25  
Very Handsome Eiderdown Robes, with large roll collars and shoulder capes. Regular price \$8.75. Our Sale Price ..... \$6.75  
Exquisite Dressing Gowns, in grays and art blues, fine lace yokes, lace ruffles and deep lace edged collar. Regular price \$13.50. Our Sale Price ..... \$10.00

Cashmere Dressing Gowns, in art mauve shades, with pleated collars trimmed with lace. Regular price \$8.25. Our Sale Price ..... \$6.10  
Cashmere Dressing Gowns, in pale blue, art gray and black, fitted with large collars, broad lace trimming. Regular price \$7.00. Our Sale Price ..... \$5.00  
Very Elaborate Dressing Gowns, in old rose and reseda, elegantly trimmed with lace and fitted with short ruffled sleeves. Regular price \$12.50. Our Sale Price ..... \$9.00

FLANNELETTE  
DRAWERS

In White and Cream, nicely ruffled. Regular price 50c. Our Sale Price ..... 35c.  
In Pink and White, prettily trimmed. Regular price 60c. Our Sale Price ..... 45c.  
In White, hemstitched ruffles. Regular price, 70c. Our Sale Price ..... 50c.  
In White, with deep embroidered frills. Regular price 90c. Our Sale Price ..... 75c.

FLANNELETTE  
UNDERSKIRTS

In White and Cream, nicely trimmed, deep flounce. Regular price, 90c. Our Sale Price ..... 75c.  
In White, trimmed with embroidery and insertion. Regular price \$1.25. Our Sale Price ..... 90c.  
Fancy Flannelette Dressing Gowns, blue, red, pink, cardinal, etc., fitted with large collars.

## DRESSING JACKETS

We offer you a charming variety, new arrivals in comfortable eiderdown, etc. All very tastefully trimmed and finished. All at regular price \$1.75. SALE PRICE ..... \$1.25  
All at prices ranging from \$2.75 to \$3.75. SALE PRICE ..... \$2.00

CHILDREN'S FROCKS AND  
COATS

A Splendid Assortment; this Season's Smartest COATS AND FROCKS, ALL AT HALF PRICE.

## MISSSES' COATS ALL AT HALF PRICE

## CHILDREN'S HOSE ALL MUCH REDUCED



## ANGUS CAMPBELL &amp; CO.

Sale Terms—CASH  
No Goods ChargedTHE LADIES' STORE  
Promis Block, Government Street VictoriaSale Terms—CASH  
No Goods on Appr'vl.

## LOCAL NEWS

(From Tuesday's De-  
—Yesterday a building  
granted to F. Watson for  
of a barn on Belleville str.  
\$180.

—Last evening the last  
of the year of the Victoria  
Brotherhood of Owls, was  
A. O. U. W. hall.

—Last evening at 8 o'clock  
brigade had a short run to  
garage, Fort street, where  
in some kindling beneath  
started. A few pails of wa-  
ter the blaze.

—Last evening at 8 o'clock  
Ridge Methodist Sunday-  
their annual entertainment  
entitled, "The Coming of  
was given by the annual  
ed and distributed the  
members of the school. T  
large attendance of friend

—On Christmas day at 5  
Church cathedral, Mr. Leon  
ton and Miss Runie E. B.  
city, were united in wedd  
ed and distributed the  
members of the school. T  
large attendance of friend

—Those who have subse  
Kubelk - Paderewski - Ho  
poon series of concerts, an  
season tickets by applying  
orary secretary of the Vic  
Society, Stewart Williams  
letter or personally, at  
Fort street. The box offi  
atre will be opened for  
concert at 10 a.m. on Jan  
season tickets will be iss  
box office is opened.

—Antonio Loachlavio, U  
is wanted in Sydney, Au  
who a week ago was wa  
up again this morning  
court and on the reques  
Moresby was again rema  
other week. J. A. Alkma  
ably reduced in order to  
might live in a hotel last  
police lock-up. The man  
ever, refused to reduce  
of him and he was rema  
other week under the su  
before.

—The regular Saturday  
even matinee will be give  
Grand to-morrow aftern  
little ones will see a per  
will please them better  
have witnessed in a long  
big holiday bill show be  
this week is one of the  
been given in the Grand,  
by Amos Abou Hamed a  
of eight acrobatic and tu  
and the other features  
Rosalie in a splendid li  
wire act; Grand and Gra  
comedy, musical act; Ew  
in the comedy sketch, "T  
Tables"; Evangeline Me  
and acrobatic dancing, "S  
Smiling"; the illustrated  
tures, and the overture,  
Experience in Victoria."

(From Thursday's  
—Next Sunday evening  
will be held at Christ ch  
in accordance with the u

—A. B. McNeill has a  
intention to be a candi  
trustee at the forthcom

—This evening the fa  
E. Le Roy Dakin and l  
take place in the Em  
church. A programme  
gared for the occasion.

—Harold Payne Le S  
of Walter Payne Le S  
city, and Beatrice, daug  
Mainwaring Johnson, al  
were united in wedd  
Wilson, M. A., officia

—Last Tuesday afte  
o'clock, the funeral of  
Campbell, of Craigeld  
took place from the re  
McCallum, Oak street.  
McCoy officiated. The  
as pallbearers, John  
Rae, T. Mayne and Mr.

—The officers and te  
Victoria West Methodis  
were tendered a benig  
last at the parsonage.  
After the repast, some  
ness in connection with  
transacted and the res  
ing spent in social inte

—Last Tuesday eveni  
the British Columbia  
Forestry Association wa  
Blonair hall. The follo  
were elected for the ens  
S. Pringle, G. H. Barn  
William Blakemore, E. J  
McChure, Mr. Hardwick,  
D. Billing and J. H. Mc

—The motormen and  
the British Columbia El  
Company acknowledge w  
receipt of Christmas gift  
Jowing: C. A. Holland, c  
St. Charles, cash; Mr. H  
A. T. Goward, local mana  
Hall, cigars; Mr. Fuller  
Wilkinson, cigars; Mr.  
gars; H. Dallas Helmke  
gars; S. Thomson, cigar  
men and conductors join  
a happy and prosperous

—The death occurred  
St. Joseph's hospital, of  
Chungreane, second dau  
Chungreane, provision m  
city. She was 10 years o  
born in Victoria. The f  
announced later. Rev. M  
high priest of the Gre  
church, will come from  
officiate at the funeral.

—On New Year's eve  
the wedding took place  
dance of Mr. J. J. Rus  
Hill, of Mr. James Dodd