

The Toronto World

A Morning Newspaper Published Every Day in the Year.

MR. W. H. PEARSON'S RETIRAL.

At the annual meeting of the Consumers' Gas Company to-day, Mr. W. H. Pearson, long known as its manager, and for 55 years engaged in its service, will present his last report. Mr. Pearson has announced his intention to retire at the close of the month, as his long toil and weight of years fully entitle him to do. Mr. Pearson has honored himself and dignified the community by a record of faithful and devoted labor, and the maintenance of a standard of single-eyed regard for the interests to which he owed allegiance. Ideals of conduct are not so closely followed and examples such as Mr. Pearson's are not so common that society can afford to overlook or ignore them. Humanity is the better for the fidelity of a faithful servant, and that quite apart from the cause he serves.

The World on one occasion expressed regret that Mr. Pearson's services had not been directly dedicated to his fellow-citizens, and that the corporation which employed him had not been taken over by the city. With the announcement of Mr. Pearson's retirement there comes the news that the capital stock of the Consumers' Gas Company is to be increased from \$3,000,000 to \$6,000,000. This is to be put up at auction as agreed upon by the city. The result is that the shares will bring a price equal to a return of about five per cent. The last auction sale averaged 156, and the shares are now selling at 205. As the charter restricts the payment of dividends to ten per cent, such prices are practically equal to an assured return of five per cent on the investment. The provision effectually does away with the evil of watering, and might well be insisted upon by the legislature in the case of all companies operating public utilities. But there is no reason why this increased capital should be got in the way of a stock issue; it should be raised by the issue of bonds carrying a four per cent, or less, interest. It will be much easier for the city to take over the franchise with a small share capital and a bond issue, and the city ought to see that only bonds and not stock are authorized by the legislature when the bill for further securities is before it.

It would be of great advantage to the city if as close a supervision were maintained over the subsidiary companies and activities of the Consumers' Gas Company. The admirable regulations which govern the present organization in its dealings with the city might well be extended to those which depend upon it for their existence.

RECENT MURDER TRIALS.

Two important criminal cases, both involving the capital charge, were tried at the assizes that have just closed. The most notable of these was the second arraignment of Walter Blythe for wife murder, the earlier verdict having been set aside by the court of appeal, after various intermediate and ineffectual appeals to the executive authorities, during the dependence of which the prisoner was twice reprieved, three stood within the immediate shadow of the gallows. The World was of the opinion that, on humanitarian grounds, commutation should have followed upon the first reprieve, and the result of the second trial has completely justified its attitude. To urge that a condemned man should not be tortured by successive reprieves; at the eleventh hour, involves no extenuation or palliation of the crime for which he lies convicted, for there is no good reason why the original day appointed for the execution should not be fixed sufficiently far forward to allow applications either to the court of appeal or the governor-general in council, and sufficient time for their proper consideration. This is the rule in England, where a reprieve is always regarded as a preliminary step to commutation.

In the other case—that of Mrs. Mabel Turner, charged with infanticide—the jury, notwithstanding a very strong chain of circumstantial evidence, brought in a verdict of manslaughter. For this the jurymen have incurred sharp censure and also various reasons have been offered in justification of their decision, what appears to have influenced them, or a majority of them, wholly or mainly was strong aversion to the execution of a woman. The increasing prevalence of this tendency is not peculiar to Canada, it has been observed both in Britain and the United States, and it is quite understandable, however illogical it may be. The public is not governed by logic but by sentiment, and juries drawn from the public necessarily reflect the public mind. Nor is it in the least improbable that some of the severest critics of the Turner jury, had they shared in its immediate responsibility, would also have shrunk from the consequence. Changes in public temper afford no valid ground for tampering with the time-honored jury system, though, generally, they may suggest the propriety of a corresponding change in the law. Or if that be deemed inadvisable, conference on the jury of the right to exclude the death penalty.

PROVINCIAL OPPORTUNITIES.

Once more a note of warning has been sounded on the subject of the forest, wealth, or, perhaps, more correctly, the forest immortality of the country. Prof. Fernow, in addressing the Canadian Club at Berlin, assumed the responsibility of his position as dean of the faculty of forestry in the University of Toronto, and repeated the advice which must continue to be reiterated and reiterated until the governments of the provinces and the Dominion are moved to action.

As regards Ontario, he pointed out that only one-third of the area of the province would ever be useful for agriculture; the other two-thirds, in the thin soil of the rocky Laurentian plateau, was in imminent danger of becoming a desert. This was especially true of the eastern area, but even in southwestern Ontario two-fifths was suitable only for the growth of fuel and timber, while at the same time only forest would maintain the stream flow and favorable climatic conditions.

The present forest policy of the government is not specially adapted to such ends, and Dr. Fernow readily accounted for it as a survival from former times, whose conditions gave it birth. Even the reforestation of 135,000 acres of waste lands in Lambton, Norfolk, Simcoe, Durham and Northumberland, would cost three as much at the end of sixty years as it would have cost had the natural timber land been cared for so as to prevent it becoming waste.

A radical change of attitude and a radical cure was needed, he declared, and he believed this could be brought about by a royal commission, which could ascertain the conditions and devise new plans in detail. The people of Ontario in general scarcely realize the extent to which they are indebted to their forests. The covetous eyes directed from the south at the present time should awaken them to this, before a failure of revenue more forcibly calls attention to it. Even without the investigations and the advice of a royal commission the government should have sufficient information available, and available initiative to go a long way in the adoption of methods similar to those which in all European forest-conserving nations are recognized as essential to success. Conditions in Ontario are different, but not so different that we can afford to waste any opportunities or throw away any chances.

The Court of Revision.

Editor World: Before the court of revision on Wednesday, an outline of the principle followed by the assessment department is given something like this:

The earning power of a property forms the basis of valuation. On building 5 per cent, is assumed, made up of 3 per cent, interest, 1 per cent, sinking fund, 1 per cent, insurance and 1 per cent, for repairs, while for the land 4 per cent, is allowed.

The scheme thus reported fails to take into consideration the tax itself, which practically adds 2 per cent, more. If a property does not earn the taxes, where are they to come from?

Now, if due allowance has been made for this additional charge, I have nothing more to say, otherwise, I think a serious injustice is committed.

For example: A man buys a vacant lot for \$1000, borrowing the money at the lowest rate, 5 per cent. He leases it on a 21 year renewable lease, and assuming for simplicity that he continues to pay the ground tax, must charge an annual rental of \$70 to come out even.

Along comes the assessor, who figures out that on a 4 per cent, basis, a rental of \$70 represents a valuation of \$1750, or 75 per cent, more than the purchase price, and the owner's tax bill is not \$20, as he innocently expected, but \$35, leaving him \$15 in the hole.

And this assessment is liable to increase periodically, sometimes in a rather startling way, while the rent remains fixed. When eventually the owner is fortunate enough to obtain an increase of rent, that might make up for previous deficits, the department with one stroke doubles his assessment and the last state of that owner is worse than the first. The assessor triumphantly points to the increasing rental to show the extraordinary rise in values over night, ignoring the fact that he has been taking a progressive toll from the property while the rent remained stationary.

Now, Mr. Editor, if I have got a hold of the wrong end of their method, or have made a faulty application of it, I would be very much pleased to have some one correct me.

B. McEntee.

COTTON MILLS TO CURTAIL

Output of Several Million Spindles to Be Reduced.

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 25.—The officials of the Arkwright Club reported to-day that cotton manufacturers in New England, representing several million spindles, have expressed their intention of following out the club's suggestions for a curtailment equivalent to 224 hours between November 1 and August next.

It was also stated that while some of the mills might not curtail unless there was general action on the part of a large majority, many other mill treasurers have announced that they will close their factories regardless of what action others may take.

Assurances have been received, it is said, from mills in New York State that they will follow the example of the New England mills.

The other mills included in the Arkwright Club, join the movement, between nine million and ten million spindles will be affected.

Holy Ghosts for South America. PORTLAND, Me., Oct. 25.—With her destination unannounced, but believed to be South America, the barkentine Kingbird of the naval fleet of the Holy Ghost and U. S. Society of Shiloh, of which Rev. Frank W. Sandford is leader, sailed to-day and headed southward. It was not known whether Rev. Sandford was on board. The Kingdom has been provisioned for a long voyage and a number of the society's followers have been taken on board.

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PUBLISHER A MOULDER OF NATIONAL IDEALS

Hon. Mackenzie King Considers Printed Page an Influence Second to None.

That the industry of publishing and the distribution of the printed product is one of the most potent influences in moulding the thought and aspirations of a young nation such as Canada, was the view expressed by Hon. W. L. M. King, minister of labor, in an address given at the banquet of the Canadian Book Stationery and Publishing Trades Association at the Prince George last night.

J. G. Cloke, of Hamilton, the president, was introduced and with an attendance of seventy members, the event was a marked success. Hon. Mr. King, who with D. C. Hosack and Geo. H. Locke, chief librarian, replied to the toast, “Our Guests,” said that the publisher had much to do with furnishing the public with material for thought and reflection, and that the great old-established publishing houses of Great Britain had exerted a tremendous influence for a century and a half. The commercial side was not the important one, as the educational influence was second to none.

And in an impressive young nation, like Canada, the future of the country depended greatly upon the character of its literature. It was the duty of the Canadian publisher to rescue genius from obscurity, Canada already had literary merit, and development along this line should be encouraged.

The toast, “The Press,” proposed by H. Butts, was responded to by J. M. Elson; “The Trade,” proposed by E. Brown, by M. J. Hay, St. Thomas, and W. Sulman, M.P., Chatham; “The Press,” proposed by Geo. Mason with J. B. Hay responding, and “Our Association,” proposed by A. T. Chapman, Montreal, and replied to by R. S. Porter.

SHIP IS RACING TARIFF LIMIT.

On Saturday U. S. Will Increase the Duties Against France.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—What is regarded as a distinct concession to importing interests and to France was made by the United States treasury department to-day in directing the collector of customs at the various United States ports to keep custom houses open until 4.30 p.m. next Saturday, Oct. 30, on which date the commercial treaty with France, Switzerland and Bulgaria will expire. The purpose of the order is to give every facility to importers to enter goods for the reduced rates of the expiring treaty, and applies particularly to New York and a few other cities where the custom houses close ordinarily at 1 p.m. on Saturday in deference to local law or custom.

A French trans-Atlantic liner is making a race against time in order to get a cargo of goods in under the lower rates provided by the commercial agreement. The steamer is scheduled to arrive early Saturday afternoon and to-day's extension of the hours will permit her to enter the goods under the expiring agreement.

There is a great deal of champagne, which already has been entered, but not yet withdrawn, and consequently the reduced rate on the port of New York. The champagne can now be withdrawn from the customs warehouse at the rate of \$6 per dozen quarts, but if the withdrawal is delayed until Oct. 31, or after, it will have to pay \$9.60 per dozen quarts under the new tariff.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS ADOPT TRAINING COURSE

First Series of Handbooks for Teachers Issued by Union Committee.

These are the days of union. A movement of national scope is taking definite shape in the publication of a Canadian Teachers' Training Course. The committee constituted 18 months ago to represent the leading denominations of Canada and the various Sunday School associations has been hard at work and as a result of its labors there is being published this week the first of the handbooks of the course, which includes: The Old Testament, Rev. Prof. J. F. McLaughlin, B.D., Toronto; the New Testament, Rev. Prof. J. W. Falconer, M.A., B.D., Halifax; The Schools, J. A. Jackson, B.A., Toronto; The Pupil, W. A. McIntyre, M.A., L.L.D., Winnipeg; The Teacher, W. E. Groves, Toronto.

These five books will constitute an elementary teacher training course of the first standard, according to the requirements of the International Sunday School Association.

The general committee having the course in charge consisted of the following: Presbyterian Church in Canada—Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, Toronto; Rev. Alex. MacGillivray, Rev. J. C. Robertson, B.A., Rev. John Neil, D.D., Montreal; Methodist Church in Canada—Rev. S. T. Bartlett, Rev. J. J. Redick; Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec—Rev. B. W. Merrill, B.A., E. A. Hardy, B.A.; Baptist Convention of Western Canada—Rev. E. J. Schutt, M.A., B.D., Capetown; Anglican Church (unofficially)—R. W. M.A., Herbert Mortimer; Evangelical Association—Rev. D. Hewing; Congregational Union of Canada—Rev. W. T. Gunn, S.A.; Ontario S.S. Association—Wm. Hamilton, S.S.; Quebec S.S. Association—Rev. E. T. Capel; Western S.S. Association—Stuart Muirhead, S.S.; Nova Scotia S.S. Association—Dr. P. J. Macdonald, S.S.; New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island S.S. Association—Dr. P. J. Macdonald, S.S.; Nova Scotia S.S. Association—Dr. P. J. Macdonald, S.S.

Of this general committee Rev. John Neil, D.D., was appointed chairman and Mr. E. A. Hardy secretary. An editorial committee was appointed of 23 members, with E. A. Hardy as chairman, and to this committee the preparation of the syllabi of the courses of study was entrusted. The selection of the authors and the details of publication, Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, D.D., and Mr. Hardy acted as editorial revision committee. The committee believe that the syllabi of the courses of study, adopted by the various provincial Sunday School associations and in Canadian Sunday School work, will lead to a great improvement in the efficiency of Canadian Sunday Schools.

Every ill has its antidote. Rheumatism, sciatica and nervous troubles have as nature's antidote the waters of the “St. Catharines Well.” Visit St. Catharines, on the main line Grand Trunk Railway, and take a course of baths and you will find your youth renewed. Connected with the spring is “The Welland,” a modern hotel with everything needed for comfort and complete rest.

A booklet with full information will be sent by addressing manager, “The Welland,” St. Catharines, Ont.

Louis F. Lautenslager, general manager of the Great Lakes Towing Co., Buffalo, N.Y., was dragged half a block by a street car and will likely die. He had attempted to board a rapidly moving car.

Instantly her southern blood was up. She saw something was wrong, or, in other words, she “smelt a rat.” The friends of criticism that she hurled at the 250 officials, from the mayor down, was good enough for a vaudeville skit.

When she got home she wept and her landlady told her to go to a certain law firm.

To her surprise she learned that the lawyer to whom she told her whole story had been kept awake by the same dog. He lived in the neighborhood. Moreover, he had had complaints from nearly the whole neighborhood and he would have entered a prosecution but for the fact that he had learned that the dog belonged to either Mayor or Joseph Oliver, James Seymour Corley, crown attorney, Walter Duncan, inspector of detectives, or Dr. Capon, dental surgeon. All of these gentlemen, he explained, were contemplating a hunting trip, which must certainly take place soon, unless they had had the beast on short rations almost long enough to make a corpse of it. The worst that could befall any of the possible owners if she failed to get a fine and that would not be dignified for them.

The licensed lady, who sleeps within two feet of the dog, has concluded that no justice can be expected in Toronto, when the mayor, the crown attorney, the police officials and the Humane Society get mixed up in a starvation campaign against dumb brutes.

Dog Removed at Last. P.S.—The doctor telephoned the lawyer on Saturday morning to say that the dog had been removed to the suburbs.

\$10.00 New York and Return from Suspension Bridge via Letch Valley Railroad, Thursday, Oct. 23; tickets good ten days. Particulars No. 10.

WEAVE OF OFFICIALDOM KEEPS DOG A-HOWLING

Everybody Who Could Stop It Seems to Have Part Ownership in Yelping Hound.

Well, what do you know about this? There is a dog in this city that doesn't know whether his master is Mayor Oliver, Crown Attorney Corley, Detective Inspector Duncan or Doctor E. J. Capon, 26 College street. He is given to howling nightly and daily, and every effort on the part of the afflicted ones to secure the boon of silence has been baffled.

The relationship of the dog is so entangled with civic officialdom that to date it has been impossible to ascertain whether Mayor Oliver, Crown Attorney Corley, Inspector of Detectives Duncan or Dr. Capon is liable to the fearsome line of \$2 for allowing its discontent to be so unattended.

A humanely inspired lady from Porto Rico, who is living next door to Dr. Capon's studio, has had her slumbers by night and her peace of mind by day disturbed for over a week by the howling and yelping of the starling, the full-voiced hound.

It has been tethered not two feet from the window nearest her pillow and has driven her to such a state of distraction that she has felt she must “scream, howl or cry” at times. On Sunday, a week ago, he says, she yelped drove her frantic; so she complained to her landlady, who promptly called up Dr. Capon. She got the assurance that the nuisance would cease. On Tuesday conditions became so bad, after the lady had notified the Humane Society and the police to no avail, that the Porto Rican lady sought an interview with the doctor on her own behalf.

She didn't meet the doctor, but she pleaded her case before the doctor's caretaker's wife, saying she would be a subject for an insane asylum if the dog was not either fed or removed. She got nothing but promises. The dog still howled. She was not superstitious, but she had got on her nerves. She arrived at the stage when, if the whines of the brute ceased for a moment, she felt like crying herself.

On Thursday morning, after a second assurance from the doctor's house that the noise would stop, she became exasperated, when the animal set up a persistent and prolonged yowling. Her landlady, finding her in a very nervous state, phoned to the mayor and to the Humane Society. His Worship answered, it was no business of his—she should notify the police.

“I always think it is a wise man who mends his own business,” declared the mayor.

“Well, I thought it was your business to see that the police did their duty when they have been notified,” she retorted. “A good citizen, let alone a mayor, would not allow a noise like that to go on.”

Another irritating night was more than the Porto Rican lady could stand. She went to the Humane Society's office. She was met by a little man of brusque manner.

“Oh, I think there is a note here from the secretary about that dog, and we'll attend to it.”

She let him go for not acting promptly when the society had been notified two days before. She had heard that the dog was to be used in a hunting expedition, and was being starved into condition.

The little gentleman informed her that Dr. Capon, wife of the doctor, belonged to the Humane Society, and his hands were practically tied.

“Then she's got a case right at home,” she said, and she flung the pamphlet back to him.

So she started to look for the mayor at the city hall. The brass-buttoned individual on the marble staircase directed her to the police department.

To Sergeant Verney she started to unburden herself.

“When on College street? Oh, I've heard about that,” said Sergeant Verney. “I'll call the chief.”

As Inspector Duncan stepped out of his office, Verney remarked, “Why that's your dog Duncan, isn't it?” “Er, well,” stammered the inspector, but Dr. Capon was one of our party. I thought that case had been disposed of. I thought the dog was put in the basement.”

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This store has a high standing because of the all-satisfying goods it places within the easy grasp of their limited “purses.”

Our thoughts are ever with the quality end of the buying argument, and our prices show an “advantage” as often for the better all-round make-up of the goods as in the actual cash difference. To-day we are in a position stronger than ever to give the boys a sporting goods service that will win their complete approval. Some price interest:

Footballs, with substantial leather cases and pure gum bladder, complete, at \$1.00, \$1.25, and \$1.50.

Football Suits: Waists, \$1.00; Pants, half padded, 90c.

Our new patent Shin Guards, a better kind, boys, Prices 90c and \$1.00.

Boxing Gloves, per set, \$1.65 and \$1.95.

Striking Bags, single end, \$1.25; double end, \$1.50.

Gymnasium Pants, white drill, 45c; black satin, 50c.

Iron Dumb Bells, per lb., 5c.

Baseball Bats, half price, 13c to 25c.

Air Guns, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$1.75.

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The Home Beer

A beer may taste all right—and yet not BE all right. Beer, not properly aged—“green”—will make you bilious.

Beer, not pure or improperly brewed, will upset the stomach and be absolutely unhealthful.

O'KEEFE'S “Pilsener” Lager is brewed with filtered water, choicest hops and pure barley malt. It is always fully aged, filtered again before bottling and pasteurized.

It is the Ideal Beer for the Home. As famous for purity, as for its delightful flavor.

Insist that your dealer always send O'KEEFE'S “PILSENER.”

“The Light Beer in the Night Bottle.” (REGISTERED)

THE O'KEEFE BREWERY CO., LIMITED TORONTO.

AT OSGOOD HALL. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Judge's chambers will be held to-day \$11 a.m. Peremptory list for divisional court for Tuesday, 26th inst., at 11 a.m.:

To be spoken to: 1. McKay v. Simpson. 2. Kelly v. Tourist Hotel Co. (80.) 3. Hill v. Lester (85.) 4. Gilmore v. Dalton (31.) 5. Vanderberg v. Markham (46.) 6. Gilmour v. Sleeman.

For argument—1. Brattle v. Dickson (settled) (77.) 2. Rex v. Maher (78.) 3. Kelly v. Tourist Hotel Co. (80.) 4. Hill v. Lester (85.) 5. Gilmore v. Dalton (31.) 6. Vanderberg v. Markham (46.) 7. Stewart v. Cobalt C. S. and Association. 8. Gilmour v. Sleeman.

HAMONIC SLIGHTLY INJURED. SARNIA, Oct. 25.—The damage to the steamship Hamonic of the Northern Navigation Company, from a bump given her Saturday night by the old wooden tow barge, Chattanooga, is slight and not noticeable. The Chattanooga, in tow of the steamer Pioneer, while entering the river, broke her steering gear, causing her to sheer, breaking the tow line. Being thus unmanageable, she struck with the blunt of her bow a gleaming blow to the Hamonic, which was at the freight shed dock at Point Edward.

Fire at Welland. WELLAND, Oct. 25.—Mrs. Wm. Goshard's residence, together with most of the contents, was burned on Wednesday early this morning. Cause of fire unknown.

Comparisons are interesting when distances of travel and time consumed are in the balance. In a new country like Canada the advancement of great transportation systems creates some amazing differences from old conditions. A case in point—on the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway through to Prince Rupert, B.C., the time spent in reaching the east coast from Alaska and the great Northwest coast will be reduced by days. In traveling from Alaska to Chicago or the east by the G. T. P. route, the passenger will be able to take train the same day that the steamship which he quitted at Prince Rupert arrives in Seattle, a saving of three days.

One Cough. A cough, just a little cough. It may not amount to much. Or, it may amount to everything! Some keep coughing until the lung tissues are seriously injured. Others stop their cough with Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Sold for seventy years. Ask your doctor about Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. If he says, “Take it,” then take it. If he says, “No,” then take it. You have your choice.