

THE HAMILTON TIMES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1908.

THOSE PROPOSITIONS.

It can scarcely be said that the elaborate computations made by the City Hall officials of how the proposals under consideration in the negotiations with the Street Railway will affect the financial part of the agreement, are very enlightening. As a mere matter of mathematics they show that if the assumption on which the tabulations are based are realized the city will, in accepting Col. Gibson's proposition, forego a considerable sum in revenue within the next 21 years. The weakness of the entire fabric of figures consists in its foundation on an assumption of a year by year uniform increase of 10 per cent. in the company's earnings being realized, so that twenty years hence the \$316,739 of last year—its most prosperous year, and the culmination of six or eight years of prosperity in the country—will have grown to about two and a quarter millions. Obviously, this assumption is a very large one, and one upon which it would be very unsafe to found a business transaction. It is, of course, within the range of possibilities that it may be realized, or even exceeded, but we do not think the estimate errs on the side of pessimism.

The "probable payment" item of the City Hall estimate, which depends entirely on the unknown quantity of the annual receipts of the future, is placed at \$782,388, being 5 per cent. of the estimated 10 per cent. yearly increase in receipts; and this is the only speculative item in the statement. The difference in the two proposals is the difference between that \$782,388 and the \$247,500 of Col. Gibson's proposal. It is to be noted, however, that Col. Gibson's proposal entirely eliminates the element of chance, so far as the city is concerned. It guarantees payments which aggregate, during the franchise term, \$937,538. That is a sum less by the \$334,888 above referred to than the City Hall estimate. It is this amount, spread over the twenty-one years upon which estimates may exercise their skill. Col. Gibson's offer would leave only the Street Railway to be affected by the chances of increase or decrease of earnings. Rise or fall, the city would receive its payment, as agreed upon. If they fell, the company would lose; if they rose, it would be the gainer.

But it is to be remembered that if, by the rearrangement, a largely extended street railway system is secured, the increase in gross earnings may not bring a corresponding increase of profit to the company. Cost of operation will certainly be increased thereby, while receipts will probably not increase in some years in proportion thereto. A large additional sum of capital will have to be invested in the railways also. These and similar facts must be taken into consideration at arriving at a judgment upon the proposal. The aldermen must, of course, give due attention to the mere franchise rental side of the question, but it is not the only one involved. The people want a street railway in extension, equipment and operation which will meet the present needs of the city and keep pace with its growth in the future. That is a side of the question which the aldermen should not allow the consideration of the financial part to obscure. They must take every precaution to provide this for the citizens. It is of as great importance as is the work of guessing at what the percentages of increase of earnings will be during the term.

PRODIGAL SPENDERS.

The Ontario Budget is notable for two things—the great increase in the amount of money taken from the people by the Government, and the startling increase in every department of public expenditure. At the Tory banquet in Toronto on Monday night, Premier Whitney disposed of this enormous increase in the expenditure by saying that his Government saw "that the people did not desire to have the Government board money." The revenue for 1907 was \$8,520,419. Of this large amount, the Dominion Government gave Ontario, as subsidy, \$1,734,029, and an interest balance of \$188,721. Of the total revenue \$3,068,394 comes from the Department of Lands, Forests and Mines, which Whitney has declared to be so much money taken from capital. By one form of tax or another, \$3,320,419 was raised. From succession duties alone—described by Whitney as "robbery" and "outrage"—\$1,403,933 was raised.

The expenditure for the year, independent of an advance of nearly two and a half millions to the T. & N. O. R., was \$7,714,245. This is nearly a million more than the expenditure of last year, which was \$6,720,179, and \$2,318,229 more than 1905. If any of our readers are wherein the country receives benefits from Whitney rule in proportion to this enormous annual increase in taxation and expenditure, we imagine they must be gifted with perception not generally possessed by the masses of the people of Ontario.

ONE GRIT RASCALITY.

Replying to a correspondent who took it sharply to task for its denunciation of the Dominion Government's course in entering into negotiations with the United States to regulate the taking of water from Niagara River above the Falls, the Mail and Empire makes a rather humiliating excuse for its editorial policy. It admits that it would "deprecate, as a policy of monumental vandalism, the unrestricted depredation of the flow of water over the

Falls; and whimpers that it was simply emphasizing the point that the Ontario Government is one of the parties concerned. It says it does not deny "that the Dominion has rights over an international boundary stream," and it seeks to excuse its foolish and partisan attack on Laurier, whom it represented as desirous of giving up Canada's rights to the United States, by saying that he "ought to have been considerate enough to confer with the Ontario Government, before dealing with Washington." Surely the excuse offered by the Mail and Empire for its partisan and unmanly attack on the Ontario Liberal Government will hardly tend to raise it in the estimation of that correspondent, or the public generally. It shows that the organ has no compunctions against grossly misrepresenting the motives and objects of the Liberal Government, and condemning it as unpatriotic and unwise, even when it is doing a work which appeals to all reasonable men, and which it itself is constrained to admit is good and laudable, and in the best interests of Canada. Does the organ really entertain the idea that the Dominion Government should not exercise its functions under the constitution in guarding the interests of the country without first finding out what Premier Whitney, Hon. Adam Beck, or perhaps even the delectable Gagey, might think of it? The organ's course in this matter should illustrate its methods in a manner to enable its readers to estimate the value (!) of its opinions upon Liberal policy generally.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Ash Wednesday.

Is it 23 for Mr. Barrow?

Looks like anarchy in Chicago.

Possibly Toronto thinks it's ripe for local option.

Society with a capital S will now withdraw from public notice for a season.

If Mr. Barrow has to go there is some talk of a sympathetic strike over at the City Hall.

Like the prodigal son, Whitney is wasting his substance with a riotous sort of prodigality.

Perhaps Mr. Sothman will be asked to interpret the latest offer of the Street Railway Company.

Did the Mayor receive the sanction of the Executive Committee to ask Mr. Barrow for his resignation?

If all the proposed railroads that are to run into Hamilton were built, we would have a railroad centre, sure enough.

The Hamilton Presbytery is apparently not over-enthusiastic on the question of church union. It has a belief that unless the union is heartily entered into by all it had better not be consummated.

Whitney blustered a lot about the power matter the other night at the Tory banquet, but he was very far from meeting and refuting the Electric Development Company's very ugly charges against him.

On what kind of meat does Mayor Stewart feed these days? By what right does he go about asking resignations from city servants? Does he purpose dispensing with the aldermen altogether and establishing a benign despotism?

The announcement in the House yesterday by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to visit Canada and attend the tercentenary celebration at Quebec will be received with much satisfaction by the people generally.

Knifing an old, capable and trustworthy official like Barrow is bad enough; but doing it to add a cost of several thousand dollars a year to the ratepayers to make a berth for another man in aldermanic fare is worse. Keep your eye on the plotters!

The Times sincerely hopes that the Central Church and St. James' Church will be able to come to some amicable arrangement regarding the apportionment of their section of the vineyard.

Information to which the Opposition and the country is by all rules of precedent entitled has been time and again denied—Hamilton Spectator.

The Spectator knows full well that the Opposition has been refused no returns that are in the possession of the Government. Why its falsehood?

The nominal value of British brewing stocks is said to have shrunk \$250,000,000 in two days, owing to the announcement of the provisions of the new British Licensing Bill, but not a dollar of the real value of any property involved has been lost; only the wind has been squeezed out.

Mr. MacKay and Mr. Preston did what they could to prod Mr. Whitney into action to increase the age limit at which children should be allowed to work in shops and factories. They succeeded in having it increased from 10 to 12 years. They do not think that high enough, but it was all Whitney could concede.

The expected has happened down in New Brunswick, and after a rule of twenty-five years the Liberals have had to give place to the Tories. The people, no doubt, thought it was time for a change, although no great scandal attached to the record of the Liberal Government. Perhaps what principally led

to the defeat of the Government was the fact that the leading men—the successive Premiers—had quit from time to time the local arena for Federal politics, leaving untended men to carry on the work.

It is understood that some of the aldermen have decided to take a course in the differential calculus, quadratic sections, logarithms and things in order to enable them to understand the latest street railway proposition made by Colonel Gibson—Hamilton Herald.

Then they will probably send the Mayor to Northern India to receive training by the Hindu Yogis, in order to be able to understand what the Hydro-Electric Commission's offers to the municipalities really mean.

The quashing of the conviction of Trudell & Tobey, who were fined \$25 because of an attraction in their shop window drew a crowd which obstructed the sidewalk, affords a good principle—the right of private citizens to conduct their own business on their own premises, free from aldermanic interference. Aldermen are far too prone to project themselves into private affairs. And, by the way, does not the declaring of this by-law illegal give a hint of what might be expected to happen to the snow by-law, were it tested?

Those who wish to do a wrong action are rarely at a loss for an excuse. Almost anything will do; witness the plea made that Mr. Barrow should resign "to give the committee a freer hand" in re-organizing the departments! As well ask that every one in the city's employ resign. The committee has a free hand. The Council can dispose of any employee's services as it will. That such an excuse should be made indicates that there is some purpose other than re-organization to be effected. For whom is a fat job sought to be made at the cost of the taxpayers?

That the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier is fighting with a desperation that betokens extreme straits to prevent the white light of publicity from shining upon its departmental deeds is suspiciously significant. The spectacle cannot but cause doubts to arise in the minds even of men who have heretofore been friendly to the administration—Hamilton Spectator.

The above talk looks foolish beside the explanation of Mr. Gudeau, the Deputy Minister of Marine, that he was responsible for the delay in bringing down the returns clamored for by Foster and his colleagues. So many returns have been asked for by the Opposition in the hope of finding some scandal that the departmental staffs find it impossible to make up the returns as they are demanded.

It is true that no technical college has yet materialized in Hamilton, and it is also true that none will materialize for a considerable time to come. And, to make a triplet of truths, it should be stated that when the technical college comes, as it surely will in Ontario, it will be located in Hamilton—Hamilton Spectator.

That is a "good enough Morgan" for election purposes, but to the people of Hamilton it sounds rather gassy, after Dr. Pyne's statement of a day or two ago. Hamilton will get just as much technical school as she is ready to tax her people to pay for, but a Provincial Technical College—well, that is another matter, and if Ontario money is to build and support it, Whitney will see that Toronto gets it.

Municipal power boomers in Winnipeg are extremely optimistic. They estimate that the proposed municipal power works could cost \$1,000,000 horse-power, at prices ranging from \$16.33 to \$98 per horse-power, for use of motors; \$130 per horse-power for elevators, and \$185 per horse-power for electric lighting, thus securing an income of \$1,252,000. At present the Electric Railway Company supplies all the electric light and power required, its total revenue from the sale of gas, electric light and power being \$743,796. It is estimated by the Winnipeg Free Press that probably \$308,796 of that revenue comes from power sales. Have they some ambitions Adam Beck up in Winnipeg?

In Belfast, Ireland, a fine new building has been opened for a Municipal Technical Institute. It offers thirteen courses of studies, including technical courses in mechanical and electrical engineering, textile industries, pure and applied chemistry, mathematics, wood-working, painting and decorating, plumbing, handling and spinning flax, weaving, bleaching, dyeing and analyzing waters and dye materials, modern languages, short-hand, bookkeeping, commercial forms, drawing, cookery, dress-making, millinery, laundry work and lace making. It is pleasing to learn that the institution has the hearty support of all classes, and that the various labor organizations urge their members and apprentices to avail themselves of the advantages it offers.

A Toronto paper makes the appeal to Mr. Barrow to amend the Railway Act so as to prevent any railway crossing any street or highway in Toronto without the consent of the municipality. It is to be hoped that Mr. Graham will make no such amendment. Any municipality has as much right to be permitted to hold up a railway as has Toronto, and it would be very unwise to subject every Provincial or Dominion railway to be blackmailed in this way. The law should apply to all railways and to all municipalities uniformly. We have a Dominion Railway Commission, and an Ontario Railway and Municipal Board. The law already provides that the Dominion Railway Commission's approval of its plans shall be obtained as to the crossing of streets. That should serve every honest purpose. It gives greater assurance of justice than could any amendment such as proposed.

OUR EXCHANGES

Easy for Them.
(Toronto Star.)
Sermons on extravagant living, we apprehend, are not timely because the rich are first to retrench in hard times. Poor people who had been living on nothing can get along on a little less.

Foster's Nerve.
(London Advertiser.)
In hurling accusations of theft, Mr. Foster is living proof that a man's nerve may grow in inverse ratio to his conscience.

Her Failing.
(Toronto News.)
She seemed a decent sort of girl, When first I saw her face. She moved and the lines of her dress With elegance and grace. Her tailored skirt was neat and trim, But when I saw her foot, alas! She wore a purple spall!

Our Share in Another Way.
(Montreal Star.)
Australia is not at the antipodes and is moreover under the lee of Asia; while we are within a few days steaming of the British Isles and are not likely to be subject to naval attack from our nearest neighbor. This is indeed, one of the reasons why we should exclaim every other means of doing our share toward the defence of the Empire before we take up the difficult problem of naval contribution.

Annexation.
(Goddwin Shanks.)
The author of the letter of Sir John Macdonald says that certain persons have been "feeling Annexation in the stars." Annexation is a laudable word, suggesting inequality and submission. That the English-speaking race on this continent, rent asunder by a breach was healing, by war of 1812 got up by Clay in the crack of the cannon, now unite merely by a political line, will some day be completely re-united, and more certainly if a drastic inclusion continues, is a belief different from Annexation, and co-existent with that which has been held by many British subjects. Meantime, no one who knows the people of the Empire imagines that they have any design "Annexation."

The Education of Peddlers.
(Montreal Star.)
While the city council is talking of increasing license fees, it should consider the need to take up some of their peddlers. What is wanted is a code of etiquette for peddlers, agents and the like. It should be regarded as "faux pas" for a solicitor to insert his foot in the crack of the cannon, now unite merely by a political line, will some day be completely re-united, and more certainly if a drastic inclusion continues, is a belief different from Annexation, and co-existent with that which has been held by many British subjects. Meantime, no one who knows the people of the Empire imagines that they have any design "Annexation."

WISDOM
Nature seldom hides a massive brain behind a pretty face.

It must be a great relief to some poor fellow who waves become widowed.

The man with a wife and several grown up daughters seldom hears his money.

Don't think because a man buys a volume of poetry that he is going to read it.

It's up to the man who is unable to see any good in the world to consult an oculist.

The average man will stand without hitching a good deal better than if tied with an apron string.

Ever notice that almost every one you talk with gives you some information that isn't of any earthly use to you?

CANDY MAN DEAD.
Burlington, Vt., March 4.—Thomas Archibald, a wholesale candy manufacturer, died yesterday, aged 70 years.

BABY BOY HAD ITCHING HUMOR
Which Broke Out in Different Places—Nothing Would Help Him—Mother Almost in Despair—Skin Quickly Healed Without a Scar and Trouble Has Never Returned

SINCE USING CUTICURA
MOTHER GIVES IT PRAISE

"Several months ago, my little boy, now three and a half years old, began to break out with itching humors. I began to doctor him, and as soon as I got tired of that, I began to despair. I could not get anything that would help him. One evening I read a testimonial from a lady who had cured her little boy with Cuticura. I began to use the Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment, and after using them three times, the sores commenced to heal. He is now well, and not a scar is left on his body. They had almost left him with a bad blood, as one would think. Cuticura Remedies are the best I have ever used, and they are surely great. I shall always have them in the house, handy, and shall highly recommend them to all my friends. Likewise, I cannot give them too much praise. Mrs. William Geeding, 102 Washington St., Attica, Ind., July 22, 1907."

ITCHING TORMENTS
From little patches of eczema, tetter, milium crust, pruritis, etc., on the skin, scalp, or hands of infants, children, or adults are instantly relieved and speedily cured, in the majority of cases, by warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointings with Cuticura Ointment, the great Skin Cure, assisted, when necessary, by mild doses of Cuticura Resolvent. Cuticura Remedies are guaranteed absolutely pure.

Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin. Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent to Purify the Blood. Sold throughout the world. Fuller Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston, Mass.

At the Savoy Theatre.
A strong comedy act at the Savoy Theatre continues to delight patrons of that theatre, and especially is this true of the clever sketch presented by the Fawcett-Sinclair company. It is a solid laughing hit, brimful of humor, wit, and thoroughly pleasing in every detail. Mr. Sinclair is the cleverest Irish comedian that has been seen here this season. The act is staged with special scenery, representing a flat-topped island in New York and will satisfy the demands of the most exacting patron of vaudeville. Another pair of head-line attractions are the Elgion Comedians, an acrobatic troupe, and the American Banjo Four, who are performing a variety of songs, and who are one of the best numbers of its kind seen here yet. That is saying much for the Savoy, and it is a fact that the Savoy is famous for the excellence of its acrobatic numbers. The Comedians go through a routine of clever work at the top of the show, and are followed by the Banjo Four, who are performing a variety of songs, and who are one of the best numbers of its kind seen here yet. That is saying much for the Savoy, and it is a fact that the Savoy is famous for the excellence of its acrobatic numbers. The Comedians go through a routine of clever work at the top of the show, and are followed by the Banjo Four, who are performing a variety of songs, and who are one of the best numbers of its kind seen here yet. That is saying much for the Savoy, and it is a fact that the Savoy is famous for the excellence of its acrobatic numbers. The Comedians go through a routine of clever work at the top of the show, and are followed by the Banjo Four, who are performing a variety of songs, and who are one of the best numbers of its kind seen here yet. 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