

The Toronto World

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WILL TAKE NO CHANCES

One motive, and one motive only, ac-
 counts the Ross government in fixing
 Jan. 14 for the opening of the legisla-
 ture. The plan is to head off the elec-
 tion trials which threaten to deprive
 five Liberal members of their seats.

Mr. Ross says that the appropriation
 voted by the legislature will carry the
 government only to the end of the
 year, and he does not want to involve
 the aid of the Lieutenant-Governor's
 warrant.

An equally poor excuse for the
 hasty calling of the legislature is that
 the house must call for tenders for the
 work of construction of the North
 Bay and Temiskaming Railway.

These contentions might have some
 force if there were not exceptional reas-
 ons why the meeting of the legislature
 should be deferred. But the situation
 is an extraordinary one. The one cen-
 tral fact that the right of five Liberal
 members to take their seats has been
 challenged is sufficient to overcome the
 purely formal argument advanced by
 Mr. Ross in favor of an almost imme-
 diate meeting of the house. It is better
 that the Lieutenant-Governor should
 issue forth warrants for necessary sup-
 plies than that five members should
 take seats in the legislature which they
 are not entitled to. It is better that the
 construction of the Temiskaming
 Railway should be delayed a few days,
 or even a few weeks, than that the On-
 tario government should govern the
 province on a majority which the elec-
 tion courts can dissolve.

It is a suspicious circumstance that
 the legislature is called to meet on the
 very day that was fixed for the open-
 ing of the two election trials. If the
 government could get along till Jan.
 14 without issuing Lieutenant-Governor's
 warrants, it could worry along till
 the end of the month. If the tenders
 for construction of the Temiskaming
 Railway could wait till Jan. 14, they
 could hang out for a couple of weeks
 longer. Mr. Ross argues the few days
 that would elapse between the date
 fixed for the opening of the legislature
 and the probable date of the conclusion
 of the election trial are a matter of
 life and death to the province. He
 will find very few people to concur in
 this theory.

The conditions that seem to suggest
 the meeting of the legislature on Jan.
 14 are formal and trivial. The objects
 to be gained by deferring the opening
 for a few days beyond that date, or
 until the election petitions have been
 disposed of, are sound, and, in fact,
 vital. Does Mr. Ross desire to carry on
 the government with the aid of five
 men who may have been elected by cor-
 rupt and fraudulent means, and who
 have therefore no right to seats in the
 legislature? By bringing on the elec-
 tion on Jan. 14 he is taking this risk.

If the members for North Grey, North
 Norfolk, North Perth, North York and
 South St. Marie were elected by honest
 means, then Mr. Ross has a right to
 invite the legislature as Premier of the
 province. If, on the other hand, those
 constituencies were unfairly won, Pre-
 mier Ross will meet the legislature as
 a usurper. He will be carrying on the
 government with the aid of men who
 do not represent the people.

Surely this is desperate politics. Mr.
 Ross is determined to rule, whether
 the people want him to or not. He will
 not defer the meeting of the legislature
 for the few days that would enable the
 courts to decide whether he is Premier
 by right or Premier by name only.
 From this action the people can only
 infer that retention of office is the guid-
 ing ideal of Mr. Ross, and that ideal he
 will keep before him in defiance of
 every law of political morality and polit-
 ical decency.

OUR PETTY TYRANTS

Friends of the Ontario government
 are indignant at the charge that they
 interfere with the administration of
 justice. The government has now, by
 a gross abuse of the authority of the
 Crown, prevented the trial of the elec-
 tion petitions that were to have been
 heard in January. When it suits the
 convenience of the government a charge
 against a minister of the Crown is re-
 moved from the legislature and sub-
 mitted to two judges appointed by the
 minister and his colleagues. When it
 suits the convenience of the govern-
 ment, the judges are prevented from
 discharging their duties.

As a sop to the public sense of de-
 cency, false reasons for calling the leg-
 islature on the 14th of January are
 assigned. The declaration put into His
 Honor's mouth, and the article in The
 Globe, are parts of a solemn farce. It
 is said that the ministers smiled as
 they came out of the council meeting,
 and we can only wonder that they did
 not laugh in one another's faces.

The Globe says first that the calling
 of the legislature "is the natural and
 proper outcome of the present political
 situation." The by-elections, it says,
 do not necessarily show that the gov-
 ernment has lost the confidence of the
 country, yet they make it necessary
 for the Premier to place himself in the
 hands of the legislature, in order that it
 may pronounce judgment on the policy

of the government and upon its right
 to administer the affairs of the prov-
 ince.

This is a remarkably sudden conver-
 sation to respect for the constitution.
 The general election was held on May
 20, 1902. The session was delayed un-
 til March 10, 1903. Yet The Globe
 says:

"The practice of the legislature
 in former years was to hold early
 sessions, and in the majority of in-
 stances since Confederation the
 house met in January, in some cases
 as early as the first of the month.
 Many complaints have been made
 by members of both sides of the
 house with regard to the delay in
 the opening of the session. In ordi-
 nary circumstances the house could
 open in two months, or, at latest, ten
 weeks, and as the house is largely
 composed of members from the rural
 districts, the advantage to the agricul-
 turalist of being relieved from his parlia-
 mentary duties early in the spring is
 quite apparent.

In spite of these excellent reasons
 the meeting of the legislature was de-
 layed until March 12. Dr. Goldwin
 Smith argued strongly that it was the
 duty of the government to call the leg-
 islature to meet at the earliest possible
 moment, to meet the legislature at once.
 The meeting was then delayed, because
 the government thought it could
 strengthen itself by protests in the
 courts and by-elections, and by the
 supposed conversion of Gagey. The meet-
 ing is now hastened because the gov-
 ernment is losing by-elections, and the
 result of the proceedings in the
 courts. After the general election the
 session was delayed more than nine
 months. A single by-election has such
 a powerful influence on the conscience
 of the government that it calls the
 legislature to meet three weeks after
 the election.

If anything were required to make
 the argument more farcical, it would be
 the fact that it is no longer necessary
 to call the legislature in order to see
 how the parties stand. The parties
 have already met and measured their
 strength; every vote has been polled
 and counted. What the by-elections
 really indicate is a growing public op-
 inion against the government. If the
 government want to test this, they
 should call the legislature and go
 to the country.

The argument that it is necessary to
 call the legislature in order to hasten
 the building of the Temiskaming Rail-
 way is clearly trumped up for the oc-
 casion. Nothing would have been heard
 of it if the government candidate had
 not been defeated in North Renfrew.
 Everybody knows that this cabinet
 council was held to consider the situa-
 tion created by that disaster. The
 Premier himself said on Sunday that
 he would consult his colleagues, and
 this consultation was held Tuesday.
 Not content with assigning these trumped-
 up reasons in the organ of the party,
 the government puts them into the
 mouth of the Lieutenant-Governor of
 the province. "Is there any deeper
 reason to which our politics may sink,
 or any innermost cell into which the
 cancer of corruption can eat?"

With a bare majority in the house
 and a minority of thousands of the
 popular vote, the ministers act as if
 they were masters of the representa-
 tive of the Crown, of the courts and of
 the liberties of the people. Liberals
 who sanction or condone these practices
 surely do not reflect that they are sacri-
 ficing something far more valuable
 than a few months' precarious tenure
 of power. They are sacrificing the
 character and traditions of the party,
 and weakening their own power of
 fighting future abuses of authority. The
 acts of the Ontario government will be
 precedents, and we know how eagerly
 politicians seize upon precedents as ex-
 cuses for their most flagrant offenses.

THE PREMIER'S SENSE OF DUTY

The Globe tells us that "if Mr. Ross
 consulted his own feelings, he would
 gladly resign, but he owes a duty to his
 party and to the province not to aban-
 don his post, even in the face of the
 difficulties with which he is at present
 confronted."

If Mr. Ross wants to resign, his in-
 clination and his duty point in the same
 direction. Mr. Ross must resign, and
 rule this province. It is his
 duty to obey the will of the people; and
 a high sense of duty would make him
 anxious to obtain evidence of the will
 of the people, and to obey it promptly
 and cheerfully. The people have indi-
 cated in the clearest manner that they
 want the government to go, and the re-
 sult in North Renfrew is only one of
 many evidences of the drift of public
 opinion. The clearest of all evidences
 is the pitiful juggling to which the gov-
 ernment has had to resort in order to
 retain power.

If Mr. Ross had possessed a high
 sense of duty, he would not have al-
 lowed North Renfrew to remain un-
 decided. He would have called the leg-
 islature to meet, and a half, a proceeding
 which his own newspaper allies now
 condemn.

If Mr. Ross had possessed a high
 sense of duty, he would have repudiated
 the Pembroke Advocate's threat that
 public expenditures in Renfrew would
 be withheld if Dunlop were elected.

If Mr. Ross had possessed a high
 sense of duty he would not have sum-
 moned the legislature on a fortnight's
 notice, so as to stop the trial of the
 election petitions.

A public man with a high sense of
 duty would say: "I am willing to serve
 this province, but I will not remain
 here one hour except with the consent
 of the people. Every day that Mr.
 Ross remains in office he is losing
 ground with the people, and injuring his
 reputation as a public man. Those
 who are urging him to remain in a
 most humiliating position are either
 selfishly interested, or are furious par-
 tisans to whom the loss of power is in-
 tolerable.

THE BRITAINS IN 1903.

This has been the year of Joseph
 Chamberlain. His earlier months saw
 him in South Africa, where, whatever
 the ultimate issue may be, his visit pro-
 duced great and immediate benefit. He
 returned to England in March to find
 that during his absence the ministry
 who had been steadily losing ground,
 and who had been becoming more help-
 less and discredited. Steadily their prestige
 continued to sink, until more than once,
 notwithstanding their magnificent ma-
 jority, they were only sustained in office
 by the Irish Nationalist vote in a figure

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED

Store Opens At 8 o'clock Store Closes At 6 o'clock

WE WISH ALL A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Store Closed All Day Friday, New Year's Day

Saturday STARTS OUR JANUARY SALE FOR 1904 and a NEW ERA IN EARLY CLOSING. Commencing January and

this store will close daily at 5 p.m. To-day we close at six.

To meet this double event and still advance sales over January last year means

Double Values.

Goods and prices are the only things that can ac-
 complish this result, and we have decided to give
 our customers the benefit of this store's cash buying and profits for this month.

Mills and Factories

have been busy months and months mak-
 ing goods for this sale, when we were able
 to make satisfactory arrangements with them so as to keep their wheels going around
 in their slack season.

Early Closing.

To close this store sharp at 5 p.m. every day in the
 week means double effort, so our daily newspaper
 announcements will not tell you by any means all that we are doing.

Inside the Store

the goods and price tickets will reveal to you the
 greatest January Sale offerings we ever attempted.

All Brand New Goods

All departments in the store, including
 White Goods, participate in this sale.

Come Early

COME OFTEN. BRING YOUR FRIENDS WITH
 YOU. SHOP EARLY.

NOTE—See to-night's and to-morrow morning's papers for Saturday's partial price list.

January Sale Catalogue

Mailed on Request

THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED

190 YONGE ST., TORONTO

me in any way. It is true I used Mr.
 Flanagan's name in connection with
 the defeat of the bylaw, and if it has
 caused his friends or any member of
 his family pain, no one is more sorry
 than myself, as the late Mr. Flana-
 gan and myself were personal friends,
 and no one is trying to hurt his friends
 feelings more than Mr. Flanagan by con-
 tinuing the publication of his name in
 the journals of the city, while he pro-
 fesses a great amount of sympathy for
 Mr. Flanagan and his friends. Now,
 I repeat, there can be only one mo-
 tive for Mr. Flanagan doing so. His
 only motive is to alienate from me the
 respect of Roman Catholics, and to re-
 sult in the creation of a hostile support
 that I have had in Ward 5 ever since
 I have been an alderman, and to verify
 and drag my name down to his own
 level.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have lived in
 Ward 5 for over 50 years, and I have
 been in business nearly 40 years in all
 parts of Canada, and I invite any one,
 either in Toronto or outside, to point
 out one act of mine that does not re-
 spond to the credit of myself and
 family, and yet because I have tried
 to do my duty to the electors I am to
 be slandered by a man whose only ob-
 ject is to give the Grand Trunk Rail-
 way another hold on the citizens' rights.
 Mr. Flanagan asks the question in one
 of his evening papers: "Is Mr. Dunn a
 gentleman?" I will leave the electors
 of Ward 5 to judge.

Yours truly,
 John Dunn.

POPE CRITICIZES CHURCH MUSIC.

But Cardinal Gibbons Considers Re-
 frence Was Not to America.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 30.—Cardinal
 Gibbons, commenting to-day in an in-
 terview on the recent letter of Pope
 Pius X., expressing a desire for a re-
 formation in church music, in which
 he criticized certain music as an abuse
 of religion, expressed himself as fol-
 lows:

"His Holiness has referred to the ex-
 treme abuse thru Italy and France. In
 some of the churches of those countries
 there is little suggestion of reverence,
 and the ceremonies are given an opera-
 tic effect. It is this departure from the
 old custom that His Holiness de-
 plores, and not necessarily the use of
 modern music, as one of the causes of
 this country there has been little
 abuse, and we do not expect the Pope's
 letter to effect a change in the church
 music of America."

TWENTY YEARS AFTER.

Alex. McDonald Returns to His
 Family After Long Absence.

Carlton Place, Dec. 30.—Alex. Mc-
 Donald of Brimley, Minn., is the guest
 of his brother-in-law, Thomas Stevens,
 at present. He arrived last week, and
 his visit is more than a surprise to his
 sister, Miss McDonald, who has not seen
 him for over 20 years, and in all that
 long time it was not known whether he
 was dead or alive. He did not know of
 his mother's death, a little over a year
 ago, or his sister's death, some time pre-
 vious. Did not know that he was one
 of the heirs to a portion of his mo-
 ther's estate in Chatham, Que., where
 the family was born. Of course he did
 not know his brother-in-law when he
 dropped into the shop a few mornings
 ago as an ordinary customer might. It
 is needless to say there has been joy in
 the reunion, altho the reminiscences
 may have recalled some sad incidents.
 Mr. McDonald is married and settled in
 Minnesota, where he has prospered.

TOLD IN A FEW LINES.

Rockville, Conn.—William H. Dow-
 ling, local agent of the Adams Express
 Company, was robbed of \$500 and bru-
 ally assaulted by two unknown men
 while on his way to his office.

Knoxville, Tenn.—Dennis Leahy, for
 several years a bailiiff in the Vir-
 ginia League and at one time of the
 Cincinnati team, was shot and killed
 by Frank Ragan.

New York.—Archbishop Farley has re-
 ceived an invitation to visit Rome to
 represent the celebration of the jubilee of
 the Immaculate Conception.

Paris.—M. Rouvier will shortly resign
 the portfolio of Minister of Finance in
 the Combes cabinet to resume the presi-
 dency of the Bank of Commerce and
 Industry.

Dublin.—The Marquis of Sligo died
 yesterday at Westport House, West-
 port, County Mayo.

Cape Town.—The Cape Times reports
 a grave alarm through German territory
 in South Africa and says that there are
 fears of a general Hotentot rising.

New York.—Inspector McCluskey and
 Assistant District Attorney Lord de-
 clare they have no doubt that the
 Chicago Police Department will be
 able to extradite James Abel, now un-
 der a constable's guard at Welland, Ont.

Colored Baptist Young Folks.
 A prominence called was given by
 the young folks of the colored Baptist
 Church in St. George's Hall last even-
 ing. The large crowd who were in
 attendance listened to a splendid pro-
 gram rendered by Messrs. Jones and
 Addison, Innes, Hogan, Moxley and
 Vaughan, and Misses Rudd, Lewis, Mc-
 Millen, M. and W. Phillips and
 Miller. Emanuel Addison managed the
 affair.

Florida, Kansas and All Southern
 Winter Resorts.
 Are best reached via Lehigh Valley
 Railroad and its connections, Atlantic
 Coast Line, Southern Railway, sea-
 board Air Line, via Philadelphia, Wash-
 ington or New York. For timetables,
 maps, detailed information and illu-
 strated literature call at Lehigh Valley
 office, 23 Yonge-street, Board of Trade
 Building, Toronto.

Helena Kidnapped.
 Meridian, Miss., Dec. 30.—Miss
 Ethel Howell, the heiress who disap-
 peared a week ago, is believed to have
 been kidnapped to secure a ransom.
 It has been learned that she had been
 shadowed by unknown people ever since
 it became known that she had become
 an heiress.

Rats Died of Bubonic Plague.
 Hamburg, Germany, Dec. 30.—The in-
 quiry into the mortality among the rats
 on the German steamer Cordoba, from
 Santos, Brazil, confirms the report that
 they died of bubonic plague. The yes-
 sel has been quarantined. There is no
 sickness among the crew.

Want Another Million Pounds.
 New York, Dec. 30.—Negotiations for
 cable are in progress between the Rus-
 sian government and the Schwarzchild
 and Sulzberger Company of this city
 for about 1,000,000 pounds of press
 cloth for immediate shipment to Port
 Arthur.

Cell Bags Saved in Two.
 Chicago, Dec. 30.—An attempt at es-
 cape from the county jail by one of the
 car-barn bandits was discovered by
 Jailer William Go-day. The bar in
 Rosick's cell has been sawed in two
 and bent away. The saw could not be
 found.

Dissolution of Partnership.
 The law firm of Messrs. Gallagher &
 Bull has been dissolved, and Z. Gal-
 lagher has moved his law office from
 the Temple Building to 38 Land Se-
 curities Chambers, southeast corner of
 Adelaide and Victoria-streets.

Wayward Son of Good Man.
 Windsor, Dec. 30.—Edward Slaught-
 er, the 23-year-old colored man accused of
 the murder of John Riddens on Oct. 19,
 was the son of a Methodist clergyman of
 Indianapolis.

One Car on Each Line.
 Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The car service to-
 day has almost collapsed. There is one
 car on each line.

THE LAST DAY

To-day we leave 1903 behind us, and to-morrow opens the new year.

We're going to make it a record year with some record prices in things suitable for New Year's giving.

Umbrellas
 Purse
 Collar and Out Boxes
 Writing Cases
 Dressing Cases
 Shopping Bags
 Etc., Etc.

AT JUST HALF PRICE.

EAST & CO.

300 Yonge Street.

LOOKS BIG ON PAPER.

Pan-American Railway to Run From Hudson Bay to Argentina.

Guthrie, Ok., Dec. 30.—The Pan-Am-
 erican Railway Company, with head-
 quarters at Guthrie, with \$250,000,000
 capital stock, to build a line from Port
 Nelson, on Hudson Bay, to the Argen-
 tine Republic, through the States of
 North and South Dakota, New
 Mexico, Oklahoma, Indian Terri-
 tory and Texas, thence thru Mexico,
 Central America, the Republic of Pa-
 nama, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru into
 the Argentine Republic. A branch line
 is provided running from Port Nelson
 to Valparaiso. The total length is
 10,000 miles. The incorporators are
 named in the charter are: W. R. Allen,
 G. R. Davis, D. D. Farmer, H. H. Hies
 and Edward Hillman of Allington, Ok-
 lahoma.

SMALLPOX AT SUBURBY.

Two Cases Reported to Dr. Bryce—
 Brought From Camps.

St. Joseph's Hospital, Port Portage,
 formerly a convent, and containing 35
 beds, has been recommended by Dr.
 Chamberlain, Inspector of Hospitals and
 Asylums, for classification under the
 Charity Aid Act. The John McDonald
 Hospital, Port William, is similarly
 qualified. The Walkerton Hospital,
 costing \$11,000, will be ready in a
 month or two.

Two cases of smallpox are reported by
 Dr. Bryce, as in hospital at Suburby.
 They were brought from a lumber
 camp at Biscotago, on the line of the
 C. P. R., and the lumber company has
 been duly notified in respect of all the
 usual precautions to be taken. The
 companies are requested to look after
 their own patients, and it is not known
 how the two cases got to Suburby.

Dying Man Pleaded for Murderer.

St. Joseph, Dec. 30.—Altho fa-
 tally wounded, H. C. Edmussen, a real
 estate man, pleaded for the release of
 G. W. Grote, who had first shot the shot that
 would cause his death. The latter was in
 the company of Mrs. Grote yesterday
 when the shooting occurred. Grote was
 released in defiance to the wish of
 the dying man.

601.50 to Portland, Ore., and Return

Via Chicago and Northwestern Rail-
 way from Chicago Jan. 6 to 9, 1904.
 Stop-over privileges allowed, favorable
 time limits and choice of routes given
 and returning. Full information, fol-
 ders, etc., from H. H. Bennett, General
 Agent, 244 King-street, Toronto.
 246721

For a Steamer 755 Feet Long.

London, Dec. 30.—It is reported that
 the White Star Line has ordered a
 new steamer 755 feet long, or a foot
 longer than the Baltic, the largest ship
 in the world. The construction of the
 vessel will begin immediately at Bel-
 fast, Ireland.

Cashier's Mistake.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Frederick Lind-
 storm called up his employers on the
 telephone and said he had stolen \$12-
 000 from them and was about to run
 the city. He was induced to visit the
 office and was arrested. Horse races
 are blamed.

One or Two Other.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Chief Mushap of
 the Chicago department announced that
 he will compel employees in his de-
 partment to withdraw from unions or
 retire from the city's service.

Thomas Goes Along.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Thomas Cote, as-
 sistant justice commissioner, was go-
 ing along with the commission which goes
 to Europe to investigate the electro-
 process on making of steel.

The Toronto Dine To-Night.