

**London Advertiser.**  
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## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 30.

## CANADA'S RAILWAYS.

At the close of the fiscal year ended June 30 last there were in operation in Canada 22,432 miles of railway, 1,999 miles of which were constructed during the twelve months, being in excess of the construction of any previous year recorded. Nearly all, or 1,067 miles, of the year's addition is double-tracked. To this must be added sidings, etc., which bring the total length of track in operation up to 27,611 miles. These are some of the interesting facts shown in the volume of railway statistics recently presented to Parliament.

Population, of course, plays an important part in the financial success of a railway enterprise, and in this respect the report shows Canada to be at a disadvantage as compared with other countries. In the Dominion the population per mile of road is 298, as compared with 381 in the United States, 360 in Victoria, 358 in New Zealand, 636 in New South Wales, and 1,821 in Great Britain. Another difficulty in the way of the Canadian railway operator is the fact that a very large part of the railway construction is in provinces sparsely populated. Over one-third of the total mileage, or 8,196 miles, is west of Ontario, and serves something like one-sixth of the population.

Ontario, of course, leads in mileage, with a total of 7,837 miles, followed by Quebec with 3,515, Manitoba 3,074, Saskatchewan 2,024, British Columbia 1,685, New Brunswick 1,502, Nova Scotia 1,329, Alberta 1,323, Prince Edward Island 267, and Yukon 60 miles.

That the railway companies have been doing their best to meet the growing demands of the west by providing increased equipment is shown by the amount of rolling stock in use, the increase in which was considerably greater than that in the length of road. The rolling stock at the end of the year included 3,504 locomotives, 113,514 freight cars, and 3,642 passenger cars. The increases in the year were 573 locomotives, 16,494 freight cars and 323 passenger cars. United States railways have 232 locomotives and 8,810 cars to every 1,000 miles of road, while the Canadian lines have only 156 locomotives and 5,218 cars for the same mileage. It should be remembered, however, that while the United States roads have 351,000 people to every 1,000 miles of railway, the Canadian roads have only 289,000 people per 1,000 miles. Neither should it be forgotten that according to recent reports, the United States railways have 309,000 idle cars lying on sidings.

Canadian railways carried during the year 22,137,000 passengers, and 68,866,000 tons of freight—an increase over the previous year of 4,148,000 passengers and 5,900,000 tons of freight. Their earnings from traffic amounted to \$146,738,000, or \$21,415,000 more than in 1905-06. This increase is in part due to a slight increase in tolls.

The operating expenses for the year totaled \$102,748,000, \$20,887,000 more for maintenance of ways, etc., \$21,666,000 for maintenance of equipment, \$57,325,000 for conducting transportation and \$2,869,000 for general expenses. It is here where the working-man is specially affected, as almost all of this vast amount goes to pay for labor or its direct product.

The report places the capital investment in the roads at \$1,171,937,000, of which \$588,563,000 is credited to shares, and \$583,369,000 to bond and like issues. Besides this, public aid to the amount of \$181,297,000 has been granted Canadian railways, of which the Dominion of Canada gave \$128,827,000, the various provinces \$33,123,000, and the municipalities \$17,346,000. In addition there have been Government gifts of 21,762,000 acres of land.

The year's net earnings of all the roads amounted to \$42,898,000, or 2.66 per cent on the total capitalization, which was available to pay interest on bonds and dividends on capital stock.

## WHERE IMPROVEMENT IS NEEDED.

One need of Canada is capital to develop her mineral wealth, or to push her development in some other direction; but that is not the most important thing. A greater need is capable men and women. Given the right kind of men and the development of Canada in all directions is assured.

The leading men of twenty years hence are now in the primary schools throughout the country, and the most vital question to a patriotic Canadian is the question of how they are being educated.

In the past twenty-five years a transformation in social and industrial life has taken place that amounts almost to a revolution. There is no reason to doubt that the next twenty-five years will see changes equally radical. Our schools must fit our

children to meet changed conditions. Other nations are surpassing us in the application of science to industry, and in the training of men and women in the industrial arts. In European countries manual training is established as an integral part of the school system, and technical education has reached a development which leaves us far in the rear. In the matter of playgrounds, of sanitation and hygiene, we have also much to learn. It is a paradox that the old world furnishes us with the newest ideas and methods in education. In this sphere at least the new world is less modern than the old.

Mr. James L. Hughes, public school inspector of Toronto, who is to lecture in the city tomorrow night, has taken advanced ground, and will have an important message for citizens. He spent some time in Europe last year, studying the school systems of various countries. His conclusions are based upon personal observation, and he is convinced that improvements are absolutely necessary if Canada is to keep abreast of the times. His visit should help to arouse a more general interest in this all-important question.

## CANADIAN DIPLOMACY VINDICATED.

The House of Commons voted down Mr. Borden's anti-Japanese resolution by 100 to 45. All the British Columbia members upheld the statesmanlike policy of the Government, and the dignity and honor of the country.

Mr. Borden's resolution was in effect a condemnation of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, and offered an affront to Japan, as it implied that no confidence could be placed in the assurances of the Tokyo Government. Its adoption by the House would have lost Canada the goodwill of the most powerful nation in the Orient, and the commercial advantages we enjoy under the Anglo-Japanese convention. In addition, it would have seriously embarrassed the British Government. The leader of the Opposition has disappointed his admirers by his treatment of this problem from its outset, and this latest exhibition of reckless irresponsibility must cause many of them to question his fitness for his present position. He has shown the temper of the demagogue, not the statesman.

Following Mr. Lemieux's statement in the House came a chorus of approval and assent, in which many Conservative journals joined, realizing that they had been duped by the dispatches of an American news agency. The leading Conservative newspaper on the Pacific coast, the Victoria Colonist, which is strongly opposed to Oriental immigration, shared in these expressions of satisfaction. The edition of Jan. 23, just to hand, congratulates Mr. Lemieux upon the manner in which he conducted the negotiations. "Early in the discussion," says the Colonist, "we pointed out that Japan was as much bound to respect the feelings of the people of British Columbia as the Canadian Government was bound to respect the feelings of the people of Japan. For this reason and others, to which we have given expression, we have on repeated occasions pointed out that Mr. Lemieux was very likely to accomplish just what he has accomplished." The Colonist adds that temporarily the question of Oriental immigration, as far as it applies to Japan, has been disposed of, and it is now timely to consider the whole question as it applies to the subjects of other nations and our own fellow-subjects in India.

A section of the Conservative press has shown a more praiseworthy and patriotic spirit than the Conservative leader.

## THE UNREST IN PORTUGAL.

The recent announcement of the frustration of a conspiracy at Lisbon is evidence that the assurances of the Government of Portugal that complete tranquility prevails in that country, are not to be relied on. The plot appears to have been aimed primarily at the premier, Senhor Franco, and its ultimate object the overthrow of the monarchy. The course pursued by King Carlos I. and Premier Franco in refusing to reassemble parliament, is proving a dangerous one, for practically the entire politically organized forces of the kingdom seem to be arrayed against them. Their ultimate aims differ, but all are united against the dictatorship. It is presumed that the king and his prime minister are trying to gain time in which to organize a political force of their own that will insure for them a majority in parliament. However the prompt suppression of the conspiracy, with the arrest of two scores of the leaders, shows that the military and police are still submissive. None of those who confine themselves to constitutional agitation appear to have been implicated, but their leaders declare that the peacefulness of the country is superficial and that the masses of the people are so aroused as to make possible a serious outbreak at any moment.

There was much force in the original excuse for the suspension of constitutional government, namely, that a widespread party corruption made it impossible to govern for the real welfare of the country. The various political parties have by this time been taught a severe lesson, which they will take to heart. The reported discovery

of another plot for an organized outbreak timed to take place in Oporto on Friday next shows the widespread nature of the agitation. Possibly, if King Carlos would now show a disposition to yield to popular demands, it might be the means of averting anarchy and bloodshed. Should there be further delay he might find it too late for reconciliation.

## TOO REALISTIC.

[Exchange.]  
Sutor—You certainly told me to embrace my opportunity.  
Papa—Well, but I didn't tell you to embrace my daughter.  
Sutor—No; but to embrace your daughter is a privilege.

## HOPE BEYOND.

[Exchange.]  
A physician at a popular health resort was looking over his books one day, comparing his list of patients. "I had a great many more patients last year than I have this," he remarked to his wife. "I wonder where they have all gone to."  
"Well, my kind dear," she replied, "you know all we can do is to hope for the best."

## OUGHT TO BE RAPED.

[Philadelphia Press.]  
"Ah," exclaimed Rimer's friend, "you never saw him in the throes of poetical composition. Such expression! He is rapt."  
"He ought to be raped," snorted the critic.

## EASILY REPLACED.

[Chicago News.]  
"George," said the bride of a year, "you have broken every one of the good resolutions you made during our courtship."  
"Well, don't be a little thing like that worry you, dear," replied her husband. "I can make other just as good."

## THE POET'S PERIL.

[Philadelphia Record.]  
"The only thing I lack," said the would-be poet, "is the power of expression. There's poetry in me, and I mean to bring it out before I die."  
"Yes," replied the cynical critic, "maybe it'll kill you before you get it out of your system."

## THE PRIVILEGE OF AGE.

[Ladies' Field.]  
One of the few advantages of increasing years lies in the consciousness that we shall one day be able to give advice instead of receiving it. No one would dare advise a man of fifty, unless it might be his wife, in which case he would not listen to her, while a person who would think of advising a woman of forty does not exist.

## A MAIDEN'S LAMENT.

[S. E. Kiser.]  
I know that I've a pretty mouth, my cheeks are dimpled, too;  
I have a splendidly big eye, and I wear a very tiny shoe.  
My eyes are splendid and I own a pair of ruby lips;  
But how am I expected to charm, since I, alas, have hips?

My hair is plentiful and soft, my shapely ears are small;  
My voice—ah, well, men tell me that it isn't bad at all;  
I have a splendidly big eye, and I wear a very tiny shoe.  
My eyes are splendid and I own a pair of ruby lips;  
But how am I expected to charm, since I, alas, have hips?

I have a graceful nose, and need not fear to show my neck;  
My fine complexion is not marred by any mole or speck;  
I am as light upon my feet as any fawn that skips.  
But for a season I must sit in gloom, for I have hips.

## UNDESERVING.

[Yale Record.]  
Flunkers—But I don't think I deserve an absolute zero.  
Professor—No, sir; neither do I. But it is the lowest mark I am allowed to give. Good-day.

## A DIFFERENCE.

[Chicago News.]  
"Oh, any fool can tell what he knows," sneered the very young man.  
"Yes," rejoined the venerable Sage of Sagville, "but it takes a wise man to conceal what he doesn't know."

## AN AVAILABLE SPEAKER.

[Philadelphia Press.]  
"Well, well," growled the first man at the banquet, "why did they call on that man for a speech? He doesn't know how to talk."  
"No," replied the other, "but then he doesn't know what he's talking about, anyway, so there's no harm done."

## NEARLY THROUGH.

[Everybody's Magazine.]  
A stranger entered a church in the middle of the sermon, and seated himself in the back pew. After a while he began to fidget. Leaning over to the white-haired man at his side, evidently an old member of the congregation, he whispered:  
"How long has he been preaching?"  
"Thirty or forty years, I think," the old man answered. "I don't know exactly."  
"I'll stay," then, decided the stranger. "He must be nearly done."

## DOUBLY HANDICAPPED.

[Yonkers Statesman.]  
Bacon—Nobody could read my writing, so I bought a typewriter.  
Egbert—Now I suppose nobody can read your spelling.

## NOT YET BANKRUPT.

[Toronto Mail and Empire.]  
A few days ago, in England, 22 football matches were played in connection with the Association cup ties, and it is estimated that half a million people saw them, paying \$100,000 for the privilege. England may be hard up, but she always seems to have money enough to see football games, enter Limerick contests, and have a small bet on the spring handicap.

## FOXY HUMILITY.

[Washington Star.]  
"Why don't you go to work?"  
"Work?" rejoined Meandering Mike. "I look at the hands of my poor fellows that is lookin' for work an' feelin' miserable without it. Now work ain't necessary to me, an' I ain't goin' to butt in an' reach for it myself, but I'll take of havin' something to brag about."

## THE GREAT DRESSMAKER.

[Tit-Bits.]  
Perhaps the most interesting fact concerning M. Paquin, the famous modiste who died the other day, is that he started in life as a bank clerk. It was his marriage to a saleswoman in one of the big dressmaking houses of Paris which led him to leave the bank, and with a very meager capital, open a small costumeur's shop known as Maison de Laine. The shop has long ceased to exist, but from it sprang the huge business house of Paquin, which in 1896 the founder sold to a company with a capital of about \$2,500,000. Shortly afterward he was decorated with the Legion of Honor. M. Paquin was only 45 years old when he died, and his huge business was built up in twenty years. While other famous

## What the Clergyman Said

Hanover, Ont.—No other class of men have the opportunity to do as much good, and be such helpful influences as the clergy. Not only in their sermons, but in their daily life, they can teach us the better way of living. The example of the Rev. Mr. Brand, of Hanover, is one to be followed in every home in Canada. Owing to the arduous duties, incident to his parish, the reverend gentleman suffered severely with liver trouble accompanied with constipation and indigestion. But he quickly found relief, and in a letter, thus how, "I can say I like 'Fruit-a-tives' very much, as I am troubled with liver trouble—and shall continue to use them."

"Fruit-a-tives" are made of fruit juices and valuable tonics—and form a delicious combination for the treatment of Biliousness, Constipation, Headache and all Stomach, Bowel, Kidney and Skin Troubles. 50c a box.

French costumiers let the Englishwomen come to them, M. Paquin opened an establishment in Hanover Square, with a stage on which regularly enacted a miniature performance. Society ladies sat around sipping tea, and gossiping, while across the stage glided M. Paquin's assistants, robed in enthralling creations of the dressmaker's art.

## MAN AFTER WOMAN'S PLACE.

[New York Sun.]  
Woman has invaded nearly every line of business, and business men, but it seldom occurs that the male will think it worth while to steal a poor housemaid's financial stringency, perhaps, the forced one person for his active and manhood as to apply for general housework. The following advertisement appeared in a morning paper:  
"Young man wants place for general housework; first-class cook, bread, cake; sleep out."

## BENEFICIAL TO THE OTHER.

[Puck.]  
Finnerty (who takes a drop)—I see that man in thin scientific gents says an animal spine is bifidical for some time.  
Mrs. Finnerty—Truth, it is. I never yet saw a saloonkeeper that didn't wear fine clothes an' a dimmit ring or two.

## A COMING MAN.

[Hamilton Times.]  
Hon. Mr. Lemieux, our postmaster-general, is receiving many honors and compliments these days, and if ever there was a coming man, he is. He is generally mentioned in connection with the following resolution was adopted with acclamation, ordered to be engrossed and forwarded to Canada:  
"That the colonial postage reform committee tends its grateful thanks to the postmaster-general of Canada (the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux), for his active and practical co-operation in securing the large reduction of postal rates on British publications sent to Canada, and expresses its conviction that the concessions made—as he fittingly puts it—in the direction of 'intellectual preference,' will prove to be of immense benefit to both countries."

## POLICY BLOCKS TIMES' SALE

Free Trade Stockholders Are Loth To See Paper Go To Opposition.

London, Jan. 29.—It looks as if there would be trouble over the transfer of the London Times to C. Arthur Pearson and other leaders of the protective tariff movement in England who have been trying to purchase it. Some of the free-trade stockholders are objecting to the sale and threaten to take the matter into court. The details of the controversy have not been disclosed, but if the objectors succeed in taking the matter into court some interesting disclosures are likely to be made concerning the management and the ownership of the greatest of all newspapers.

The London Times is composed of two entities—two distinct corporations—a wheel within a wheel, as it is the case with many railroads and other great enterprises. When a railway is about to be built the promoters often form a distinct company for construction purposes, both being owned and controlled by same men, who, acting for the railway company, make contracts with the promoters of the railway construction company, and make the profit. It is customary also for directors and stockholders of railway companies to organize subsidiary companies to handle freight, and they make contracts with the parent company, represented by themselves, to give special and profitable privileges to themselves as the representatives of a distinct corporation owning a certain number of freight cars. But it does not seem that two corporations, one owning the paper and the other owning the Times were formed with any such purpose in mind, although I never heard the reasons explained. The present arrangement, which has existed for more than half a century, is, however, unique.

One company owns the Times building, in Printing House Square, and all other real estate and tangible property, including the presses, the linotype machines and everything belonging to the mechanical department of the paper. The other company owns the goodwill, the subscription list and the advertising contracts. It employs, controls and pays the editors, reporters, correspondents, advertising clerks, circulation agents and all persons connected with the editorial, circulating and advertising departments. This company has a contract, extending over a term of years, which has been renewed several times, with the mechanical company for the printing of the paper, and the delivery of so many copies per day at a certain hour in the morning to the agents of the circulation department. For this service a certain price unknown to the public is paid. At the termination of such contract the editorial department of the Times would be at liberty to make a similar arrangement with any other mechanical company, or, on the other hand, the mechanical department could make a similar contract with any other newspaper publisher. And it may come to that before the litigation is over.

The stock of the mechanical company is all owned by the descendants of Mr. Walter, the founder of the paper, and they may be considered preferred stockholders, or preferred creditors, of the company, because the printing bills must be paid first, and whatever is left of the earnings of the paper may be used to meet the payroll and the residue to be distributed as dividends among the stockholders of the publication company. It is generally understood in London that the Walter family has lost control of that company; that Arthur Walter, a grandson of the founder, and the present head of the family, has been compelled from time to time to borrow money upon his stock and to sell shares to raise funds to meet the annual deficits in the earnings. As was stated in a letter several days ago, the circulation and the advertising patronage of the Times have fallen off very seriously during the last fifteen or twenty years for various reasons: first, because of its high price, which is 6 cents a copy, while its rivals are selling for 1 and 2 cents; second, because public confidence in the infallibility of the paper has been shaken; third, because of changes in its political policy, which have offended a large portion of the nobility, the aristocracy and the upper classes, upon which it has depended for patronage, and fourth because of recent enterprises in which the publishers of the Times have been involved in such a manner as to antagonize many of its most important supporters.

The reduction of its circulation, which is asserted to be less than 30,000, has, of course, naturally impaired its value as an advertising medium, and the nobility, aristocracy and wealthier classes of the population, who alone are willing to pay 6 cents for a newspaper, are not reached by advertising, financial matters, legal notices, real estate investments, musical and theatrical announcements, etc. The middle and lower classes, as they are defined in England, have no use for the Times, either as an advertising medium or for its news. Although it has the best staff of correspondents of any newspaper in the world, who are stationed at every important news center, the Times is accurate account of every important event of public interest, it never deals with sensations, or gossip, or the personalities which are so much craved by the general reading public. The greater part of its columns are filled with verbatim reports of public meetings, and the proceedings of both Houses of Parliament.

According to common rumor the earnings of the Times have fallen off so much in past years that Mr. Walter has been compelled to sell stock in the publication company to pay running expenses, and the shares are scattered pretty widely among financial people about London. Many of these shareholders are opposed to "fiscal reform," as the proposition to introduce a protective tariff into Great Britain is called. While the Times has not been unfriendly to Mr. Chamberlain's tariff ideas, the free trade element will not permit that great paper to fall into the hands of the "protectionist party" without a struggle, and Mr. Pearson and his associates, who are managing the tariff movement, seek to acquire the ownership of the paper for the influence it can exert in that direction.

Mr. Pearson is a very modern man; his methods are all progressive. If he gets control of the Times he will certainly abandon its unprofitable features and try to restore its financial prosperity. He will also endeavor to reconcile the book publishers, who have been among the most profitable advertising patrons of the paper ever since it was started, but have recently boycotted it, and have thus cut off its revenue several thousand pounds a month, because of its invasion on their legitimate field.

Our anniversary sale starts Saturday.

CHAPMAN'S

Our anniversary sale starts Saturday.

## FRIDAY BEFORE INVENTORY

We have very carefully cleaned out our stocks in all the various lines and assembled them for quick selling tomorrow. In many instances lots are too small to advertise, but they constitute good bargains and are secured by first comers.

MEN WHO FIGURE CLOSE WILL FIND WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR IN OUR MID-WINTER

## Clothing Sale

Because every overcoat and suit in this sale belongs to our regular stock and bears the label of the leading makers of finest clothing—because every garment is worth its regular price—because the styles are the very newest and most up-to-date. These are genuine reasons why the purchasing of a suit or overcoat at this time is a sterling investment. Almost every line is discounted in price. Here are two as examples:

\$16.50 OVERCOATS, \$11.95

Men's and Young Men's Black Beaver, Melton, Kersey and Cheviot Overcoats, 48 and 50 inches long, perfectly tailored, full hanging garments, vents in back, silk velvet collars. Sizes 34 to 44. Midwinter sale price .....\$11.95

MEN'S \$8.50 SUITS, \$5.95

Men's and Young Men's Single-Breasted Sack Suits, made of all wool tweeds in dark colors and desirable patterns, well lined and tailored with extreme care, splendid value at \$5.95. Midwinter sale price .....\$5.95

## Friday, Women's Coat Clearance

Ladies' Black Eskimo Cloth Coats, 3/4-length, body lined, broad shouldered effects, full backs Regular \$10 and \$12 50. Clearance price .....\$5 00	Ladies' Fancy Tweed Coats, in dark and medium colors, full back, neatly trimmed, with self-trappings, full sleeves. Regular \$8 50. Clearance price .....\$4 25	Ladies' Three-quarter Length Fancy Tweed Coats, fashionable colors and nobby styles, trimmed with self applique. Choice of many styles. Regular \$12 50. Clearance price .....\$6 25
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J. H. CHAPMAN & CO., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.

## CHLOROFORM FROM OSLER

Friends of Scientist Receive Suggestive Presents on 60th Birthday.

Albion, Mich., Jan. 29.—Dr. William Osler, the noted scientist now connected with Oxford University, who was credited with the statement that men over 60 years old were useless cumberers of the ground, and ought to be removed, has sent to each of two old friends here a bottle of chloroform to help them celebrate their 60th birthday tomorrow. The recipients of the suggestive presents are Delos Fall, professor of Albion College and delegate to the constitutional convention, and his twin brother, Dr. Witt Fall, of Jackson.

## TOWNSHIP COUNCILS

Lobo.  
Lobo Council met Jan. 13 and 25. The following members were present and qualified in the usual way: Thomas G. Turnbull, reeve; Hiram W. Harris, deputy reeve; Herbert D. Steele, James McNair and Andrew Ferguson, councillors.

The salaries of the municipal officers of the township of Lobo for the year 1908 were agreed to as follows: Clerk, \$250; assessor, \$80; collector, \$80; treasurer, \$110; janitor, \$18; members of council, \$2 per day; members of local board of health, \$1 for each meeting; auditors, \$2 per day.

The following municipal officers were appointed: C. R. Barclay, clerk; David H. Sells, assessor; Elwood M. Zavitz, collector; Samuel Clare, janitor; I. N. Gray and Colin Johnson, auditors; Dr. G. L. Graham, member of local board of health.

The following commissioners were appointed for the several polling subdivisions: Division No. 1, H. D. Steele; division No. 2, Thomas G. Turnbull; division No. 3, Hiram W. Harris; division No. 4, Andrew Ferguson; division No. 5, James McNair.

Bylaws Nos. 494 and 495, confirming the above appointments and fixing the salaries, were passed, and the treasurer's bond was considered and referred to the auditors.

Moved by James McNair, seconded by Andrew Ferguson, That this council comply with request of the Ontario Municipal Association by petitioning the Legislature to repeal section 606 of the municipal act, and thereby relieve municipalities from a portion of their present heavy responsibility for the non-repair of highways, and that C. H. Hodgins, our representative on the House, be requested to present the petition and support the bill when it comes up for consideration. Carried.

The following checks were issued: Alex. Graham, deputy returning officer, \$3; Peter A. McIntyre, D. R. O., \$3; Wilfred E. Harris, D. R. O., \$3; Peter Mitchell, D. R. O., \$3; A. F. Barclay, D. R. O., \$3; Caradoc Township, \$20 25, balance Lobo Township's share of work on town line; Dan McIntyre, \$1, road repair; \$1; Duncan D. Campbell, \$25, being two-thirds value of damages for one sheep killed, and three sheep worried by dogs; the Municipal World, \$5 75, for seven copies; Elwood Zavitz, collector, \$2, dog tax relieved; Alf. Wilson, \$1 50, half cost of cutting trees on town line; Elwood M. Zavitz, \$80, salary for collecting taxes of 1907; Ed. Marsh, 25 cents for putting rings in fence around town hall yard; R. S. Douglas, \$5, for two cords of wood for town hall.

Council adjourned to meet Feb. 10 at 11 a.m.

E. R. BARCLAY, Clerk.

## THE OLD TRICKS.

Montreal, Jan. 29.—George Pigeon, who recently came out of St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary, after serving five years, goes back for about the same period, having been caught by the police at his old tricks. On seven counts of robbery, forgery and a few other crimes he got nine months for each.

## HARD WINTER IN THE WILDS

Stories of Great Hardship Reported From Amongst the Indians.

Edmonton, Alta., Jan. 29.—Already stories of terrible suffering among the northern Indians are being received here, and before many days the real facts concerning the hardest winter ever experienced in northern Canada will be told.

Fur-bearing animals of all description have been exceptionally scarce for several months, and even the rabbits, practically the last resort for food in severe wintering times, have become scarce.

Wolves, to add to the difficulties, have suffered by the scarcity of the smaller animals, and consequently have become ravenous during the last few weeks, being ready to attack practically anything alive that they chance to see. Sheep and even cattle and horses have been attacked by wandering bands of wolves determined to devour the first living animal in sight, and several instances have been reported where wolves have devoured the bodies of men frozen to death. Communication from the far north is not at its best now owing to the lack of trappers arriving in the city with their winter's catch, but as soon as these men begin to arrive tales of privation and suffering will be more common than for many years past.

## SUSPECT PLOT TO KILL

Essex Authorities Investigate Death Trap on Trolley Line.

Essex, Jan. 29.—After a thorough investigation the authorities here have come to the conclusion that what at first appeared to be an attempt to wreck the special car running from Kingsville to Windsor last Thursday night, was in fact a plot to kill.

One end of a heavy fence rail was inserted under a catwalk, the other end being elevated by means of two other rails on each side, so that it would strike the car just below the windows of the vestibule. The obstruction was set just around the point of a curve, but this very fact was what saved the motorman, for while the car was approaching the bend the light of the headlights shone across the fields and full on the side of the trap, giving the motorman time to stop the car. Had it been placed on a stretch of straight track the chances of the light revealing it would have been very much lessened. The county authorities have no clue to the plotters.

## MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE.

Montreal, Jan. 29.—The result of balloting for members of the council of the board of trade was announced today. All the other officers, T. J. Drummond, president; F. Robertson, vice-president; G. L. Cairns, second vice-president, and J. R. Blinman, treasurer, having been elected by acclamation. The names of the new council are: Wm. Agnew, A. A. Ayer, J. H. Burland, J. S. N. Dougal, Wm. Hanson, D. C. MacArthur, J. R. Kinghorn, J. P. Mullarky, Alex. McLaughlin, Alex. Orsini, R. Wilson, Reford, Norman Wright.

