



SCENE IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER—MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND OFFICIALS.

JAS. KENDON, G. S. KIRD, F. C. MACKLEAN, SODGROVE, THOM. BEASLEY (CLERK), C. K. DOWDALL, CHAS. SMITH (MAYOR), E. E. WILKINS, FREDERICK  
 B. C. PETERSON, G. S. FRASER, ALEX. DENNY, MAYOR J. S. HENDER, (MAYOR), W. J. MORRIS, WM. NICHOLSON, W. T. EVANS, ROBT. ROBERTS,  
 JAS. DUNLOP, J. G. V. BURROUGHS, D. THOMPSON, S. D. BROAD, WM. BIDDLE, F. R. WARDLE, F. E. WALKER, W. J. McFADDEN, H. S. WALLACE.

## THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Hamilton Board of Trade was organized in the year 1845, with a membership of 37 representative men of the young community as charter members, and has played a very important part in the growth of the "ambitious and stirring little city," as it was then no doubt rightly called. The membership roll for the year 1908 contains the names of 161 merchants, manufacturers and men of affairs, who make the prosperity of the city—because it is their own—their chief concern.

The election of officers at the annual meeting in July last made very little change in the constitution of the Board. John A. Bruce was raised to the position of president, after having served very acceptably as vice-president, and F. C. Fearman was chosen to succeed him in the latter office. The council, board of arbitration, board of examiners and auditors and the several committees on transportation, insolvency, fire insurance and treasury matters were all practically re-elected, with some additions. Chas. Stitt, who has long and faithfully served the Board as secretary-treasurer, continues in that responsible position.

The council has given a great deal of attention to the subject of taxation, as it more particularly affects the merchant and manufacturer, and changes are in contemplation that are expected to prove of great benefit to the community. Railway rates and facilities have been given careful consideration, especially regarding questions of discrimination, in which the Board has been uniformly successful in securing a proper recognition of the rights of the traders of this city. The Board was incorporated in the year 1864 during the presidency of the Hon. Isaac Buchanan, while Daniel MacNab was vice-president and Hugh C. Baker secretary-treasurer.

## EDUCATION AND SOCIETY.

There are 21 common schools in the city, giving employment to 179 teachers. The attendance averages about 9,000. Some of the school buildings are models of comfort and convenience. The Board of Education is elected by the people and the system of instruction is perfect. Pupils can pass to the Collegiate Institute and take the first year of the university course. There is also a Normal School, School of Pedagogy and five Roman Catholic separate schools, attended by 2,000 pupils.

An excellent public library, containing upwards of 30,000 volumes, has been provided for the free use of the public and is housed in an elegant building on Main street.

There are two public hospitals in Hamilton, the General Hospital, which is maintained by the city, and the St. Joseph's Hospital, which is under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Both receive aid from the Ontario Government. The city also maintains a House of Refuge, where the old and infirm are provided for.

Brick buildings predominate throughout the city, even for the dwellings of the poorest of the people. The City Hall, the Court House, the Bank of Hamilton, the Federal Life and other public buildings, as well as some of the best private dwellings, are built of stone and the whole atmosphere is pervaded by the appearance of substantial prosperity. In its severest aspect, poverty is practically unknown. The people are generally well dressed—better than in many much larger places—and crime is almost confined to the occasional disturbances and petty offences of tramps and tipplers, and they are rare indeed.

Electric light and power is furnished by the Hamilton Electric Light & Cataract Power Co. Illuminating gas is supplied by the Hamilton Gas Light Co. and under the city by-laws, gas must be furnished to those who require it for heating purposes at a reduced rate.

There are numerous churches devoted to the services of all denominations in different parts of the city. There are also many private educational and philanthropic institutions and the various secret societies are well represented.

The St. Andrew's Society takes the lead among the benevolent organizations in Hamilton. It is a very strong body with 250 members. The officers are: John Kenrick, hon. president; P. D. Cregar, president; D. McEduards, secretary; Geo. McKeand, treasurer.

The St. George's society also does very good work. The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., for 1907 will be held in Hamilton. There are fourteen lodges in this district.

## MILITARY MATTERS.

The Thirtieth Regiment and its famous band have long been the boast and pride of Hamilton people. Under Lieut. Col. the Hon. J. M. Gibson, A.D.C., and his staff officers, the Thirtieth was raised to a state of efficiency equal to the finest regiment of the line. Col. Gibson was succeeded by Lieut. Col. Moore, who resigned after two years' service, and Lieut. Col. (then Major) Henry McLaren was given the command. An army medical corps has been established with Dr. Rennie in command. Bandmaster George Robinson has directed the band for upwards of twenty years and brought honor to the city by the performances given throughout Canada and the United States.

The Fourth Field Battery, Major J. S. Hendrie, Mayor of Hamilton, commanding, is a splendid artillery corps. It furnished 36 men to "C" battery, R. C. A., for service in South Africa, and last year won the Governor General's prize for efficiency.

## THE ELECTRIC ERA.

It is no longer ago than the year 1858 that a factious scribe called Hamilton "the ambitious and stirring little city." As another writer remarked, her enviers missed out the "stirring" and she is not now "little." Much has been done to realize Hamilton's ambitions and with her extraordinary growth she is entitled to change her name and be known as the Electric City. Saturday, Nov. 12, 1898, marked a new epoch in the history of Hamilton, for it was on that day that the plant of the Cataract Power Co. was formally opened and brought the power of the water that was



HAMILTON JOCKEY CLUB.