

The Planet
S. STEPHENSON Proprietor

TELEPHONES. No. 53 A
Business Office No. 53 A
Editorial Rooms No. 53 B

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.
THE PLANET, one year \$4.00
THE WEEKLY PLANET, one year \$1.00
THE PLANET will be sent free of postage to any address in Canada or the United States.

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THURSDAY, OCT. 17.

ABOLISH HOME-WORK.

Inspector Robt. Park sounded the death-knell of home-work in Chatham's public schools by his vigorous condemnation at the last meeting of the Board.

The Inspector was right and the Trustees should "make haste quickly" in ending the anti-northern struggles of this menace to scholastic success.

Parents are zealously backing the Inspector in his wise suggestion. Many of them have utilized the columns of this great home journal in making their views public and emphatic. They are of one mind on the matter.

It is no experiment. Results elsewhere ensure its permanency and advantages, and our representatives on the Public School Board should not delay taking action.

The matter should be dealt with at their next meeting.

EX-CHATHAMITE SUGGESTED.

Editor Race, of the Mitchell Recorder, is license inspector for South Perth. He is a generous man, and is anxious that other Liberal editors be also appointed to office. Therefore he is booming Editor Dillon, of the St. Mary's Argus, formerly of the Chatham Banner, for the position of collector of customs for St. Mary's, and this is how he does it:

We know something of the difficulties a man has to contend with in running a party paper, and how much he gives for what little he receives. Everything is expected of him by way of party support, and he is left to make ends meet, and his living out of it as best he can. The services of a party paper are seldom recognized as they deserve, though complaints will come thick and fast if those services are not rendered full measure and standard weight. Mr. Dillon is running a good party paper in St. Mary's, and his financial obligations must be heavy. Why not strengthen his hands by adding to his income the salary there is attached to this customs appointment? It would render the party a better return so placed than anywhere else they could place it.

TARTE VS. PREFONTAINE.

A beautiful row is in progress between Mayor Prefontaine of Montreal and Hon. Mr. Tarte, comments the Hamilton Spec. It all comes of the Montreal Harbor business. On Saturday Tarte's paper contained a violent attack upon Prefontaine, undoubtedly inspired by the minister of public works. A week ago Tarte accused Prefontaine of harboring a desire for his (Tarte's) portfolio, and things have been heating up ever since Saturday's La Patrie (Tarte's paper) said:

If Mr. Prefontaine were minister of public works!

The affairs of the harbor commission would go on differently.

They would go along, say, as do our municipal affairs.

And our municipal affairs go along so well!

Our streets torn up, our treasury dried up, etc., would go down to posterity as a shining example of the ability of Monsieur our mayor.

If Mr. Prefontaine were minister... He would have at once signed Mr. Jamieson's plans.

The ablest experts (disinterested ones) report that the plans are not acceptable, that the specifications were too low, etc.

This does not count; the plans should have been signed by Mr. Mayor and some of his colleagues on the harbor commission, who have neither read nor studied a plan in their lives.

The amount involved in this elevator affair is a mere bagatelle of \$642,000.

Monsieur our Mayor, accustomed to dabble in millions, is positive that the

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minister of public works has treated the harbor commissioners as school children—because he was bold enough to consult experts in the matter.

Mr. Prefontaine is always in a hurry.

The public will say that in this matter Mr. Tarte has been prudent. It is the country's money, obtained from parliament, which builds harbor works, and which will construct the elevator towards which Monsieur our Mayor betrays such solicitude.

When—later on—Raymond Prefontaine shall be minister of public works, he may do as he pleases.

Until now, Sir Wilfrid has neglected to summon him to this responsible and important post.

To the great despair of Monsieur our Mayor, it is Mr. Tarte who is the minister. Mr. Tarte has not the least intention of following the methods apparently dear to Mr. Prefontaine. He believes that it is elementary wisdom to hasten slowly—even when Raymond Prefontaine grows indignant because he does not sign as quickly as he would wish.

Truly, Mr. Prefontaine's disappointments caused him to appear ridiculous.

We regret it, not harboring him evil. He brings enough evil upon himself, without our lending a hand.

Being interviewed on the subject of Tarte's article, Mayor Prefontaine said:

The attack on me is most uncalled for and cowardly, coming from a minister of the crown and against a friend of the government. It shows simply that the man is out of his head; it shows that he wants to get out of the party himself or to get me out. As regards getting me out of the party, he has a hard row to travel. He is too new in the ranks. Unfortunately our friends who were suspicious about him have come now to the conclusion that he wants to rule the government. Does the man imagine for a moment that he will grossly insult such an important board as the harbor commissioners, and sneer at them when he is called upon like a gentleman to apologize and explain himself? We would be amazed if we were to act indifferently from what we are doing and try to sit to the bottom the cowardly insinuations that he has made against the character and reputation of men who cannot be allowed even to be weighed in the balance with him.

The insinuations contained in the article of La Patrie against me personally are based on false assertions, false statements of facts and distorted facts and nobody knows it better than Mr. Tarte. I suppose he has his end to serve, and he thought that by jumping upon me he would distract people from the position he occupies as regards the port of Montreal.

Of course it does not suit Mr. Tarte that work on the harbor should go on quicker, he being selfish enough to imagine that nothing can be done except through his great ability and political knowledge, which results in fussing a great deal but not doing much. The whole board was unanimous in its decision to try to have the elevator constructed for next season, which cannot be done now through Mr. Tarte fussing about nothing and then trying to squeeze out of his not enviable position by throwing dust and mud in the faces of respectable people. Like as if we did not know his game, which is purely and simply to have all the work under his control, in order to control also the rake-off, a subject with which he seems to be familiar.

The whole thing amounts to this:

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that we cannot have anything more to do with this man, he having proved himself not only now but under other circumstances unfit for the position he occupies, and the hope of the Liberal party is that the head of the government will understand it at last. The man is what we call in French, "un aveugle," a man who sees enemies everywhere, and not knowing half the time what he is talking about.

Prefontaine offers to resign his seat in parliament and contest any of the Montreal ridings with Tarte. It is a beautiful quarrel.

TELLING IT TO US.

Last evening's mail brought the following scroll to the editorial sanctum of this great home journal:

Oldfield Oct 14

To the Editor Planet

Mr. McDonald's Compliments for your kind remarks in The Planet about his hotel. He hopes you will get a similar reward to that which Ananias got.

Which, being interpreted, presumably means:—

"Mr. McDonald's compliments for your kind remarks in The Planet about his hotel. He hopes you will get a similar reward to that which Ananias got."

This is telling it to us and no mistake. But before we fall in our tracks it would comfort us—at least a little—to learn who "Mr. McDonald" is, where his "hotel" is situated, what the "kind remarks" we made were, and when they appeared in this journal.

In fact, we would like to hear again from "Mr. McDonald."

That staunch Liberal paper, the Montreal Witness, says:—If Mr. Prefontaine can get Mr. Tarte out of the government, it will be one of the best services a man could render his country of the Liberal party.

The freak who manipulates the scissors and paste on the Windsor Record helped himself most liberally from Monday's issue of this great home journal. When credit was given at all—and it was distributed sparingly—it was handed out to other contemporaries. However, all's well that ends well, and The Planet must acknowledge that the Record's issue on Tuesday was a corker and feels honored to have been identified with it as the chief contributor.

Australia is trying to secure Gen. Sir Hector Macdonald as G.O.C. The despatch adds: "Australian troops have rather a poor opinion of the average English officer, owing mainly to his subjection to the red-fake measures imposed by the war office. This feeling, however, is not extended to men like Sir Hector Macdonald, who have proved their capacity in the field." Suppose Canada woke up and asked for Gen. Smith-Dorrien. He would have an ovation from one end of the Dominion to the other.—Ottawa Citizen.

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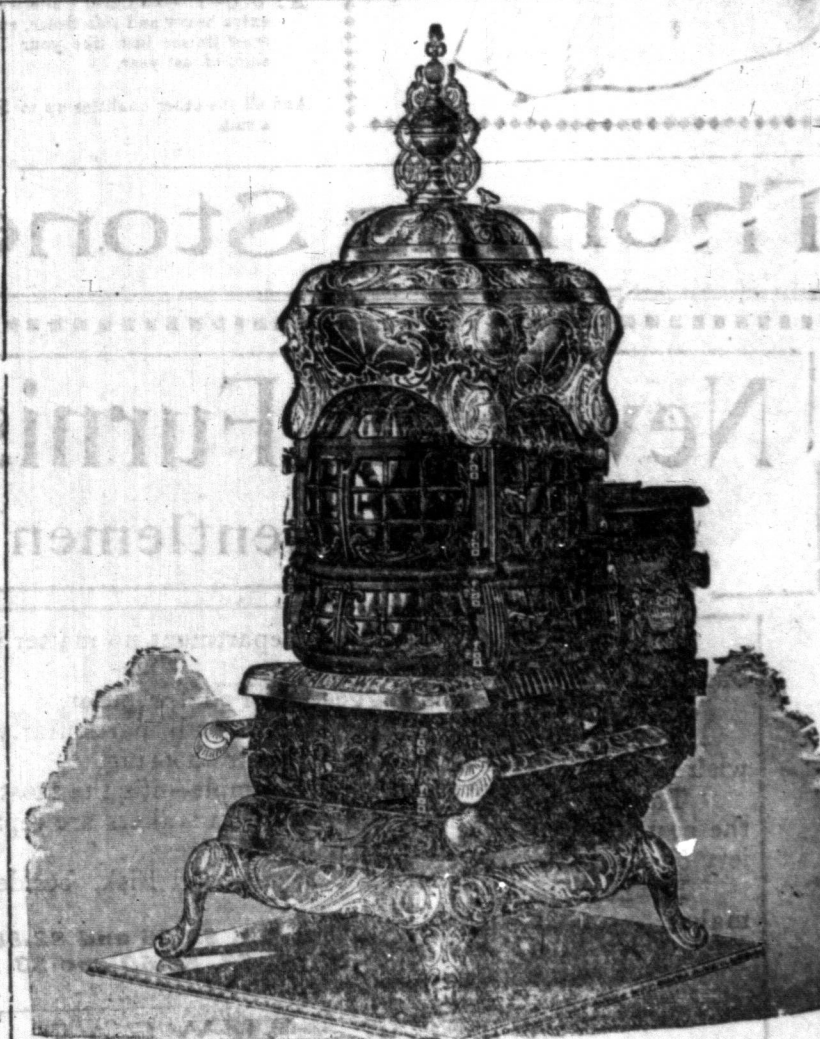
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SEVEN LOTS FOR SALE—One on Victoria avenue, and six on Maple street. For full particulars apply to S. Stephenson, Planet office. 1f

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FARM FOR SALE—100 acres of the best land in Camden township, for sale cheap, and on easy terms of payment. Well improved, and in good location. Address S. N. care of Planet, Chatham. 1f

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FOR SALE—\$500 will buy one and a half acres on Victoria avenue. \$400 will buy two lots in one block on Maple street. Apply at Planet office.

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