

THE TORONTO WORLD

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Six months, Sunday included 2.50
Three months, Sunday included 1.25
One month, Sunday included35
One year, without Sunday 4.00
Six months, without Sunday 2.00
Three months, without Sunday 1.00
One month, without Sunday25

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HAMILTON OFFICE—Royal Block, North James and Market streets, Telephone 1000. Walter Harvey, Agent.

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MONTREAL, QUE.—Hotel and St. Lawrence Hall; all news stands and news.

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Dennis Hotel and Hotel News stand, 1 Park Row.

OTTAWA, ONT.—Despatch and Agency Co.; all hotels and news stands.

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THE RAILWAYS AND THE BOARD OF RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA.

Fifty-third Article.

We have already given convincing proof that the board of railway commissioners is utterly incapable of carrying out the work entrusted to them, and now Chairman A. C. Kilham comes forward to substantiate our statements. In a letter to the premier regarding the proposed reduction in passenger fares, he says:

"Our traffic officer has already on his own responsibility and without instructions from the board, suggested to general passenger agents of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Railways that they should lower the rate to three cents per mile on tariffs in Eastern Canada, but they object to the claim that their average rate is about two cents per mile, and at the request of the traffic officer they have promised to submit statements in support of their contention."

Here is what the minister of railways laid down as the law when introducing the bill creating the board of railway commissioners:

"The company will propose their tariff and the board may say, we will not approve of that tariff, but we will approve of such and such a tariff, and they may prescribe what that tariff shall be. We have given it that power and that tariff as I have said will be a standard."

So far this particular question it concerned the matter ended with the suggestion of their traffic officer to the passenger agents of the railways, and apparently the board does not propose to take any further action at this time. Now what would happen if the traffic officer in question were actually a member of the board of railway commissioners instead of being there in an advisory capacity? Would he not be put upon the authority vested in the board by the act and instruct the railways to prepare their tariffs in accordance with his suggestion? It is quite evident that he appreciates the propriety of reducing the rates, otherwise the suggestion would not have been made, and realizing that the tolls should be lowered, if he were a member of the board of railway commissioners he would insist upon the changes being made.

It is not necessary for the board to go to the railway companies hat in hand and beg them to do so and so—they have the power to order that it shall be done; why do they not exercise it?

The weakness of the board is clearly shown in their handling of this case, and even more so in the following paragraph taken from the same letter: "I would therefore respectfully urge that the government should not at the present time countenance the proposal to refer the question; that the whole matter should be left over until the next session of parliament, and that the board be left in the meantime to exercise its discretion, unfettered by any order or reference." This letter has reference to the proposal to instruct the board to make an immediate investigation into the general question of passenger rates throughout the country.

The board of railway commissioners claim that they are overworked. Certainly they are for the simple reason that all the work they have never yet attempted to perform has been placed before them, viz., supervision of railway tariffs—according to the minister of railways the most important portion of their obligation to the people, most assuredly the most important from a public standpoint. Is it any wonder that they are behind in their work when they have not yet reached the starting point after being in existence since 1903?

The need for placing the work of the board of railway commissioners in the hands of competent traffic officials could not be more clearly shown than by a comparison of the action of the traffic officer as compared with the inaction of the board itself.

If the board of railway commissioners will not act, will not the government undertake the task? The whole situation is one demanding immediate attention in the interests of the people of Canada.

(These articles have appeared daily since Monday, Dec. 3.—Ed.)

appropriately can it be held as in Toronto, the Queen City of the Dominion, and the only great city easily accessible to the United States and accessible from all parts of the money and enterprise in Toronto to form a corporation with it is end in view? It would, no doubt, be largely financed by the Dominion government. It would bring to Toronto millions of visitors and many millions of money.

Surely it is desirable, and while seven years may seem a long look ahead, the time is not too long to be fully occupied in preparing our first vast "at home" in which to invite the nations of the world.

THE TELEPHONE DISPUTE.

Public opinion, when fully cognizant of the circumstances, will not hesitate to declare itself on the side of the telephone operators who have refused to sign a contract imposing duties impossible to undertake without grave danger to health and even life. For some years they have been employed on a five-hour basis, and to anyone cognizant of the nervous and physical strain which the work involves, that term was all that could be reasonably expected. As it was, breakdowns were frequent, and this, the World is informed, can be amply substantiated.

The Bell Telephone Company is another of the public service corporations with which Canada is afflicted. It, in common with its brethren, is tremendously over-capitalized thru the issue of "watered" stock, and, therefore, can neither render efficient service at a proper and reasonable price nor afford to treat its employees with that measure of fairness which a company enjoying its special privileges should be only too ready to extend. And the World is much mistaken if the citizens of Toronto will support any action on its part which involves serious risk to the young ladies on whose quickness and intelligence efficient service so vitally depends.

This labor dispute is peculiar. It is not consequent on a demand on the part of the operators for higher wages or shorter hours. On the contrary, they are prepared to continue on the terms and conditions hitherto prevailing. The quarrel is entirely of their own making and the onus is on its management to justify the course pursued. It is up to it to do this, and to do it at once, unless it is prepared to stand condemned in the eyes of the citizens of Toronto.

The Bell Telephone Company pays a high dividend to its shareholders, yet it is seeking to extract still more profits out of its employees. That and that alone is the reason for its demanding from its Toronto staff more than it should be asked with proper regard for the requirements of common humanity. No corporation—least of all a public service corporation—has any right to impose duties which can only be fulfilled at the risk of injury—possibly permanent injury—to the health of its employees. That is the real issue in the dispute, and the public must get alive to it. If the contention of the operators is supported by facts—as we believe it is—the company must be taught that the citizen must not stand for a public service conducted on the methods of a slave-driver.

SIR CHARLES TO SPEAK.

Tupper to Make Important Address on Tuesday Evening Next.

London, Eng., Jan. 31.—Sir Charles Tupper is to be the central figure in a most interesting Anglo-Canadian occasion next Tuesday.

His health is so good that, altho the doctors forbid evening engagements, he intends to preside at a dinner at the Carlton club. He is expected to make an important speech, reasserting his faith in the inevitable trend of the empire, in which Canada, with other self-governing colonies, shall be with the motherland as co-ordinate, not subordinate, states.

To mark the occasion a group of influential Anglo-Canadians are presenting Sir Charles with an excellent oil painting of himself by a painter named Turner, who has been at various times commissioned by Queen Victoria and King Edward to paint portraits of themselves.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.

Annual Meeting in Montreal—W. McLean Elected President.

Montreal, Jan. 31.—(Special.)—At today's session of the annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President: W. McLean, Walbank chief engineer of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company; vice-presidents, J. Butler, chief engineer railways and canals, Ottawa; Preps Johnson, manager of the Dominion Bridge Company; and J. S. Dennis, chief engineer of the C. P. R. irrigation works, Calgary. Council—G. A. Keeler, Vancouver; D. McPherson, assistant chief engineer transcontinental railway, Ottawa; G. H. Duggan, second vice-president Dominion Coal Company, Sydney; C. E. W. Dodwell, engineer public works, Halifax; C. H. Rust, city engineer, Toronto; McNab, assistant engineer, St. John's; W. F. Tye, Montreal; E. V. Johnson, Ottawa; W. H. Brethaupt, Berlin; J. A. Jamieson, R. S. Lea, R. A. R. J. Desbuis, John Kennedy, F. P. Gutelius, assistant chief engineer, C. P. R.; W. H. Laurie, Prof. R. J. Cleary, L. J. Paineau and H. Hardman, all of Montreal, and A. A. Dion, Ottawa.

On account of the death of Mr. T. Eaton the store will be closed until Monday.

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED

AT OSGOOD HALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FRIDAY.

Chambers.

Cartwright, at 11 a.m.

Judge's Chambers.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Teetzel, at 10 a.m.

Divisional Court.

Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1.—The King v. McGill.

2.—Re Miles estate.

3.—Livingstone v. Copeland.

Court of Appeal.

Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1.—Crown Bank v. Brash (continued).

2.—C.P.R. v. Toronto.

3.—Lee v. Totten & Murray.

Toronto Non-Jury Sittings.

Peremptory list for 10 a.m.:

Royal E. Co. v. Ham, Elec. L. & C. Co. (to be concluded).

Peremptory list for Monday at 11 a.m.:

1.—Kingswell v. Wiley.

2.—Johnston v. Marsh.

3.—Bertram v. Jacques.

4.—Sullivan v. Trusts & Guarantee.

5.—Nicholls v. Nicholls.

6.—O'Connor v. Sands.

Mining Action.

An action has been begun by Gordon Benson against W. J. Turner of Roscommon, Mich., and the Gordon Benson Cobalt Mining Company, claiming a declaration that he is the owner of the three-quarter interest in the north half of the northeast quarter of the north half of lot 12 in concession 1, Township of Coleman.

Suing on Notes.

The J. J. Cass Threshing Machine Co. have brought an action against Sandy Rennie and John Rennie to recover on certain promissory notes.

Madge A. Kelly is suing the Grand Trunk Railway for damages sustained by her while a passenger on the defendants' railway by reason of the negligence of the defendants' servants.

Improper Treatment of Horses.

Kathrine Peck has begun an action against the Veterinary Specialty Company, claiming \$500 damages sustained by her on the breach of contract to properly care for and treat two valuable horses, and for the return of certain moneys paid the plaintiffs.

W. D. Scott has instituted an action against Hamilton B. Wills and R. E. Kemmer of Toronto, to have it declared that he is a partner in the firm of Wills & Co., and entitled to a one-third interest in all the assets, profits, etc., of the firm and for a reference.

Deposited, But Cannot Withdraw.

The Toronto General Trust Company, as the next friend of Thomas McCausland, obtained from Chief Justice Pritchard an injunction restraining the Dominion Bank until Feb. 4 from paying over or parting with \$358 deposited by the defendant, Dora Spear, on the 29th inst. to her credit in the bank.

Claims to Be a Partner.

Mrs. Sarah E. Carry, one of the executors of the estate of the late Frederick Childs of Hamilton, applied before Chief Justice Pritchard of court concerning the year's general and field work were ably presented by Rev. R.

U. C. BIBLE SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting Held Last Night—Work of a Year Reviewed.

The Upper Canada Bible Society held their annual meeting last night in the Carlton-street Methodist Church, N. W. Hoyle, K.C., LL.D., presiding. The sixty-seventh annual report was adopted. It showed that hospitals, prisons, passenger steamboats, firebricks, car barns and other semi-public institutions had been liberally supplied with Bibles, in addition to 35,821 copies of the Scriptures that had been distributed by the society thru different remote parts of Canada, of which 5328 copies were circulated by the society's colporteurs. Requests have been received by the society to the amount of \$5075; cash sales, \$4884; colportage sales, \$1584; Ketchum Trust, Sunday School, \$750; free contributions, \$28,400; rent, interest and dividends, \$374, making a grand total of \$44,134. In the Northwest, Bibles have been applied for in fifty different versions, thirty-five of which the society supplied. The reading of Scripture and prayer during the meeting were by Dr. Chambers and Principal O'Meara, and the resolutions by Rev. J. Gibson and William C. R. Addresses setting forth the benefits of the work done by the society, and the need of assistance were delivered by Rev. George Jackson, B.A.; Rev. John McNeill, B.A., and His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Mortimer Clark. Reports concerning the year's general and field work were ably presented by Rev. R.

INVESTIGATE COTTON EXCHANGE.

Washington, Jan. 31.—A sub-committee of five members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce to-day decided by unanimous vote to recommend to the committee that a favorable report be made on the Livingston resolution, providing for an investigation of the New York Cotton Exchange by the department of commerce and labor.

SMALLPOX AMONG INDIANS.

London, Jan. 31.—(Special.)—One more case of smallpox broke out in the Indian reservation at Muncy. The health officers are, however, strenuous in their efforts to crush the disease, and are vaccinating the tribe wholesale.

THE Traders Bank OF CANADA.

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED - - - \$5,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP - - - \$4,300,000
REST - - - \$1,900,000
TOTAL ASSETS, OVER - - - \$32,000,000

Head Office:—Yonge Street, Cor