Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea.

Senate Reading Room

The Toronto World.

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TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR — TEN PAGES——WEDNESDAY MORNING MARCH 18 1903——TEN PAGES — ONE CENT

End of Debate is in Sight Premier Throws Out Hint

Scope to be Outlined, and if Satisfactory to Mr. Whitney Trial Will Go On.

The debate on the bribery charges has gradually focused on the scope of the investigation, as contemplated by the commission of the judiciary, suggested by Premier Ross. After another exciting day's discussion, Mr. Ross intimated that the terms of the commission and the authority with which it is to be invested would be supplied to-day. This was in reply to the observation of Mr. Whitney that he could not consent to a vote on a proposition of such vagueness as the government had presented. This is the net result of the day's proceedings. Interest in the situation, however, remains unabated, and the crowds reached suffocating proportions. The objection of the Conservatives to submitting the Gamey charges to a commission has been that the scope of the investigation would be limited. If, however, the terms, as presented by the Premier, should indicate such authority as will permit a complete investigation, it is not at all improbable that the Conservatives will waive their demand that the House pass upon the guilt or innocence of its own members. This presages definite results to-day.

So far the Premier has not been able to inform the legislature when the instructions which are to be the basis of the judicial investigation will be brought down, and Mr. Whitney intimated that it might take the opposition a week to get thru talking until they knew what they were going to do. He said he would probably be able to inform the Premier what action he would take as soon as he saw the instructions, and Mr. Ross hinted that the desired information might be laid on the table to-day.

If the Premier's remarks mean anything, it is that to-day the legislature will be informed as to the scope of the investigation. In all probability the events of the past few days will compel a statement of the government's position that will go some distance towards allaying suspicion that the proposed investigation is to be a kalsomining affair.

The Liberal caucus which was held yesterday afternoon before the opening of the House was an important factor in determining the position to be taken, if one can judge by the rumors that were flying about the corridors. The caucus was not a tame affair. There was an open revolt against the position taken by the Premier for a judicial investigation. Several members of the family favored a complete backdown, but they were, in a measure, pacified by the promise that the instructions, which are yet to be framed, will make the investigation almost as thoro as the Committee on Privileges and Elections could make it. The Premier promised to bring the instructions down as early as possible.

Members on the right refused to be questioned about what did go on inside, but it is always the case that little hints leak out that show the direction in which events are tending. One who is usually well informed expressed the opinion that the back bench members were not the only ones who had a complaint due. At least one Cabinet Minister is not as well pleased with the situation as his colleagues would desire. Ever since the Provincial Secretary, the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier turned down the deal made by the Minister of Education to saw-off the Centre Bruce protest against Monck, the last mentioned Minister has been waiting his chance, and he never had a better chance than is presented at the present time. He revolts when the proposition is made for an inquiry, which is intended to whitewash the Provincial Secretary. Since the sensation was sprung on the legislature last Wednesday the demeanor of the Minister of Education has been watched with unusual anxiety. He has been in the Chamber all the time, and it has been remarked that he does not exhibit any warmth towards the gentlemen around him.

East Middlesex Judgment.

Mr. Whitney opened the proceedings by asking the government when judg

Continued on Page 2.

STRATTON'S OPINION OF JUDGES.

In view of the profound reverence for the Bench expressed by the Ontario ministers to-day, Mr. Stratton's opinions along similar lines in 1898 make interesting reading. After the elections of 1898 the Hardy government was in about the same fix as the Ross government in 1902. So close was the contest that a special session of the legislature was called, the main purpose being to legalize the votes of persons who had acted as election constables. They were, of course, and Reformers and their votes had been challenged on account of their official position. In the opening debate Mr. Stratton spoke, and was thus reported in The Globe of August 9, 1898:

"Regarding the constable vote, Mr. Stratton said it seemed strange that the Court of Appeal could not take a little time to consider the matter when it was referred to them by the government, instead of taking refuge in their holidays. With all due respect to the judicial impregnability of the judiciary, he could not see why they could not take a few days to consider the question, which was of such paramount public interest. The judges, like other officials, existed in the public interest, and they should have decided the question one way or the other. But the learned judges took a lofty stand. They had no regard to the expense the province might be put to, and they must have a few days' fishing. Nero fiddled while Rome burned, and the judges were fishing while the opposition were trying to rob a great many of the electors of the province of their franchise."

A BIG ELECTRIC COMBINE

All the Companies on the Island of Montreal Now Under One Management.

RUDOLPHE FORGET ENGINEERED DEAL

Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co. Takes in All Its Competitors.

Montreal, March 17.—The rapid rise of Montreal Power stocks from 87 to 97 within 10 days has given rise to the report that a deal is about being completed whereby the Heat, Light & Power Company will acquire the Lachine Company, the Shawinegan Company, the Standard, the Imperial, and, in fact, all the electric companies, big and small, in the district of Montreal. There can be no doubt negotiations have been going on for some days, and rumor has it that the whole thing will be closed to-morrow. The report is that the Lachine Company is to receive $175 for their stocks.

Later.—It is learned at midnight that the great electric deal has been accomplished.

The Royal Trust Company, of Montreal, has taken over the Lachine Company in trust for the Mantreal Light, Heat & Power Company, paying for the same $190 per share or $3,800,000.

This places all the companies in the Island of Montreal as well as the Shawinigan Company under one management.

The sum above mentioned is paid twenty-five per cent cash and the balance in sixty days. The man who engineered this deal is Rodolphe Forget.

DID NOT OBEY SIGNALS.

Inquest on Wreck at Oakville Blames Crew of Second Train.

Oakville, March 17.—(Special)—The inquest to find the cause of Sunday morning's G. T. R. wreck was held before Coroner Williams this evening. Detective Day represented the railway and Crown Attorney Matheson had charge of the case.

Strong evidence was produced to show that the crew of the second train had not obeyed signals. Hiram Albertson, night operator; conductor Brown, of first train; Mr. Enright, W. M. Street, W. W. Paterson, A. E. Cross and Norman Dore, swore the semaphore was against the second train. The crew of the second train swore that the semaphore was down.

A verdict was returned after half an hour's deliberation that D. J. Maguire had met his death by the crew of the second train not obeying proper signals.

Hurt at Canada Foundry Works.

A plasterer named Hoidge, living on Dupont-street, while working at the Canada Foundry Company's works, at Toronto Junction, is said to have fallen a considerable distance down an elevator shaft, and yet escaped with comparatively slight injuries to his head and arms. He was admitted to Grace Hospital.

Structural Steel and Ironwork of every description. Estimates furnished on application. Canada Foundry Company, Limited, 14-16 King St. East.

Revolution in Uruguay.

Washington, March 17.—News of a revolution in Uruguay was conveyed to the State Department to-day in a despatch from United States Consul Swan at Montevideo as follows:

"Montevideo, March 17.—Revolution has broken out. Railway destroyed. Eight thousand men are camped outside. Marshalling to attack the city. Revolution is serious."

The Halton Old Boys at a well-attended meeting last night decided to accept the invitation of the Trafalgar Agricultural Association to visit Oakville next fall.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ARBITRARY ATTITUDE

IS VIOLENCE BEING DONE THE CONSTITUTION?

TOWARD AFFAIRS OF A PROVINCIAL CHARACTER

Sequel of Inquiry Concerning Sir Oliver Mowat's Tenure Vigorous Protest From the Member For East York Against Methods Menacing the Best Traditions of the Dominion—Proclaims the Rights of the People and Expresses Hostility to Such Assumption of Power—Exciting Passage With Premier in the House.

Ottawa, Ont., March 17.—(From a Staff Correspondent.) — Again the charges of Gamey against the Ontario government were in the minds of the members to-day, when the question of Sir Oliver Mowat's health led the member for East York to bring the matter to the attention of the House. Much interesting information was revealed before the discussion was given a quietus.

The record of the Liberal leaders in 1895 was presented by extracts from Hansard, in which they **took a position similar to the position taken by the member for East York to-day, and diametrically opposite to the position they take to-day.** The showing up of their inconsistencies afforded amusement for the opposition, and a semblance of discipline for the government members. **Altogether, it proved that the Constitution was more or less in danger, and served to focus the members of the House on the grave political crisis in the Province of Ontario.**

Alludes to Grave Conditions.

On permission from Sir Wilfrid, Mr. Maclean, on the House going into supply, said: "On this motion to go into supply, I propose to call the attention of the House and the country to a grave condition of affairs that exists in my own Province, that of Ontario. A political crisis exists there to-day that is attracting the attention of all the people of Canada. Certain circumstances have been made public, which reflect on the moral tone of that Province, which reflect on the political tone of that Province, and I say **a crisis has arrived, in which the honor of the Province is involved, in which the honor of politicians is involved, and everyone must be concerned in the settlement of that crisis."**

"At the present moment, the Lieut.-Governor of that Province has exceeded his term. He was appointed about November, '97; his 5 years, consequently, are up, and he is holding office, I think, very improperly. Not only is he holding office after his term is expired, but his condition of health, I believe, is such that he was unable to open the legislature last week, and it had to be opened by a commissioner.

Duty Requires Publicity.

"After what transpired not long ago in connection with this affair, I think it is my duty now to call the attention of the House to this condition of affairs in Ontario, and also to call the attention of the House to the record of the hon. gentleman opposite in regard to that question.

"On a motion to go into Committee of Supply, in the year 1895, I find that Mr. Mills, Bothwell, submitted the following resolution: 'That, in the opinion of this House, Section 59 of the British North America Act of 1867, which prevents the removal of a Lieutenant-Governor of a Province for five years from the date of his appointment, except for cause assigned and communicated to the House of Commons by message, was intended to prevent the undue influence of Federal ministers in provincial affairs; and the practice, which has become prevalent, **of permitting Lieutenant-Governors to continue in office for long periods of time, after the expiry of their commissions, by which they become removable at any time, without assignment of cause, is an abuse of authority, calculated to impair responsible government in the provinces of the Dominion.**

Force of the Objection.

"Mr. Mills supported that motion by an argument, and I propose to read a few sentences from that argument. Now, the objection I make to the existing condition of things is that, in the case of many of the Lieutenant-Governors of provinces, they have been permitted to hold office for several years after their commissions have expired, and at the moment the commission expires it is in the power of the government to remove a Lieutenant-Governor without assignment of cause, and without any report to either House of parliament.

Inevitable Inference.

"Now, I say that this is a highly objectionable condition of things: **If it is proper during the five years that the commission is in existence that the Lieutenant-Governor should not be removed without adequate cause being assigned, and without that cause being reported to both Houses of parliament, it is obviously improper that the Lieutenant-Governor should continue to hold office after that period has expired.**

"If the government desire that the Lieutenant-Governor shall hold office for a longer period than five years they should issue to him a new commission, they should put him beyond their power for any subsequent period, just precisely as he was beyond their power of removal for the period for which he was appointed in the first instance.

Purpose is Independence.

"What is the object of the provision of the law? **The object is to make the Lieutenant-Governor independent of the government here, and solely subject to the advice which his constitutional advisers may think proper** to give him."

The member for East York then quoted from speeches made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, D'Alton McCarthy and Sir Richard Cartwright in that debate in which Sir Wilfrid said: "The Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba has for some time occupied his position in sufferance of the administration, and not by his commission, by which he was appointed. He can be dismissed to-morrow and a successor can be appointed to him the day after to-morrow. He may be retained for one day or for one year, just as suits the convenience of the party in power.

As to Breaking the Law.

"I ask the Minister of Justice is that a practice which should be tolerated? The hon. gentleman has said that so far no evil has flown from this, but does my hon. friend argue that because **no evil results follow from the break of a law, it is right and proper that the law should be broken?"**

D'Alton McCarthy in his speech had said: "We are told in this House that the gentleman who holds the office is most anxious for re-appointment," on which Mr. Maclean commented, "I wonder if there is any anxiety in this special case for re-appointment?"

Hold Them to Their Votes.

Mr. Maclean continuing said: "The vote was taken. Among those who voted in favor of Mr. Mills' motion were Messrs. Borden, Cartwright, Charlton, Laurier, Mulock and Sutherland. **Mr. Speaker I intend to hold these gentlemen to their vote on that occasion. They laid down a certain doctrine in regard to the Lieutenant-Governors, yet now that they are in power and the terms of office of their first batch of Lieutenant-Governors are running out—the terms of two or more of them are running out—we** find those gentlemen still continuing in their places as Lieutenant-Governors, on conditions under which these gentlemen on a motion of want of confidence in this House were disgraced. Now, what does the right hon. gentleman (Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier) intend to say?"

Not Throwing Dirt.

'I am not here to say anything against the character of Sir Oliver Mowat. I respect his character, as I do that of any other man. He has a great record; and I am not here to throw dirt upon it in any sense. **But I am here to say something for the people of this country, and for my own constituents and to demand the vindication of the constitution. And am I to be insulted in this House when I but ask that the constitution shall be maintained?** Am I to be told that I am going out of my way to make an attack upon the holder of a high office?

"Those who make such an attack on me are but defending the government, they are defending the officeholder. **There is a lust for power in the Liberal party that is something alarming, and the condition of affairs that now exists in Ontario is due to this lust of power and of office.**

Well Within My Rights.

"I am well within my rights in what I state here, and **I repudiate the Prime Minister rising in this House and saying to me, even tho I am a private member, that, when I attempt to defend the constitution,** I am doing something improper, and gratuitously insulting to the holder of a high office. I am doing nothing of the kind, as I have said. I am demanding the vindication of the constitution. I am asking the hon. gentlemen opposite to immediately remove the stigma that they have put upon Sir Oliver Mowat, for they stigmatize him when they keep him in office without renewing his appointment. **They must do one thing or the other. They must give Sir Oliver Mowat another term of office, or they must appoint** his successor.

Vindicate the Constitution.

"Most of all, they ought to have put his successor in office. I call on these honorable gentlemen to-day, in view of the grave crisis that exists at Toronto, to vindicate the constitution, to put a new man in office, and not to keep Sir Oliver Mowat in the position in which he is to-day. He is entitled to better treatment. For all we know, he may have asked to be relieved of the duties that are devolving upon him at the present time. At all events, **the position is serious; the duty is plain; the constitution has been violated.** The hon. gentlemen have once again, and many a time, been convicted of being untrue to their pledges, to their professions, to their votes, and to the speeches which they have made in this House. **I call upon the Prime Minister to tell this House that he intends to put a stop to that condition of things that exists in the Province of Ontario at this moment."**

Prime Minister Replies.

Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied: "The member for East York has spoken with a great deal of vehemence on this question. He has spoken of the outrage that has been committed upon our constitution. I do not know whether I shall do an injury to my hon. friend or not. If I do, I beg in advance to apologize, but I do not believe that my hon. friend has read the clause of the constitution which provides for the appointment of lieuttenant-Governors; because, if he had read that clause of the constitution he would have spoken differently than he has spoken. Allow me, therefore, to call the attention of my hon. friend to this clause in the constitution, which, I am sure, if he has read he has forgotten it. Clause 59 of the constitution is as follows: 'A Lieutenant-Governor shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor-General, but any Lieutenant-Governor appointed after the commencement of the first session of the parliament of Canada shall not be removable within five years from his appointment, except for cause assigned, which shall be communicated to him in writing.'

Thinks There is a Difference.

"You see, therefore, that within five years, he cannot be removed except for cause, but the moment five years have expired he can be removed at the pleasure of the Governor-General. That is all the difference in the world.

"But what we called attention to in 1895 was a very different condition of things from that which now exists in the Province of Ontario. In 1895 we called the attention of the House to the fact that some Lieutenant-Governors—for one of them, Sir John Schultz, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba; for another, Sir Leonard Tilley, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick—had been allowed to remain for days, not for months, but for years, after the expiration of the supposed term for which they had been appointed. In the case of Sir John Schultz, he had been allowed to remain in office for two years, and in the case of Sir Leonard Tilley, he had been allowed in office for a longer period, and we thought under those circumstances it was quite justifiable and proper that new power should be exercised, and that the Lieutenant-Governor should be appointed under a new commission.

Wants Other Instances.

"But, I call upon my honorable friend to show me a case in the long history of Confederation, in the thirty-five years during which it existed, where the Lieutenant-Governor has been removed from office immediately at the expiration of five years, during which he has been occupying that position. Such a case is not in existence. It has never been considered to be according to the courtesy due to the office that the incumbent of the office should be removed the moment the five years, during which he has occupied the position, has expired. On the contrary, we have granted, as a rule, to all incumbents of this office some little time before naming their successors. Sir Oliver Mowat was removable when the day expired; the day expired in November—November, December, January, February, March. March is not even past yet. Yet we are told that we must appoint a successor to fill the position; that because the Lieutenant-Governor has been four months in office, an old and venerable man, as Sir Oliver Mowat is, immediately as soon as his term of five years has expired we must apply the ax and remove him and put some one else in his place.

As to His Health.

"If Sir Oliver Mowat had not discharged the duties of the office with satisfaction to everybody there might be some cause which would justify the honorable gentleman in making this demand, but the hon. gentleman does not base his case on the fact that Sir Oliver Mowat has now come to the time in which he may be removed without cause, but he states that Sir Oliver Mowat is not fit to occupy the position which he occupies. Why is he not fit? Has anything been said in the press, in parliament, or any where else against the mental capacity of Sir Oliver Mowat? Not a word has been said against that. It is known and acknowledged that his mental faculties are bright and keen, altho Sir Oliver Mowat is not physically as strong as he was at one time. He is not as young as he was at one time, and we all deplore that fact, but I say again that no insinuation can be thrown against Sir Oliver Mowat, and if Sir Oliver Mowat were physically incapable of administrating the office he has too high a sense of honor to occupy the position one day more than he felt himself able to discharge the duties attaching to it.

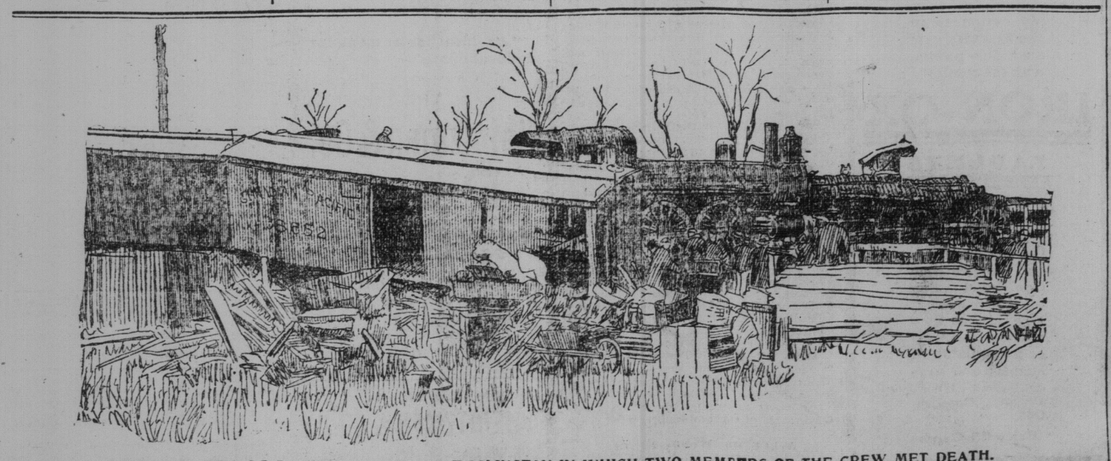
Thinks He is Able.

"But if he is occupying the position to-day it is because he thinks he can fulfil admirably the duties which he has in charge. Moreover, it is true, as has been said by my honorable friend, that there is a crisis in the Province of Ontario, an important crisis, in which the honor or the life of a government is at stake. I ask the hon. gentlemen opposite is the the time, is this the moment, when there is a grave crisis in Ontario to remove from the helm a man of such experience, of such knowledge, of such unimpeachable honor as Sir Oliver Mowat. If we were to remove Sir Oliver Mowat in the middle of such a crisis I think we would be committing a grave crime against the Province of Ontario. If we were to take away at this moment the firm and experienced hand that is at the helm of power in the Province of Ontario to-day I believe the Conservative party themselves would protest against such a course, and at all events it seems to me that it would be only the part, not only out of courtesy, but also of duty, for the honorable gentleman to wait until that crisis is over before he calls upon us to remove Sir Oliver Mowat from the position which he occupies and adorns.

"We are familiar with these facts, we remember them long ago, and this is only another repetition of the cry which we have been familiar with for twenty years that "Mowat must go." The province would resent it if we followed such an action, which I can tell my hon. friend we shall not follow."

Dr. Sproule's Logic.

Dr. Sproule, who made his first appearance of the session to-day, replied with vigor and logic, pointing out the inconsistency of Sir Wilfrid and strongly maintaining that Sir Oliver Mowat should be relieved at this time. W. B. Northrup, K.C., M.P., said that were Sir Oliver 20 years younger no one could complain of his holding on to office, but it was regrettable that the Lieutenant-Governor was one who had been so long and intimately connected with the present government, especially at such a crisis perilous to the national reputation and the stability of the country's institution. It was an unfortunate thing for public opinion. If any number of people considered that he was actuated in this crisis by political influence, a strong blow would be struck at our very constitution. This finished the discussion and the House adjourned at 5 o'clock.



WRECK OF TWO C.P.R. FREIGHT TRAINS AT ISLINGTON IN WHICH TWO MEMBERS OF THE CREW MET DEATH.

LASH OF THE LOBBY IS LONG.

Length Hinges Largely on the Passage of the Redistribution Bill.

Ottawa, March 17.—(Special)—The most noticeable thing in the corridors of the House of Commons to-day was the arrival of the Grand Trunk lobby. The C.P.R. lobby has been here off and on since the House opened. The Conservative lawyers prominent in the G.T.R. lobby were very much in evidence. This lobby has begun operations and before long every man in the House will have been sounded as to what he is likely to do in a given crisis. Then when all is ready the signal is given and the proposition whatever it may be goes thru. That this sesssion will see a lively lobby is evinced by its early appearance and its manifested earnestness of purpose. The importunate widow of biblical lore was never more assiduous in her pleas than is the railway lobby at Ottawa. And even as she got what she sought, so does the lobby.

Want Short Session.

Talk still goes on as to the probable length of the sesssion. One rumor that is remarkable for its persistence is that the government is anxious for a short session and is therefore willing to get the redistribution bill away in a hurry by referring it to a commission of judges and would even refer all matters relating to the tariff to a commission of which a strong effort will be made to make Hon. Mr. Tarte one, so as to satisfy the protective element.

The chief reason given for the government's desire for a short session is that it realizes Sir Wilfrid cannot stand the strain of a hard session and retain his health, even as he has it now. Besides it is no secret that Lady Laurier wishes him to retire to private life, and spend his remaining days far from the strife of politicians and mischief-makers. All his leisure-loving sympathies echo this desire, and it is only his idea of duty to his party and his friends that causes him to hold to the helm in spite of his physician's advice. He could withstand a short session, tho it would be his last, and could make a few speeches during a general election campaign as the leader of the party, and having again saved the day and given the Liberals new lease of life, could resign the reins of worry and responsibility.

Will Carve Constituencies.

Against the idea of a short session is placed the statement of Liberal members that they will oppose any scheme to refer the redistribution bill to judges. To a man the Liberals want it passed thru the House, and scanned by the members. To this end Whip Calvert has sent out invitations to representatives of the Liberal party in every riding in Ontario, and within a few weeks a convention will be held here to carve up the constituencies to suit the whim of the party managers.

Among the Liberal members it is stated openly that many constituencies will be wiped not. James Clancy, M.P., Bothwell, is marked as one who will lose his riding. W. B. Northrup, M.P. for East Hastings, is also on the list. The three Hastings will be made into two, South and North. South Leeds and Leeds and Grenville will be amalgamated, and George Taylor, M.P., and J. R. Lavell, M.P., both Conservatives, will toss up to see who has lost. Many other deaths are in store, but they are being kept quiet. Apparently the length of the session will turn in a great measure on the redistribution bill.

NOT GUILTY.

Winnipeg, March 17.—The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" in the murder charge against John Potvin, accused of the killing of Capt. John Rottero.

We are headquarters for Railing, Grills, Fences, Staircases. Send for descriptive literature. Canada Foundry Co., Limited, 14-16 King St. East.

It's the Same All Over.

Greene, N.Y., March 17.—At the annual election held here this afternoon, the village voted for municipal ownership of the waterworks and electric light system and to purchase the present electric light plant, to be used as an auxiliary. Two hundred and forty votes were polled, and among them not one straight negative vote was cast on the three propositions submitted.

TO-DAY IN TORONTO.

Intercollegiate debate, McMaster v. Wycliffe, at Conservatory of Music Hall, 8.

A. O. U. W. in session at Association Hall.

Congregational meeting, College-street Baptist Church, 8.

Industrial School Board, 5.

Yonge-street Methodist Church, Rev. O. Darwin on "Manitoba," 8.

PATENTS—Fetherstonhaugh & Co. Head Office, King-street West, Toronto, and Montreal, Ottawa and Washington

Six o'clock dinner at New Carlton Hotel

VERY CHEAP FLOWERS.

Roses 25c per doz., Tulips 25c per doz. Daffodils 25c per doz. All absolutely fresh. College Flower Shop, 448 Yonge St. Phone N. 1192.

Did you ever try the top barrel?

Try the Decanter at Thomas.

BIRTHS.

SINCLAIR—At Toronto General Hospital on Monday, March 16th, the wife of Norman A. Sinclair, of 493 Markham-street, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

STALKER—On Monday, March 16, 1903, at her late residence, 515 Queen-street East, Elizabeth, beloved wife of William Stalker, aged 33 years.

Funeral on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at 3 p.m., to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Kirkfield papers please copy.

IN MEMORIAM.

In memory of our beloved daughter, Eva Amelia (Dunn) Smith, who died on March 18th, 1901.

"Gone, but not forgotten."

Grand Jury's True Bills Against Bell Company

World's Fight on Odious Monopoly Results in Three Indictments Being Made.

True bill returned by the Grand Jury against the Bell Telephone Company for unlawfully conspiring and restraint of trade:

The jurors of our Lord the King present that the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Limited, within the limits of the County of York, in the month of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and three, unlawfully did conspire, agree and arrange with a certain railway company, to wit, with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to unduly limit the facilities for transporting articles and commodities, which are the subjects of trade or commerce, to wit, ordinary farm and other produce, by refusing telephone communication and privileges to one Harrison Johnston, and others, thereby committing an indictable offence, contrary to the Criminal Code, Sec. 520.

And the jurors aforesaid do further present that afterwards, to wit, in the month and year aforesaid, within the limits of the County of York aforesaid, the said Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Limited, unlawfully did agree and arrange with a certain railway company, to wit, with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to unduly limit facilities for supplying and dealing in certain articles or commodities, which are the subjects of trade or commerce, to wit, in telephone instruments, apparatus and wires, and did thereby commit an indictable offence, contrary to the Criminal Code, Sec. 520.

And the jurors aforesaid do therefore present that afterwards, to wit, in the month and year aforesaid, within the limits of the County of York aforesaid, the said Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Limited, unlawfully did agree and arrange with a certain railway company, to wit, with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, to unduly prevent or lessen competition in the sale, transportation and supply of certain articles or commodities, which are subjects of trade or commerce, to wit, in telephones, telephone apparatus and wires, and did thereby then commit an indictable offence, contrary to the Criminal Code, Sec. 520.

Trial Opens in May.

The Bell Telephone Company must face three indictments for criminal conspiracy. This is the result of The World's fight for the rural district around Locust Hill, and incidentally for the principle of municipal and district ownership of public utility franchises. Crown Attorney Dewart says a copy of the indictments will be furnished the Bell Company to-day, and the issues will be joined by Saturday. He does not anticipate that a trial will be reached before the May term. It is clear now that the case is to be pushed with vigor.

World Makes the Fight.

The indictments are based upon the law unearthed by The World when the paper was seeking to force the Bell Company to withdraw its objection to the Rural Telephone Company putting a 'phone in the C.P.R. station at Locust Hill. At the same time the exclusive contract was made public by The World, and the fact brought out that the agreement was in violation of the criminal law.

Here is the story in brief of the striking events of the great fight for the rights of the plain people which The World has led with so much vigor:

Details of Lively Fight.

Jan. 16.—The World published a news item that farmers of Markham and Pickering were organizing to build an independent telephone line.

Feb. 5—The World published an item that that line was about completed, and that access was denied to Locust Hill station.

Feb. 7—The farmers of Markham laid their case before their M.P., W. F. Maclean. He advised them to wire Sir Thomas Shaughnessy. Sir Thomas replied that he could do nothing.

Feb. 10—Telephone correspondence extending over two days between Mr. Maclean and Sir Thomas Shaughnessy.

Continued on Page 4.

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION.

Prof. Goldwin Smith and Mrs. Smith have donated $2000 to the Convocation Hall Fund for Toronto University. It is only another instance of appreciation shown by Prof. Goldwin Smith of the work done by the provincial institution, and his support and co-operation has been a stimulus to the administration for many years.

Ladies' Walking Hats.

The stylish New Yorker is noted for her stylish hats. They are never gaudy—but always rich and tasty, yet plain. Generally they are in straw effects of splendid quality. The Bineen Company imported last week some new designs by some of the best of the New York ladies' tailors. These are precisely the same as are worn by the elite of American society.

MILD, WITH SHOWERS.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, March 17.—(8 p.m.)—Showers have been fairly general from the lake region to the Maritime Provinces, whilst in Manitoba the weather has been moderately cold, amended by some light snowfalls. A disturbance appears to be now developing in the vicinity of Kansas, and the outlook is for continued mild weather.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 34—48; Calgary, 10 below—26; Qu'Appelle, 6—30; Winnipeg, 4—32; Port Arthur, 16—43; Parry Sound, 34—40; Toronto, 39—59; Ottawa, 34—40; Montreal, 36—42; Quebec, 32—40; Halifax, 28—46.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Easterly winds; fair to cloudy; continued quite mild, with some showers, more especially towards evening and during the night.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence—Continued mild; fair to cloudy, with some showers, more especially on Thursday.

Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Winds mostly northeast and east; generally fair and mild; a few light scattered showers.

Maritime—Moderate winds, gradually shifting to north and east; cloudy to partly cloudy and mild, with a few local showers.

Lake Superior—Strong easterly to northeasterly winds; sleet and rain.

Manitoba—Northeasterly to northwesterly winds; moderately cold, with some local snow falls.

EDWARDS & COMPANY, Chartered Accountants, 26 Wellington St. East Geo. Edwards F.C.A., A. H. Edwards

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

Mar. 17.	At.	From.
Mesaba	New York	London
Corean	Glasgow	Boston
Zealand	Antwerp	New York
Pennsylvania	Plymouth	New York

SANDERSON'S MOUNTAIN DEW SCOTCH known for its purity.

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