

ONTARIO'S NEW TAXES

Liquor Men and the Telegraph Companies Have Made an Effective Kick.

Levies on them Reduced at Expense of Insurance and Industrial Concerns.

Special To The Colonist. Toronto, March 9.—The bill to supplement the revenues and the one relating to the license of breweries, distilleries and other industries, have undergone great changes since introduced in the legislature a week ago by Treasurer Hartcourt.

The government has been interviewed daily by representatives of all the institutions upon which the tax was to be levied. The result of these interviews has been a complete remodelling of the measures. Changes are made in nearly all the taxes levied.

An exception in the tax on life companies, which remains as before. All other insurance companies have to pay two-thirds of 1 per cent on premiums in Ontario. These companies were by the original bill taxed at one-half of 1 per cent.

Mutual fire insurance companies, which receive premiums in cash, by the new arrangement will be required to pay a tax on new business. The loan companies are to be taxed in the same manner as the case of concerns with a large capital.

The railway tax is reduced from \$15 to \$5 per mile, but not alone in cities, as at first proposed. The tax on telegraph companies is cut down.

The following is in new clause: "Every gas company and every electric light company in any city in the province shall pay one-tenth of 1 per cent on its paid-up capital, but this shall not apply to any gas or electric works owned by a municipality and operated for the purposes of the municipality."

The tax on express companies is cut from \$2,500 to \$2,000. Some relief has been given to liquor men, in response to their representations. Toronto hotel men have to pay \$100 increase, instead of \$150, as proposed at first.

In Hamilton and Ottawa the license fee has been reduced from \$250 to \$225. In cities from 20,000 to 10,000 population \$180 must be paid, and not \$200, while in other places the new rate has been reduced from \$150 to \$130.

All wholesalers have to pay an increased tax, and not alone in cities, as at first proposed. The tax on breweries is altered so as to produce more from concerns with big capital; the same with regard to distilleries.

On the whole the effect of the changes is to afford some relief to liquor men and make up for it by increased revenue from corporations.

TWO FIRES. Grain Warehouse and Contents at Gananoque—A Sorel Hotel.

Gananoque, Ont., March 9.—(Special)—A large warehouse at Gananoque, Ontario, owned by the Rathbun Company and containing about 25,000 bushels of grain, burned partly by George Taylor, M. P. of Gananoque, and partly by a fire in a saw, of Kingston, was burned early this morning.

Sorel, Que., March 9.—Fire was discovered in the Brunswick hotel building, and before it was extinguished caused a loss of \$75,000.

AN UNHAPPY MOTORMAN. Almost Sends His Car Into River at Chicoutimi and Makes the "Plunge Himself."

Chicago, March 9.—Fifty people narrowly escaped death to-night in an accident to a Halsted street electric car on North Halsted street bridge.

The motorman, who failed to notice that the bridge was open, when within a few feet of the bridge he suddenly discovered the danger and put on the brakes, at the same time endeavoring to reverse the electric current.

In spite of his efforts the front part of the car ran down upon the abutments of the bridge and hung there. One foot further and it would have plunged into the river and the loss of life must have been frightful.

The motorman, thinking that the car was doomed, warned the passengers and then jumped into the river. The tipping of the car on the abutment, accompanied by the motorman's warning, caused a panic among the passengers, and they made a wild dash for the doors.

During the rush for safety four of the passengers were injured.

The motorman, after jumping into the river, managed to clutch some piles and kept his head above water until he was dragged out.

BLACKMAILED THE GOULDS. Mrs. Cody Found Guilty With Recommendation to Mercy.

Albany, N. Y., March 9.—After being out eight hours the jury brought in a verdict of guilty to-night in the case of Margaret A. Cody, who has been on trial here since last Thursday charged with blackmailing George and Helen Gould.

A recommendation to mercy was made. The court will convene at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, when the usual motion will be heard and sentence will be passed. It is likely that Mrs. Cody will receive a light penalty owing to her age. The jury held seven times before agreeing the first ballot standing: Guilty, 8; Not Guilty, 3.

MR. TART'S CHICKENS. Demand for the Public Works for Which West Huron Elected a Liberal.

Godsich, March 9.—(Special)—A petition signed by over 70 millers of Western Ontario has been forwarded to Ernest Heaton, secretary of the Godolphin citizens' committee, to be presented by him to the government at Ottawa, praying that heather at Godolphin be deepened as quickly as possible to the extent sufficient to admit the largest grain vessels now trading on the upper lakes.

MR. DEANE TURNED DOWN.

Kamloops Board of Trade Decline to Make Use of His Talents.

Kamloops, March 9.—(Special)—At a meeting of the board of trade last night, Mr. F. J. Deane again tried to get himself elected on the council. This gentleman has been trying for some time past to get every institution in the town into his power and in several instances has succeeded.

Out of 19 candidates voted upon by the board, he was last but three in the ballot, getting only 12 out of 30.

ENTOMBED IN A MINE. Two Men Caught Four Hundred Feet Below Surface, but Hope of Rescue.

Leadville, Col., March 9.—A cave-in today in the floor of the new mine at the foot of the Downtown group, entombed Charles Bruss and Bert Frye, miners, in a drift 400 feet below the surface.

The entombed men have signalled the last meeting of the hospital. The people are beginning to get tired of this, however, and now Mr. Deane has been turned down. Out of 19 candidates voted upon by the board, he was last but three in the ballot, getting only 12 out of 30.

HOPE FOR GASPESTIA. Leak Stopped and Steamer May Yet Be Saved From the Ice.

Halifax, March 9.—(Special)—A relief party reached the Gaspe today. The steamer is jammed in the ice, but the leak has been stopped, and it is hoped she will be saved.

CONVICTS MUTINY. Madrid, March 9.—In a conflict today between the Spanish soldiers and a number of mutinous convicts at Santona, 16 miles east of Santander, the site of an important arsenal and several military magazines, one convict was killed and several wounded.

ROCK FALLS ON VILLAGE. Madrid, March 9.—A vast quantity of rock overhanging the village of Becuerin near Albacete, in the province of that name, fell today, destroying many houses and killing 11 people.

A BAD FAILURE. Toronto, March 9.—It is given out semi-officially that the Toronto Financial corporation, which is in liquidation, will pay only about 15 cents on the dollar.

The liabilities are about \$80,000, due principally to depositors and debenture holders.

B. C. AT THE BIG FAIR

Conservation of Space the Great Essential in the Arrangement of Exhibits.

Why B. C. should Command Half of the Dominion's Section of Mines a Mining.

Among the passengers for the East from Vancouver yesterday was Mr. S. D. Scott, one of the commissioners having in hand the preparation of a representative exhibit from Canada at the World's Exposition in Paris during 1909.

Mr. Scott has been in Victoria for a week or more in conference with the government as to British Columbia's representation and all that can be done to ensure that it will be worthy of the splendid resources and bright future of this western province.

Yet to do this the conservation of the proper representation of British Columbia, at the great fair is the inadequacy of the space available.

The space is asked to prepare a collection of exhibits, purely provincial in character, and which shall appropriately represent the mining, farming, stock and agricultural interests, as well as the educational system of British Columbia.

Yet to do this the province may have its fair proportion of space in the 350,000 square feet allotted to Canada as a whole.

The 350,000 square feet of the Paris exposition have adopted a decidedly reverse principle to that of the Chicago fair promoters in their selection of grounds.

Mr. Jones' and Mr. Port's contention was that Mr. Jones was not a duly appointed stenographer and that he was not called upon to deliver the transcript until he was paid by the government.

In the Bank of Montreal v. Williamson, an action arising out of adverse claims to two steam launches, which were on board the steamer Mananans, judgment was given in favour of the plaintiff raised by Mr. Wilson, who appeared for the bank as to whether the defendants had filed their appeal in time.

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There are only two on the list now outside of the Bank of Montreal v. Williamson, which stands over for decision on the appeal.

The two cases are Falconer v. Langley and Alexander v. Heath.

DIED IN HIS CARRIAGE. While Driving to Town Yesterday Afternoon Mr. A. D. Fuller Died Very Suddenly.

Alfred Dickson Fuller, an old gentleman who has resided in Victoria for the past sixteen years, died very suddenly at his residence on Cadboro Bay road, as was his habit when the weather was fine, Mr. Fuller was driving his carriage to the city in the afternoon.

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GOT BY HIS BUSINESS

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Interest has been revived in the Committee of Fifty, just half of the members being in attendance at the meeting at the City hall last evening, when communications and reports were discussed and disposed of.

Those present were: Mayor Redfern in the chair; Mr. G. H. Barnard, secretary; Messrs. W. H. Bone, H. D. Heinen, M. P. P., Nash Shakespeare, H. M. Graham, A. J. Dallon, George Powell, Walter Morris, John Taylor, D. E. Kerr, A. D. Stewart, Wm. Marchant, T. W. Patterson, H. A. Munn, R. L. Druy, Gordon Hunter, Wm. McKay, Ald. Brydon, E. Pearson, W. H. Langley, Simon Leiser, Charles Todd, W. J. Pendry, B. Seabrook, Ald. Humphrey, Ald. MacGregor, W. L. Charlton, Mr. Isaac C. Atkinson, of the Port Angeles & Eastern railway, wrote as follows, the letter being referred to the railway committee:

Port Angeles, Wash., Feb. 23, 1909. Hon. C. W. Redfern, Mayor of Victoria: Dear Sir.—We understand that a proposition was made by Mr. Lehman, who is connected with the Port Angeles Eastern railway, for the Victoria connection with the road, which we very much regret. At that time, certainly, there was no data in this office upon which a proposition of any kind could be based, and a writing we are ignorant of the wants or desires of people in the matter. Therefore we would suggest that you call a meeting of your citizens or place the matter before your board of trade, inviting representatives of the road to be present, when the matter could be placed in a position to submit some plan for our mutual interests.

Yours, Isaac C. Atkinson.

The letter was received and filed. It was read by Mr. G. H. Barnard, secretary, and carried; that should a member of this committee absent himself from the meeting, it would be the duty of the committee to place the matter before the board of trade.

The report of the committee on the consolidation of the debt and the reduction of the city's rate was taken up and discussed at length by the committee.

Mayor Redfern did not think that anything would be gained by the consolidation of the debt.

There was a long discussion on the advisability of investing the sinking funds in city securities, some claiming that a sinking fund should be effected and others that nothing would be gained. There is no doubt that the credit of the sinking fund account in the Bank of British North America, drawing a per cent. It was proposed to invest the sinking fund in the City's 5 per cent debentures.

It was moved by Mr. Bonouf, seconded by Mr. Morris, and carried, that the question of whether any advantage would result to the city by the purchase of 5 per cent debentures, with the amount to be credited to the sinking fund account, be referred to the committee.

The reduction of the city limits was next taken up. Mr. Hunter asked if the committee had considered the question of the Indian reserve in proposing that the harbor be enlarged to the water boundary of the city. He pointed out that when the reserve was settled part of the reserve might be the city's property.

Mayor Redfern felt that the difficulties in the way of reducing the limits were insurmountable.

Mr. Munn said he did not think the committee wished to seriously suggest that the action be taken to reduce the limits. He did not think the people of Victoria would consent to give up the benefits they had derived by being taken into the city.

The clause suggesting that the boundaries be reduced was struck out.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the action be taken to reduce the limits.

The committee on the question of taxing streets and bridges was next taken up.

Mayor Redfern announced that owing to the failure of an amendment proposed by an oversight on the part of the Attorney-General to the local improvement viases he was unable to do so.

The committee decided that the action should be of granite, and not of concrete. Mr. Seabrook suggested that the timber street paving be secured this year and be piled to season. It would last very much longer.

Ald. Humphrey said he hoped that the city would shortly have an engineer who had had experience in laying pavements. The question should be left to him.

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FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Changes in the Established Districts—A Suggested Programme of Meetings.

According to the amended act passed at the last session of the legislature the following districts have been sub-divided:

Victoria district now includes the electoral divisions of Metochin and North Victoria exclusive of Salt Spring Island; Metochin is created a separate district and includes the electoral division of Metochin; Surrey and Langley are divided and each municipality is created a separate district; Okanagan is sub-divided into three districts, called respectively Spallumcheen, Okanagan and Osoyoos; Spallumcheen including the municipality of Spallumcheen and all that portion of East Yale lying to the northward of the line which is known as the commonage, and Osoyoos all the remaining portion of East Yale. Kamloops now includes all that portion of North Yale lying to the northward and westward of a line drawn from the southeast corner of township 29, range 11, to the south of Chase creek; thence of a line northward to the northern boundary of North Yale; Salmon Arm is created a separate district and includes all the remaining portion of North Yale. The name of the Salt Spring Institute is changed to the "Islands Institute."

In conformity with the opinion expressed by the delegates of the Central Farmers' Institute at the recent meeting as to the best time for holding the regular spring meetings, the superintendent, Mr. J. R. Anderson, has suggested the following programme to the various institutes:

Monday, 15th May—Salt Spring Island. Tuesday, 16th May—Nanaimo. Wednesday, 17th May—Saanich and another point if desired. Friday, 19th May—Parksville. Saturday, 20th May—Alberni. Tuesday, 23rd May—Cowichan or Cobble Hill. Tuesday, 23rd May—Duncan. Friday, 26th May—Metochin. Thursday, 27th May—Surrey or Saanich. Tuesday, 30th May—Richmond (morning or afternoon). Tuesday, 30th May—Central Park (evening). Wednesday, 31st May—Port Hammond (morning or afternoon). Wednesday, 31st May—Honey (evening). Thursday, 1st June—Ladner. Friday, 2nd June—Surrey Centre. Saturday, 3rd June—Langley. Monday, 5th June—Abbotsford. Monday, 5th June—Another point, say Mr. Lehman. Thursday, 7th June—Chilliwack. Thursday, 7th June—Another point. Friday, 9th June—Agassiz. Monday, 12th June—Kelowna. Tuesday, 13th June—Verdon or vicinity. Wednesday, 14th June—Victoria. Wednesday, 14th June—Enderby. Friday, 16th June—Salmon Arm. Saturday, 17th June—Kamloops.

ROSSLAND FIRE.—At Rossland recently fire was discovered about noon in a store room in the south end of the Bellevue Hotel. The fire was caused by a cleaning and dye establishment, was extinguished in a few minutes and caused no damage.

KOOTENAY PLAY HOUSES.—J. B. Johnson & Co., of Rossland, have closed a deal with the Hon. Mr. Cort, the theatrical noble, for a ten years' lease of the theatre on the southeast corner of Columbia avenue and St. Paul street, upon which a \$10,000 opera house is to be erected. Mr. Johnson, the owners, now in England, have been called by Mr. Johnson for a confirmation of the deal. Mr. Johnson has gone up to London and will return to the coast in a few days. Mr. Cort is president of the Metropolitan Opera Company and has been engaged to engage the best travelling troupes in the world. Mr. Cort also has had wide experience in the business, and has been well pleased with Rossland as a show town.

MR. MOORE'S AUNT.—The Eastern papers have been amusing us lately with the accounts of a Mr. W. W. Moore, who was shot in Kamloops last night. The latest thing is that the lucky gentleman will endow a chair to the Kingston university. Kamloops has gone up a peg in its estimation at the bare suggestion that a lady has died here worth that amount. Being in Kamloops and where she lived is still in doubt.—Kamloops Standard.

ESCALET'S GAVE.—Miss K. Swanson, now proprietor of the Victoria Cafe at Rossland, has purchased the Kootenay Cafe of E. Escalet and takes charge at once. Escalet and his wife will go to Greenwood City.

A MONTREAL MAN Tells How Dods's Kidney Pills Cured Him of Dropsy.

Mr. Henri Lavigne, Versailles Street, Found a Cure in Dods's Kidney Pills After His Doctor had Failed to Help Him.

Montreal, March 10.—There are many persons in this great city who owe their lives to that famous medicine, Dods's Kidney Pills. There are hundreds who gladly acknowledge their debt in order that other sufferers may profit by their experience.

One of these kindly and generous citizens is Mr. Henri Lavigne, resident at No. 104 Versailles street. Mr. Lavigne tells his story in very simple but exceedingly forcible language. He tells briefly, too, but it loses none of its startling impressiveness on that account. Here it is: "I have been a great sufferer from dropsy and swelling, and I had consulted the best of doctors. Of this city, but he was unable to give me any relief, much less cure me."

"I read of several cases effected by Dods's Kidney Pills and decided to try the medicine for myself. I had used one half of its contents I was wonderfully relieved."

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