

The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XII

CHATHAM, ONT., SATURDAY, MARCH 14 1908

NO. 78

SPECIAL PURCHASE Fine Swiss Embroideries

ON SALE

To-Night and Monday AT ONE-HALF PRICE

48 pieces Swiss Embroideries and insertions came out way from a Montreal agent the other day, and we bought them at a price to offer them to you at one-half regular value.

There are 1818 yards in the lot, but they won't last long at the prices. Shop early, shop soon.

Swiss Embroideries, regular 6c. and 7c. values for 4c.

" " " 6c. and 7c. values for 3c.

" " " 8c. and 10c. values for 5c.

" " " 12c. and 14c. values for 7c.

A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT.

DRESS GOODS—

Exceptional showing of fine black dress goods, plain and fancy etamines, voiles and canvas cloth; fine cloth suitings; hopsack and basket weaves in fine and coarse effects; in fact everything that is desirable either for a tailor suit or a dressy gown.

All wool fine and coarse canvas cloths and etamines 44 to 48 in. wide, special values at a yard 75c, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

54-in. wide, all wool coarse effect, basket cloth, one of the noblest productions of the season, very special value at \$2.00.

DRESS GOODS—

42-in. wide, new, snow flake dress goods in excellent shades of brown, castor, green, navy, grey and black, flaked with white, very new and correct, very special value at a yard 50c.

56-in. wide, all pure wool Scotch imported knicker tweeds, in medium and light grey effects, the New York fad for tailor suits, guaranteed for wear, excellent value at a yard \$3.00.

Snow flaked etamines in every desirable shade for spring wear, all wool, 44 to 48 in. wide, special values at a yard \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

44-in. wide, all wool, satin cloths in every wanted shade, elegant bright finish and durable, special value at a yard \$2.00.

THOMAS STONE & SON.

WHEN

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Your House

You will find everything you need in Furniture and Carpets at H. McDonald & Co's. They make a specialty of Artistic Furniture and can provide their customers with all the newest designs produced in Canada.

Bedroom Suites \$10 to \$75

Iron Beds \$3.50 to \$20.

Extension Tables \$5 to \$25

Dining Chairs 35c. to \$5

Sideboards \$8.75 to \$69

China Cabinets \$12.50 to \$46.

Parlor Suites \$16.50 to \$90

Centre Tables \$1.25 to \$15.

H. McDONALD & CO'Y.

Sherwin Williams

PAINT.

50 Barrels just opened at Westman Bros.

We have special paint for Outside House Painting, Inside House Painting, Floor Paint, Floor Finish, Varnish, Stains, Enamels, Buggy and Implement Paints.

PURE WHITE LEAD.

PURE LINSEED OIL.

ALL AT RIGHT PRICES AT

WESTMAN BROS.

BIG HARDWARE.

DR. REAUME, OF ESSEX, ADDS STARTLING STATEMENTS

Was Approached with Offer of the Speakership to Betray His Leader and Party.

More of the Rascality in Connection with the South Oxford Election Trial Exposed by Mr. Sutherland.

Division Will not be Reached Till Tuesday—Whitney Grossly Misrepresented by Chief Government Organ.

More Stirring Scenes Anticipated—Government Disgraced and Discredited now Going to its Fall.

Toronto, March 13.—The debate on the Government resolution to appoint a judicial commission to investigate the charges made by Mr. R. R. Gamey, M.P.P., against Hon. J. R. Stratton and other members of the Cabinet will continue until Tuesday, when a division will be taken. The galleries were again packed with interested spectators this afternoon, and there were a couple of hundred strangers on the floor of the House.

GROSS MISREPRESENTATION. When the orders of the day were reached Mr. Whitney rose to protest against a misrepresentation in the Globe. He alluded to the heading in to-day's paper, "Mr. Whitney declares that in choosing the Chief Justice of the High Court the Government is loading the dice." Everyone within the sound of his voice knew that that was absolutely false, as was proven by the report of what he did say on page 2 of the same issue of the Globe. He had spoken with the greatest respect of the judges and of the eminent character which they all bore.

THE DOCUMENTS. Premier Ross then asked whether Mr. Whitney was prepared to place the documents handed to him by Mr. Gamey in the custody of Mr. Speaker. Mr. Whitney replied—I am not prepared to accede to my hon. friend's suggestion or to make any statement in regard to it at present.

MR. SUTHERLAND CONTINUES. Donald Sutherland (South Oxford), in continuing the debate, said the methods adopted by the Government to retain power were bribery, intimidation, perjury, subornation of perjury, and things too low to speak of. He spoke with personal knowledge, and as an instance, he referred to the character of the witnesses brought forward by the Liberals in the protest in South Oxford. The statement made by the Premier yesterday that "We will govern the country with characters unimpeached or we shall not govern it at all" was very pretty, but there was nothing in it. If it were true, why did the Government employ men who were scoundrels and unworthy of the confidence of any one? The Government knew all about the CROOKED WORK IN SOUTH OXFORD.

The lawyer, Jackson, who had charge of the protest in South Oxford for the Liberals was in direct communication with the Government in Toronto. That was where he received his instructions, and the Government itself was responsible for the manner in which the case had been conducted. He recalled that Jackson was some years ago charged at Ingersoll with perjury. Fourteen witnesses swore directly opposite to the evidence of Jackson, and he seemed to be in a nasty hole, when, in some unaccountable manner, the papers that were filed with the Clerk of the Peace disappeared and the charge fell through. James Vance was another Ingersoll man who played an important part in the Government's case in connection with the protest in South Oxford. He reminded them, was once a lawyer, but

HAD LOST HIS GOWN for shady transactions, and then he was taken into the employ of the Government. How close were his relations with the ministers might be gathered from the statement of Mr. Gamey that, when he was waiting one day to see Mr. Stratton, Mr. Vance came in and was shown into the minister's private office first.

Mr. Sutherland went on to refer to the crooked work practised by the Government's agents in connection with the protest in South Oxford. He read the affidavit of Ed. W. Chambers that he was approached by J. B. Jackson and offered \$500 cash and \$1,500 later if he would give evidence that would unseat Sutherland, and in which Jackson was credited with the statement in reply to Chamber's question as to what kind of evidence he wanted, that "it did not matter to him whether the evidence was true or false so long as it unseated Sutherland." He also read the affidavits of S. W. Smith and V. L. Francis who overheard a similar conversation. He went over the evidence given at the trial that prominent Liberals had gone to certain men and had

OFFERED THEM MONEY if they would swear that he had been bribed to vote for Sutherland. It had been proven that a large amount of money had been spent for the procur-

ing of evidence, and," continued Mr. Sutherland, "the people of South Oxford and of Ontario want to know where this money came from."—Applause. "Has the day come when a man dare not venture into political life without running the danger of being branded as a villain, and branded as I have been branded ever since the election took place—an election that was as pure and clean as it possibly could be? During the trial of the protest a Liberal voter for 40 years said to me, 'What is our country coming to when such things as this take place?'"

"I hope, in view of these facts, the hon. gentlemen will live up to the statement made by the Premier yesterday that we will govern this country with characters unimpeached or we will not govern it at all." If they live up to that profession then

THEIR RESIGNATIONS will be in the hands of the Lieut.-Governor before many hours have past. (Applause.) I am very sorry, especially as a new member of this House, to hear of such misdeeds as this. I felt it was my duty to bring the whole business before the House. I think that a searching investigation should be made, and we are prepared to substantiate what I have said, that large sums of money were spent in the riding for the purpose of improving the riding for Mr. Ross.

"I have reason to believe that an elaborate effort is being made by hon. gentlemen on the opposite side of the House to go up a counter charge of similar nature to the one I have just made. I am sure that the members for Manitoulin and if such is the case, I have no doubt we will soon hear of it."

Mr. Sutherland resumed his seat amid loud opposition applause.

DR. REAUME WAS OFFERED THE SPEAKERSHIP. There was a pause for several moments. The House expected a Government member to reply, but no one rose from the side of the House, and Dr. Reaume, the French-Canadian member for North Essex, stepped into the breach. He was given a splendid reception, and his maiden effort was one of the features of the session. The Committee on Privileges and Elections was declared, the proper body to hear the Gamey charges, and it remained to be seen whether the Provincial Secretary would protest against this, the proper course, being taken.

Dr. Reaume's next words created a sensation, inasmuch as they had reference to the attempt made by Government agents to induce him

TO BETRAY HIS LEADER AND PARTY, and go over to the Government side. He said he would inform the hon. member for South Oxford (Mr. Sutherland) that he was not the only Conservative who had been approached for the purpose of playing false to his party.—Applause.

He (Dr. Reaume) had also been extended the hand of welcome, and invited to serve under the "banner of party."—Laughter and applause.

He had been in a position to refuse the offers made to him to "bolt." He had been told by a member of this House that because he was a pretty good fellow he could have the Speakership if he would only consent to support the Ross Government.—Applause.

"And," cried Dr. Reaume, amid applause, "you may all talk of your tangible considerations to switch over, but I consider that the plum of them all."—Applause.

In concluding, Dr. Reaume said that the people of Ontario demanded that these charges of Mr. Gamey's be proven or shown to be untrue. They demanded to know, also, if it was as a result of an organized plan that the present administration had been kept in power for so long. The answer to these things were known the better.

PETTYPIECES' PIECE." Mr. Pettypieces (East Lambton) took the floor as Dr. Reaume sat down. Although he had listened closely to Mr. Whitney's speech, he said he had failed to gather from it why the Opposition leader objected to have the investigation held before a judicial commission. One reason given was that a committee of the House would have fuller powers than would the proposed commission. The remedy for this was in the hands of the members. They could give the commission the fullest powers of research and enquiry. If the member for Manitoulin sustained the charges made by him, then he would deserve well of the people. If he failed he was in no worse position than his leader, who had for years been making undefined and vague charges without offering a shadow of support

for them. A parliamentary committee would of necessity be composed of two entirely different elements. The Opposition members would be intent on convicting the accused minister for party purposes, while the Government supporters would be equally anxious to clear him. The present case was one involving the honor of the whole Province, and it should be dealt with by the most impartial and respected tribunal obtainable. It was in the interests of all parties to the matter that it should be sent as speedily as possible to the judicial commission suggested by the Premier.

J. W. St. John (West York) moved the adjournment of the debate, and he will have the floor when the House opens on Monday.

IS MR. GAMEY IN DANGER?

Much Apprehension Felt by His Friends Concerning his Safety.

Many Anonymous Letters—Midnight Intruder in his Room—Exposer of Liberal Bribery Conspiracy.

Toronto, March 13.—The Evening Mail and Empire says:—"There is no concealing the fact that much apprehension exists for the personal safety of Mr. Gamey, the member for Manitoulin, who made the revelations in the Legislature on Wednesday last. So desperate has the situation become that Mr. Gamey's friends openly announce that his protection has become an absolute necessity. His brother has arrived from Gore Bay, a trip of 600 miles, expressly, he says, to guard him from possible assault. Mr. Gamey has received many anonymous letters within the last two days, which, if not directly threatening violence, refer to him in most uncomplimentary language. One of these missives was a postcard dated Toronto, signed 'John MacDonald,' evidently a fictitious name. The postal informers Mr. Gamey that he had acted like a white key informer, and that he would not be able to prove his charges. Mr. Gamey says he would be pleased to meet this gentleman and talk the matter over with him."

A strange occurrence took place Wednesday night in the Walker house where Mr. Gamey resides during the session. About 2 a. m. Mr. Gamey was conversing with Mr. Smith, member for Algoma, in the former's room, a young man entered Gamey's room. He did not announce his mission nor apologize for his intrusion as he walked out again. Attempts at recognition of this man have been made, as a result of which it has been pretty well established that he was registered at the hotel that evening, and left the following morning. Friends of Mr. Gamey claim that there is no saying what the violence might have fallen upon Mr. Gamey from his strange visitor had not Mr. Smith been in the room at the time. Mr. Smith, probably will bring the matter before the house on Monday.

DEATH BEFORE DISGRACE. Suicide of an American Government Official—An Embezzler Sentenced.

Manila, March 14.—Bartlett Sinclair, Treasurer of Rizal Province, attempted to commit suicide by taking poison in the office of the Attorney-General, when informed that the Government intended to prosecute him for neglecting his office and permitting the peculation of funds. Sinclair's books were found to be in a muddled state. The authorities had been investigating for months a shortage of several thousand dollars, but it is not believed Sinclair took any money. Four of his subordinates have been arrested on the charge of embezzlement.

CONSUL TO RESIGN. United States Representative at Montreal Made Indiscreet Utterances.

Washington, March 14.—United States Consul John L. Bittinger, at Montreal, has been invited to resign. He will be succeeded by Major A. W. Edwards, a North Dakota newspaper man. Consul Bittinger, while on leave of absence at his home in St. Louis, talked very freely of the relations between the United States and Canada. This was ill received in Canada, and has led to the present action.

EIGHT NEGROES KILLED. Battle Between Employees of Rival Turpentine Camps.

Norwalk, Fla., March 14.—A battle reported between the hands of rival turpentine companies near Orange Springs. A quarrel arose between negroes employed in the opposing camps. The entire crowd became involved, and it is said, eight men were killed and many wounded.

Wallaceburg's tax rate is 30 mills.

MR. WILLISON STRIKES HOME AND SCORES GOVERNMENT

A Candid Opinion of the Awful Revelations of Cabinet Crookedness and Ross' Strange Proposal.

Life-Long Friend and Colleague of the Premier Condemns his Course in Attempting to Shuffle on the Investigation.

Full Text of the Late Editor of the Globe's Comment on the Present Situation of the Legislature.

Unprejudiced View Which Will Commend Itself to the Conservatives and Liberals Alike.

No man attempts to defend Stratton. But there are some who are quite anxious that Ross may not be hopelessly mixed up in the bribery business; that he may escape and retain his position at the head of the government. To The Planet it seems to be utterly absurd to pretend that Stratton did his dirty work in secret, without the knowledge and consent of his colleagues, and it seems, moreover, that in endeavoring to take the investigation out of the house, the Premier is seeking to dodge and shuffle with the desperate hope of escaping the disgrace and defeat which must result from a thorough searching and complete examination. But The Planet may be biased.

But Mr. Willison, late editor of the Toronto Globe, for many years a personal friend of the Hon. Mr. Ross, and himself a life-long Liberal, prints an editorial article in the News which we here reproduce in full, simply drawing attention to the fact that Mr. Willison cannot possibly be prejudiced against Mr. Ross:

PARLIAMENT SHOULD INVESTIGATE. Mr. Whitney was right to resist the determination of the government to send Mr. Gamey's charges to a commission of judges. It is best that Parliament should be the guardian of its own honor, and right that it should be jealous for its own rights and privileges. Mr. Gamey could have made his appeal through the press or from the platform, and during the bye-elections he had excellent opportunity for making his "negotiations" to partisan account. He was willing to appeal to a parliamentary tribunal, and if Mr. Whitney is likewise willing to let the Committee on Privileges and Elections, the Government which controls the Assembly should not seek to carry the investigation elsewhere.

In supporting Mr. Whitney's demand for a parliamentary inquiry, it is not necessary to cast suspicion upon the judges. But the rigid rules of the courts do not seem to make for the thoroughness of such investigations. Counsel for Governments under such circumstances are able to employ legal technicalities so as greatly to restrict the scope of enquiry.

The judges are generally overwhelmed with work, and in performing these exceptional services, are too willing to make progress at the expense of patient, painstaking investigation. The presentation of the charges is practically taken out of the hands of the Opposition and committed to counsel appointed by the Administration under trial. All these conditions are calculated to handicap and checkmate the prosecution, and give the government a position of advantage which could not be had under the freer forms of parliamentary enquiry.

It is for just such work as Mr. Gamey's charges require that the Committee on Privileges and Elections exist, and the very fact that the Government seeks to go before another tribunal gives good ground for caution and suspicion.

In proposing to send the charges to a judicial tribunal, Mr. Ross denies all the traditions of the Liberal party. The history of Liberalism at Ottawa furnishes one consistent record of hostility to the conduct of such investigations by judicial commissions. The fact that Governments in Canada have generally sought to escape the Committee on Privileges and Elections, when serious charges have been pressed by their opponents, is in itself significant. There is something wrong when a Government with a Parliamentary majority at its back hesitates to go before a committee of its own nomination. There is ample condemnation in the fact that Oppositions have generally fared badly in such investigations. The charges in the Pacific Railway Scandal were referred to judges, and while some useful results were obtained, the enquiry under the law as it now is could have been more expeditiously and more advantageously presented before a Parliamentary committee. It was in Parliament that the Liberals finally made their grand assault and finally established their case against the MacDonald administration. Unlike Mr. Ross, the Liberals at Ottawa refused to go before the commission. Unlike Mr. Ross, they set up the plea of privilege, and demanded the free exercise of their prerogatives as members of a British Parliament.

Later, the Caron charges were sent to a commission, and the demand of Liberals for thorough enquiry and effective exposure substantially defeated. On the other hand, the charges against Rykert were laid before a Parliamentary committee and successfully established. The investigations of 1891, which also took place before committees of the Commons and Senate, were searching and effective, and practically resulted in driving Sir Hector Langevin out of the Ottawa Cabinet, and in the overthrow of Mr. Mercier in Quebec. When the Bribery Plot of 1884 was exposed in the Legislature, the Government, dominated by such eminent constitutionalists as Sir Oliver Mowat and Mr. Fraser, had the charges referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and only as a last resort referred the case to judges in order to allow the Legislature to be prorogued. Before judges nothing of substantial value was accomplished. There was an investigation by commission into the notorious West Elgin election scandal, so feeble in its methods, and so barren in its results that a merciful community has never been rude enough to pass judgment upon the findings. In fact, all the history of such incidents in Canada goes to the condemnation of judicial commissions as a means of exposing administrative crookedness, and it must be said, therefore, that Mr. Whitney is well advised in resisting Mr. Ross' motion, and in claiming the undoubted rights of the Opposition to prosecute Mr. Gamey's charges before the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

It is being whispered among Liberals that Mr. Gamey actually sold himself, that throughout he was in collusion with Mr. Whitney, that all the facts point to a deliberate plot to entrap Ministers. There seems, however to be no evidence that Mr. Whitney had the least knowledge of what was in progress, whatever may have been Mr. Gamey's motives in conducting the negotiations with Sullivan and his associates. But even if these suspicions were well founded, would the position of the accused minister be greatly improved? Does anyone believe that the Sullivan acted of their own motion? Where did they get the money? By whom were they to be repaid for their outlay in the purchase of Whitney support?

How were they to profit by their extraordinary activity in behalf of the administration? These questions deserve the very serious consideration of the Government's supporters in the Legislature and the Liberal party in the country. They deserve, too, the very serious consideration of the Prime Minister. He is more than a Provincial leader. He is a national figure, and his duty to his country and his party demands that he shall now play his part with invincible courage and honesty. Office is a poor thing compared with the jealous protection of his own public character, and the high concern for the integrity of his government, which becomes a political leader under all circumstances. He is at the crisis of his fortunes. The part he now plays will greatly determine his place in the history of his country. One strong example of courage and sacrifice in high places would set loose the springs of regeneration in our politics, and greatly redress public life in Canada from the

Continued on Page 5.

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Misses' and Girls' Footwear,

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