

THE HAMILTON TIMES

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6, 1909.

THE COUNCIL'S FIRST TASK.

The first questions with which the new Council has to deal will be the organization of the Council for the year, the appointment of the various committees and their chairmen, and a number of appointments to the various independent boards. Whatever may be said of the machine system under which the aldermen surrendered to party bosses their right of independent action in return for support at the elections, it must be admitted that it greatly simplified this early and important duty of the Council. An informal caucus of the wipreulless held in some private resort, and the matter was quickly settled. A few drinks and a few smokes, and the bosses held the Council of the year in the hollow of their hands. Grumblers there were occasionally, but discipline was firmly maintained in the interest of the general system of graft, in support of which partisanship in municipal life was advocated. An evil tree does not bear good fruit, but the pickings, such as they were, the bosses did not fail to deal out in plenty.

But now there are other factors to be considered. The partisan boss does not rule supreme. There are elements in the Council which do not acknowledge his rule and which refuse to "jump jim crow" at his command. Even the long-despised ratepayer does not quail at the boss's frown. This is not a Council of Grits and Tories; the few creatures of the party boss cannot control it if the aldermen-elect choose to assert their independence. The time seems auspicious for a change to sane and honest methods; for the selection of committees and their chairmen on grounds of capacity and the public interest, and for the appointment of men to the independent boards because of their fitness for the position, and not merely as the price of some service done for a political party boss.

Will the Council of 1909 seize its opportunity, and, disregarding questions of political party affiliation, deal with the organization of the board and its work during the year, and solely with a view to obtaining the best results for the ratepayers whom its members represent? A determination to so discharge their duty, and an earnest application of the powers with which they are gifted to the problems that will be presented to them during the year will result in 1909 going down in Hamilton's municipal history as the year of the city's deliverance from corrupt partisan municipal slavery, and her recognition that it is wise to use the best of her citizenship in her municipal service. To this end Mayor-elect McLaren has shaped his policy, and on this platform he made his successful appeal for popular support. The response of the ratepayers was such as to warrant the aldermen in accepting the electoral verdict as a direction to ignore the machine and deal with the citizens' business as the representatives of the citizens. Whether the aldermen-elect will be equal to the task before them will be shown by the work they have to do on Monday next.

A NOBLE CHARITY.

When Lady Aberdeen organized the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada she not only reared a monument to Victoria the Good, but she left behind her in Canada a monument to herself—in her disinterested labors on behalf of the poor, the sick and the suffering. While some scoffed at the inception of this charitable movement, time has shown the incalculable benefit this order has been to the needy in all the large cities especially. In Hamilton many a poor, sick, bed-ridden creature has blessed the day a branch of the order was established here, so manifold has been the blessings conferred by it upon suffering humanity. The branch here has been supervised by a band of generous-hearted ladies, and the work of the nurses has been so appreciated that the demand for them has increased that the present staff is unable to respond to all the calls. Another nurse at least is needed, but funds are low, and unless these are forthcoming a good work will be checked. In another column appears a brief report of the annual meeting of the branch held yesterday. A perusal of it will satisfy all of the importance of the work and the urgency of the need. The Times cannot too strongly urge the claims of this institution upon the public. It is a ministering angel to those who sadly need its services, and we are satisfied that when the want of funds is made public, the response will be immediate and ample.

FATED CITIES.

Messina, which has been practically destroyed by the earthquake, was a city of over 150,000 inhabitants, situated on the strait of the same name at the northeastern end of the island of Sicily. Almost across from it, on the Italian mainland, is the city of Reggio, which has a population of about 50,000. The greatest loss of life and property seems to have been sustained in these two cities. Catania, which suffered much from the earthquake, is on the west coast of the island of Sicily, over 50 miles south of Messina. The Lipari Islands, a false rumor of whose disappearance was sent out, lie to the north of the island of Sicily. Navigation of the Straits of Messina has, from ancient times, never been considered very safe, and most of us will remember the Charybdis of our school days as situated there. The recent earthquake disturbance is said to have greatly altered the Strait, so as to add to the difficulties of navigation, and for a time, at least, traffic will have to go around the island of Sicily. The Italian Government had erected very costly fortifications to command the Strait, and these, it is said, have been utterly destroyed. As far as can be learned, Messina and Reggio, both of which are situated on very high ground, escaped the effect of the tidal wave, but both cities suffered terribly by fire. In 1693 Messina was almost destroyed by an earthquake and eruption of Mount Etna, when 54 cities and towns and 300 villages on the island of Sicily were destroyed. Catania was utterly obliterated. More than 100,000 persons perished in that disaster. In 1740 Messina was almost depopulated by the plague. It escaped damage in the earthquakes of 1736 and 1740, which shook Sicily and caused enormous damage at Palermo, but was about half destroyed by the visitation of 1783, by which 40,000 persons perished in Sicily and on the mainland. At various times since there have been minor earthquake shocks; indeed, all Sicily is addicted to the trembling habit.

Reggio, which has suffered so severely, is familiar to most of us as the "Rhegium" at which the Apostle Paul touched on his voyage from Caesarea to Rome. It will be remembered that the apostle tells us, "We fetched a compass and came to Rhegium." This statement of the apostle was carved in huge letters on the facade of the Cathedral there. The city had been the scene of much fierce strife before the Christian era, and Goth, Saracen, Norman, Teuton and Turk in turn ravaged it. It occupied a strong strategic position; and it had more than once suffered from earthquakes, the great one of 1783 laying it in ruins. It had a fine harbor, and was a port of call for eastbound Suez Canal shipping.

After the human suffering caused by the catastrophe is relieved, there will be occasion to look into the extent of the difficulties caused to navigation by the seismic upheaval. The inhabitants of the island, and of the lower end of the peninsula will probably soon recover from their terror, and will proceed to re-found their homes upon the old sites with something akin to certainty that in a few years more or less the foundations will again be disturbed by volcanic action. How puny and powerless we are against the great forces of nature!

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Is this the tail-end of the western blizzard?

The Tory Government of New Brunswick has added nearly half a million to the Provincial debt during the year.

If Adam Beck continues, his name will probably be changed from that of Minister of Power to that of Minister of Power-ful Mumbo.

The prospects of a continued dry spell in Grimshy leads us to offer our condolences to James Livingston, Esq. But travelling is very inexpensive in this electrically served district.

The Mail and Empire is laying out a programme—each item of which it disapproves, of course—for the Dominion Government. It is an insane occupation, but the organ may thus be kept from more injurious work.

It seems probable now that the Franco-Canadian treaty will now pass the French Senate with some unimportant modifications. Hon. Mr. Fielding is now in Paris, conferring with the French Government in regard to it.

The Hydro-Electric power "by-laws" voted on at the municipal election with one or two exceptions mean no more than that the people authorize the council to negotiate with the commission, and, if they think proper, to submit the terms for the ratepayers' approval.

The price of seats on the stock exchanges indicates wonderful growth in value in the last twelve years, as these figures show.

Toronto \$1,250,000
Montreal 3,200,000
New York 14,000,000

The Toronto World declares that the leader of the Dominion Opposition should not receive a salary from the public purse, but should get along on his \$2,000 indemnity. Mr. Maclean ought to know; for is not he the Third Party, both follower and leader?

Now it is said that the Sultan of Turkey will exercise his influence with the Mohammedans of India, who number about 62,000,000, in support of British rule. It would be strange now if Abdul, in his old age, should serve a purpose beneficial to the world.

Some defeated aldermanic candidates now confess that had their foresight been as good as their hindsight they would not have challenged the rising temperance sentiment by entertaining their workers at a beer and sandwiches spread to stimulate their flagging enthusiasm.

It is hinted that the students of Toronto University will ignore the order of the University authorities and refuse to attend lectures until Jan. 11th, they having resolved to take an extra week's holidays. It remains to be seen whether the University is to be run by the students or by the authorities.

cause to be proud of their Government's backing up of such a representative of aristocratic cruelty.

The ward votes when compared with the Parliamentary election returns show clearly that the machine had lost its grip. The electors voted as men, not as owned chattels. It is a hopeful sign. Free voters sometimes make mistakes and pick unfit men; but under the machine system unfit men are forced upon them.

Victoria, B. C., will vote on a by-law to grant \$7,500 to the Tourist Association for purposes of publicity. Mayor-elect McLaren desires to inaugurate a forward policy in placing Hamilton's advantages before the public. That will be a vast improvement on Mayor Stewart's policy of seeking to make Hamilton contribute to improving other municipalities' advantages and misrepresenting this city to be stunted by a power monopoly!

The story of the Bank of England rate, as told in the Monetary Times' record of the year, is the story of the recovery from the financial stringency. On Nov. 7, 1907, it was raised to 7 per cent. Its decline was as follows:

Jan. 4 6 per cent.
Jan. 13 5 per cent.
Jan. 30 4 per cent.
Feb. 28 3 3/4 per cent.
March 21 3 per cent.
May 30 2 3/4 per cent.

In June the Bank of Germany reduced the rate to 4 1/2 per cent. and later to 4 per cent., and in July the Bank of Belgium reduced its rate from 3 1/2 to 3 per cent.

OUR EXCHANGES

Dry Land.
(Toronto Star.)

Ninety-two municipalities in Ontario voted on local option yesterday. The work of creation is not yet over. The dry land keeps emerging.

Suits Them.
(Toronto News.)

The deduction is that the people who reside in small towns, villages and rural districts find from experience that local prohibition is a successful measure of temperance reform.

That Big Majority.
(London Free Press (Tory).
Hamilton Conservatives openly introduced politics into the municipal fight, and in the Majority contest were defeated by a majority of upwards of 2,000. As Hamilton is a Conservative city, it seems there were 2,000 Conservatives in Hamilton who do not believe in politics in municipal affairs.

In the Dark.
(Goldwin Smith.)

Once more the Tower in Sileam has fallen, fallen on the most tremendous scale and in the most awful form. Again it may no doubt be said, that the sufferers were not sinners after their fellow-men. They had settled in a volcanic region, where Nature warned them by Aetna and Vesuvius; but if she warned them by her volcanoes, she wooed them by her beauty. How does this, how do plague and famine, sweeping off innocent multitudes, how do all the inevitable scourges of man's life come with the belief in the providential government of the universe? What is the explanation? The answer is, that there appears no explanation visible to our finite intelligence. Had there been one, it would hardly have been missed by so acute an apologist as Paley. The mystery extends beyond things material. Why those immense forces, inevitable ignorance and barbarism preceding the era of knowledge and civilization? Humanity advances, and apparently towards a spiritual ideal. In this, it seems, we must rest.

SUFFERED WITH ECZEMA 25 YEARS

Limb Peeled and Foot Was Like Raw Flesh—Had to Use Crutches, and Doctors Thought Amputation Necessary—Montreal Woman Writes of Cure Seven Years Ago.

BELIEVES LIFE SAVED BY CUTICURA REMEDIES

"I have been treated by doctors for twenty-five years for a bad case of eczema on my leg. They did their best, but failed to cure it. My doctor had advised me to have my leg cut off, but I said I would try the Cuticura Remedies first. He said, 'Try them if you like, but I do not think they will do any good.' At this time my leg was peeled from the knee, my foot was like a piece of raw flesh, and I had to walk on crutches. I bought a cake of Cuticura Soap, a box of Cuticura Ointment, and a bottle of Cuticura Pills. After the first two treatments the swelling went down, and in two months my leg was cured and the new skin came on. The doctor could not believe his own eyes when he saw that Cuticura had cured me and said that he would use it for his own patients. I used two cakes of Cuticura Soap, three boxes of Ointment, and five bottles of Resolvent, and I have now been cured over seven years, and my leg is as good as new. I have lost my leg, and I have lost my life. I have lost my children, and they are frequent users of Cuticura, and I always recommend it to the many people whom my business brings to my house every day. Mrs. Jean-Baptiste Renaud, chiropractor, 277, Metana St., Montreal, Que., Feb. 20, 1907."

SLEEP FOR BABIES

Rest for Mothers.
Instant relief and refreshing sleep for skin-tormented babies, and rest for tired, fretted mothers, in warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle skinings with Cuticura Ointment, the great skin cure, and purest of emollients.
Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Resolvent, the form of Cuticura Soap, in a box of 50. Sold throughout the world. Write Dr. J. C. Clark, Cuticura, 100, N. 1st St., Boston, Mass.
See Manual Free, Cuticura Book on Skin Diseases.

JANUARY Carpet Sale

IF EVER BIG ASSORTMENTS and real merit counted in a sale, this January event should make a new high water mark for this store. All that is offered during this month at reduced prices you'll find beautiful and dependable stocks of the newest and most desirable kinds, no unsaleable patterns, no questionable qualities. A generous reduction in price all along the line. It means tremendous savings to the people who patronize this store, in the aggregate, many thousands of dollars. As well as making cut in prices, WE SEW, LAY AND LINE, FREE OF CHARGE, ALL CARPETS BOUGHT FROM US DURING THIS SALE. This alone is a saving of from 10c to 15c per yard.

Axminsters

Templeton's and the other celebrated makers' best quality Axminsters; a splendid range to select from in all the latest colorings and designs; suitable for any room; regular price \$2.00 per yard; January Sale price, made, laid and lined \$1.75

Empire Axminsters

A good wearing Carpet, made by Templeton's; not quite as heavy as the best quality, but one that we readily recommend; regular price \$1.65; January Sale, made, laid and lined \$1.50

RUGS

It is a well established fact that this store does the largest Rug business. We have the stock and the way we have of showing them enables you to see them to advantage. Note these reductions:

Axminster Rugs

9 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in., reg. \$35 for \$26
9 ft. by 12 ft., reg. \$38, for \$28.50
9 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in., reg. \$30, for \$24.00
10 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., reg. \$50 for \$38.50
10 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft., reg. \$45, for \$34.00
9 ft. by 12 ft., reg. \$38, for \$27.00

Wilton Rugs

8 ft. 3 in. by 10 ft. 6 in., reg. \$33, for \$25
6 ft. 9 in. by 9 ft., reg. \$21, for \$16.50
11 ft. 3 in. by 12 ft., reg. \$60, for \$48.00
9 ft. by 12 ft., reg. \$45, for \$35.00
9 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in., reg. \$41, for \$32.00

Brussels

9 ft. by 9 ft., reg. \$17, for \$12.50
9 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in., reg. \$21, for \$16.00
9 ft. by 12 ft., reg. \$24, for \$18.50
11 ft. 3 in. by 12 ft., reg. \$27, for \$22.00
Genuine reductions also on all Wool, Tapestry and Velvet Rugs.

Inlaid Linoleums and Oilcloth

Nairn's Inlaid Linoleums, good heavy quality, in floral and conventional designs; suitable for dining-rooms, kitchens and halls; regular 90c per yard; January Sale price 65c
Good quality Printed Linoleum in 2 yards wide, good selection; regular 45c per yard; for January Sale at 33c per yard 33c
Odd lengths of Oilcloth, different widths, from one yard to two yards wide, regularly sold at 35c and 25c per yard; January Sale 18c

January Furniture Sale

Just before taking stock, there are many lines that we prefer to reduce considerably and so are willing to make a generous reduction in price to clear them out.

WATCH OUR SHOW WINDOWS in which all goods are marked in large plain figures, which indicate better than anything else the great saving you can make both on Carpets and Furniture by buying this month.

A. M. SOUTER & Co.

Corner King and Park Streets

THE SIMPLE LIFE.

To Live Two Weeks Just as Christ Would.

Cleveland, Jan. 6.—Eleven thousand young people of Cleveland began on Sunday to try to live for two weeks as Jesus would live on earth.

The announcement is made that they will perform their ordinary avocations as heretofore, but in all their actions they will use Christ as a model. They will wear their dispositions, and will endeavor to keep in a cheerful frame of mind both at home and at their work. They will be careful what they say about their neighbors and friends, and will try in all things to lead an ideal life. They will pay particular attention to their religion. Four denominations—Baptist, Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian—are represented by the three organizations, and the members will attend all the prayers and other meetings at their churches, and will study the Bible in their homes. They will try to obey their leaders' injunction to be gentlemen and ladies in the strictest sense of the words, and will lead a helping hand to those about them. In his sermon on Sunday night Rev. Mr. Wallace, addressing the young people, said that the purpose of this movement was to live Christlike lives.

"What would Jesus have us do?" he exclaimed. "Be a man. Be like a burst of sunshine. Learn to smile. Show

your joy in your handclasp. Jesus was every inch a man. He would shake hands like a man, not like a giraffe, were he here to-day.

"Piling sunshine in to the lives of others. Do not take up four seats at a time on the street car. Do not go to work ten minutes late, with a grudge. Be sunny. Also do not quit work ten minutes early, with a sour face. Christ would not do that.

"Be frank. If you are a 50-cent man, do not pass yourself off as a \$1 man. There was no dishonesty in Christ's carpenter shop. Be honest in your business and be honest in your religion. Lead a sustained life. Pray. Read your Bible. Urge others to read the Word. 'Christ is the world's gentleman. He would have us live as ladies and gentlemen. The titles are often misused. Let us claim the right to the title in the coming two weeks. Christ worked. If you haven't a job now, get one. Don't be a loafer.

"When the temptation comes to be dishonest in business say 'No,' no matter what comes. Let's be honest in speech, too, in what we say about our neighbors. 'It has been said that we would weaken our cause by a two weeks' trial, a demonstration, of how Christ would live. I know there are those who have not been living up to the standard we have now set. I am sure that in the next two weeks they will live differently. This movement signifies that righteousness has come to rule the world.'"

Many a narrow-minded man has an enormous chest expansion.

FIRED DRESS.

Ten-Year-Old Youth Burns Mother to Death.

Kennet Square, Pa., Jan. 6.—One of the most remarkable tragedies in the annals of Chester county was reported to-day with the death of Mrs. Alexander Moore, who was burned to death at her home near here by a ten-year-old son.

It is alleged the boy, who is said to be feeble-minded, set fire to his mother's dress and when a younger brother went to her rescue the boy beat him with a poker, fracturing his skull and so injuring him that he is in a critical condition.

The mother was burned so severely that she died in a short time. The child who caused her death was taken in charge by the authorities pending an investigation.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS.

The ladies of St. Patrick's Benevolent Society desire to gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributions to their Christmas cheer: Groceries, Mrs. Thos. Burns; butter, Mrs. McMahon; tea and sugar, Mrs. Bateman; fruit, Mrs. McGrath; oranges, tea and sugar, Mrs. Hal-lissey; groceries, Mrs. Jas. Cummings; meat and groceries, Mrs. B. Cauley; oranges, Miss Farrell; oranges, Mrs. Geo. Goodrow; groceries, nuts and candy, Mrs. Hutin; bread, Mrs. O'Gorman; groceries, Miss Cauley; sugar, Mrs. Scully; \$1, Mrs. Brown; meat and vegetables, Mrs. Filgiano; groceries and bread, Mrs. Doyle; groceries, Mrs. Lunch-Stanton; cake and preserves, Mrs. Hanley; butter and vegetables, Mrs. Radigan; beef, tea and sugar, Mrs. H. N. Watson; groceries, Mrs. Murphy; bag of potatoes, Mrs. H. Taylor; groceries, Mrs. Cherrier; Mrs. McCarthy; butter, Mrs. Hopkins; groceries, Mrs. Lavelle; celery, chicken and nuts, Mrs. Smith; home made bread, Mrs. Murphy; groceries, Mrs. Muldoon; groceries, Miss Carroll; beef, Mrs. Pig-ott; case of oranges, Wm. Carroll; preserves and catsup, Mrs. Tongie.

The following were sent unmarked: Six bags of twenty-five pounds of flour; a large quantity of bread; bag of potatoes; fifty pounds flour; two bags of cakes.

Special thanks are due to Mr. D. J. Donovan, not only for his generous donation of a quarter of beef, but for his time in cutting it.

The ladies also take this opportunity to acknowledge the many donations of clothing received during the past three months.

BUGHOUSE.

(Montreal Herald.)

The Hains brothers, one of whom is now on trial for the murder of William E. Annis, at the Bayside Yacht Club, state that they went to Bayside for the purpose of inspecting a cottage they intended to buy from a certain Mr. Bugg. We can't just help remarking that this looks like a Bughouse proposition.