Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea

The Toronto World.

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TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR | TEN PAGES—THURSDAY MORNING APRIL 2 1903—TEN PAGES | ONE CENT

Taken to Task for Talking About Government Policy

Senate Reading Room 10jul'ytg

Cabinet Ministers Present Poor Figure When Called to Account by Vigorous Opposition.

Ottawa, April 1.—(World Special Correspondent.)—Two things were made clear to-night in the House by a discussion concerning the loquacity of Hon. Mr. Prefontaine, Minister of Marine and Fisheries. First, when Sir Wilfrid is absent, the members of the government seem to go to pieces and grope in the dark. They are overshadowed by the opposition. Second, the English constitutional usage of having the policy of the government announced to parliament is being departed from in a manner that threatens to break the glorious traditions of the constituion. Incidentally Mr. Prefontaine was tangled up, and the Postmaster-General made to blush.

Mr. Monk asked if the report of the speech given in Montreal Monday night as it appeared in The Montreal Herald, a government organ, was an announcement of the policy of the government. In that speech Mr. Prefontaine had given the names of the Railway Commissioners, had stated that the terminal of the G. T. P. would be on Canadian soil, that that project would receive aid from the government and that the tariff would likely be revised, if not this session, at least after the session, when a commission would be appointed to look into it.

Mr. Fielding is Flippant.

Mr. Fielding replied in a flippant manner that only the announcements that appeared in The Canada Gazette were official. He would not take the responsibility for statements that appeared in any other paper. He believed that when statements of public policy were to be made they should be made in the House.

Mr. Borden pressed the question if the remarks reported had been made by Mr. Prefontaine. Mr. Bennett interjected the pertinent remark that the statements accredited to Mr. Tarte that led to his dismisal had not appeared in The Canada Gazette.

Mr. Fielding tried to smile, but failed.

Flying Signals of Distress.

Then up rose the gallant Prefontaine, who, since the discussion had begun, had been in close communion with Hon. Jim Sutherland. Mr. Prefontaine's explanation, in short, was that he had not announced the policy of the government, but had dealt merely in generalities. As to the names of the railway commissioners, he merely repeated what he had read in the papers. As to the Grand Trunk Pacific, he never said the government would give assistance to it.

Mr. Borden then took the Minister in hand, and a bright play of repartee resulted. Mr. Prefontaine tried to squirm out of the situation by replying in French and quoting from La Patrie. Mr. Borden was at sea, but Mr. Monk came to the front, and after cross-questioning Mr. Prefontaine, concluded with: "He says it is not true, and it is true."

Pyrotechines Break Out.

Then came some natural fireworks. Mr. Bennett challenged Mr. Prefontaine to name one paper that had suggested the names of George Bertram and Mr. Kennedy as transportation commissioners. He could not. The fact was that Prefontaine had been among his friends and desired to show them that he knew something about the secrets of the government, and had made an unguarded slip. Mr. Prefontaine was not the first. Mr. Blair had given an interview to a Montreal paper, and then denied it; then when the reporter came out over his own name, reiterating the statement that he interviewed Mr. Blair fairly, Mr. Blair was silent. Then again in Toronto recently, Mr. Mulock, who wanted to let the people know that Mr. Tarte was not the only mouth-piece of the cabinet, had spoken strongly in favor of the government aiding the Grand Trunk Pacific.

As to Policy Announcements.

Mr. Kemp pressed for an answer as to whether the government intended to appoint a tariff commission or not. Mr. Fielding replied that usually the government policy was contained in the budget speech. Dr. Sproule showed how British constitutional practice was being departed from by Messrs. Prefontaine, Blair and Mulock.

Then Rufus Pope, in his best form, poked fun at the cabinet Ministers. He suggested that a kindergarten should be formed to tell the young Ministers and prospective Ministers how to act. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries might be pardoned, as he was new at the business, but the fate of Mr. Tarte pointed to the moral that to speak too previously was to violate the constitution.

The Postmaster-General's utterances were due to his desire to get in an announcement before the youngest member of the cabinet, a Frenchman, could follow in the footsteps of Mr. Tarte. Besides, he wanted to show the people of Ontario, before whom Mr. Tarte was wont to cut much ice and the Postmaster-General none, that "I know something of the cabinet wherein I sit."

After much more banter and advice, Mr. Pope pleaded with the government to organize a kindergarten. The episode closed and the House adjourned at 9.15.

Will Fight Redistribution.

The Premier has not yet conferred with the leader of the opposition in regard to the appointment of the select committee of the House to decide on the boundaries of the constituencies as outlined in the Redistribution Bill. His delay is significant and is commented on in the corridors. The desire of Mr. Fielding to take up the estimates tonight, taken in conjunction with the Premier's delay, seems to indicate that there is some connection between the redistributing committee and the passing of the estimates.

Will Guard Their Chance.

If the opposition agrees to the committed without consideration, it is just possible that the government will so present their schedules as to divide the Conservative three. This chance will be guarded against, as it is the opposition's intention to decide in caucus to have their three members stand together, so that no matter what proposition the government may present, no matter how favorable they may seem, the slightest show on the part of the government members that they have a cut-and-dried scheme of slaughter will be met with opposition, a possible reference to the House and an ultimaate throwing up of the agreement.

The sentiment is growing that the government's show of liberality is a bit of sophistry that might go on the stump, but that is laughed at by reasoning men. The Liberal party has come to the day of its revenge, and it is safe guessing that revenge will be taken to the full. The gloss of apparent fairness adds only insult to injury. The opposition is not hoodwinked.

Would Protect Its Pet Measure.

There is a possibility that the gov-

Continued on Page 2.

TO EXCLUDE CIGARETS COMMONS CAST A VOTE

Influence Women and Children Have in Framing Legislation Indicated by This Action.

Ottawa, April 1.—(Special.)—The power exerted by women and boys on the legislatures of Canada was made evident to-day when the following resolution aiming at sumptuary legislation was carried by a vote of 103 to 43.

That the object of good government is to promote the general welfare of the people by a careful encouragement and protection of whatever makes for the public good, and by an equally careful discouragement and suppression of whatever tends to public disadvantage.

That the smoking of cigarets has been proved by overwhelming testimony to be productive of serious physical and moral injury to young people, impairing health, arresting development, weakening intellectual power, and thus constituting a serious and national evil.

The legislation licensing and restricting the sale of cigarets has not proven sufficient to prevent these evils, which will continue while the public sale of the cause of the mischief is permitted to go on.

That this House is of the opinion, for the reasons herein set forth that the most effective legislation governing remedies for these evils is to be found in the enactment and enforcement of a law prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of cigarets.

It is Not Law.

The carrying of the resolution cuts no ice, as it does not bind any party to see that it is crystallized into law. The vote shows that the wishes of Canadian women have been pressed on the members of parliament in such a way that they are prepared to sink their reasonable beliefs in order to keep peace at the domestic hearth.

One member said he voted for the resolution not because he believed in prohibiting the sale of cigarets, but because he had a sister who was an ardent anti-cigaret advocate. Similar reasons could be given by nearly 100 others who supported the measure.

The sense of the House was focused by W. R. Brock, who said the proper place for the stamping out of the cigaret evil was in the home, and deplored the tendency of the times to shift the duties and the responsibilities of the home to the government.

Sir Wilfrid paid a tribute to Mr. Brock's opinion by declaring it was what should govern in the case of all efforts aiming toward sumptuary legislation.

Alarming Growth of Evil.

Mr. Bickerdike (Montreal) in introducing the resolution commented on the alarming growth of the evil of cigaret smoking among boys. He wished to protect the youth of Canada. He read letters from physicians testifying to the injurious effects of smoking cigarets. He cited the example of the United States in prohibiting the sale of cigaret. It had the effect of diminishing their consumption. A tendency of the day was the action of large firms in refusing to engage boys who used cigarets. He blamed the editors

Continued on Page 4.

ROUGH MEANS OF TRAVEL.

Ottawa, Ont., April 1.—(Special.)—Mr. Puttee (Winnipeg) to-night in the House brought to the notice of the government the fact that the accommodation afforded the English immigrants now en route to the West was scandalous and indecent. He had made a personal inspection of the cars that passed thru Ottawa, had talked to passengers and thought that common decency had not been meted out to those who were to be our countrymen and build up the West. He considered the herding of immigrants in day cars without the absolute conveniences for travel was a serious reflection on Canada and the methods of the Department of the Interior. The aisles of the cars had been used to sleep on. In only one car of a whole train could water be got. There were no parcel racks, no berths, no separate lavatories, and altogether the condition of the cars was scandalous. He called on the government to seek an immediate remedy for other immigrants were coming, and the present state of affairs should not be allowed to continue.

Sir William Mulock replied and tendered the thanks of the government for the information he had given. He would see that something was done at once to alleviate the situation.

TARTE AND MONTREAL HARBOR.

Montreal, April 1.—Hon. Mr. Tarte is not in favor of a free port for Montreal. The ex-minister writes as follows to Hon. Robert MacKay, chairman of the Harbor Board: "In my humble opinion the debt of the harbor should not be increased. In other words, it is the duty of the Dominion government to supply the money necessary to complete the equipment of our great national port. Before I left office I had caused plans to be prepared for the construction of permanent sheds, cranes, grain conveyors, etc. These plans are available. They are in the Department of Public Works."

MARCONI WOULD SELL OUT.

Ottawa, April 1.—The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of Canada wishes to sell its rights acquired in Ontario to a new company and to obtain rights to establish a cable telegraphic and telephonic service over land and under the sea. It asks power to acquire the property of other companies.

SANDERSON'S MOUNTAIN DEW SCOTCH
Has both strength and flavor.

Seeding Commenced.

Winnipeg, April 1.—Seeding began today on a large farm near Hartney, Man. Three seeders were at work and the fields all around are ready for grain.

TO ARCHITECTS.
We can help you keep your estimates down by using our wide flanged beams. Canada Foundry Company, Limited, 14-16 King Street East.

In Grace Hospital during the month of March there were 88 patients admitted, 84 discharged, 8 births, and a daily average of 79 patients.

INADEQUATE LIGHT.

OLD MAN ONTARIO: Well, judgin' from the light you've provided it begins to look suspiciously like thar was somethin' in this you didn't want me to see.

LINE-UP OF THE LOBBYISTS.

Ottawa, April 1.—(Special.)—Coincident with the introduction of the G.T.P. bill, the railway lobbyists of Canada have come to town. Half a dozen of them were on hand to-day. Before the bill reaches the Railway Committee, every member of that body will have been seen and his vote will have been sized up. At the present moment the men behind the G.T.P. scheme know what to expect from the report of the lobbyists. Of course, the details of the bill will be discussed in committee, but what of that since the issue is sure?

SPURIOUS POLITICAL CAPITAL.

Ottawa, April 1.—The vote on the Home Rule resolution has developed the fact, if talk in the corridors is correct, that Archie Campbell, M.P., was absent from the House, but refused to enter and record his vote. Some political capital of a spurious stamp has been attempted to be made out of some members being absent, but what can be said of a member who was present and refused to vote?

ADVANCING PRICE OF BREAD IN TORONTO AND ELSEWHERE

Toronto is threatened with a very considerable increase in the price of bread. Loaves weighing one and a-half pounds now sell at retail for four cents. This is to be increased to five cents, and there is some talk among the bakers of slightly reducing the weight. They assert that the enormous increase of the price of foodstuffs of every description is responsible for the increase. In addition to the price of flour having advanced, lard, salt, eggs, butter and all other components of the bake shop have advanced within the past year. Toronto retailers complain that they can make nothing at present prices, and master bakers declare that their profits are so reduced that they can no longer stand the pressure. The price has not been advanced yet, but the matter is under discussion.

Gone Up at Brantford.

In Brantford the price has already been advanced. Bakers have increased the price of bread, and in answer to the complaints from the consumers of that necessary article of food in the Telephone City, one of the bakers advanced the following reasons for the increase having been made:

"In the first place, there has been some increase in the wages of the men, and it was desired to give a further one. Two years ago, again, we were paying $1.70 a hundredweight for flour, and now we are paying $2. Again, two years ago coal was worth $5.50, and all winter we have had to pay $9. These figures will show why an increase is necessary. We have been forced to cut the price to four cents for a loaf of a pound and a half, but at that some of the bakers in the city will be driven out of business."

General Advance Due.

All over the States the price of bread is being advanced. In Chicago the populace is becoming incensed. The price of a pound loaf now costs six cents. This means that the people are paying double there for bread now what it costs in Toronto. Evidently the price of this food is due to advance all over Canada, as well as in the States. It is in the cities of congested population where the matter of a cent on a pound loaf of bread is felt most severely. This is the case in Chicago, where an advance from 5 to 6 cents has been announced.

A revival of the almost forgotten domestic industry of bread making appears to be the only relief in sight for Chicago consumers, and to the severely poor of the city the advance in cost will be a hardship.

Labor's Demand a Factor.

Reasons assigned for the expected increase in price include the higher cost of all material entering into the composition of bread—amounting to 33 1-3 per cent., it is said—and the anticipated demand of bakers and drivers of delivery wagons.

Chicago bakers are formulating a request for their union for a nine-hour day at the present wage. Drivers will ask for an additional commission after May 1 on the bread they sell.

"The demand of the bakers and drivers will be the climax," said the baker for a large Chicago bakery. "We have reached the limit as it is, and the consumer will have to pay for it. We can no longer wholesale bread at 4 cents a loaf and make a reasonable profit.

Materials 25 Per Cent. Higher.

"How can bread be maintained at its present price when there has been a horizontal advance in everything, from 25 per cent. more in insurance to drivers' wages?" asked one master baker. "Lard costs three times as much as it did three years ago. On a conservative estimate the price of bread-making material has advanced 33 1-3 per cent. in Toronto within a year or two—the only exception being flour, which has not advanced to that extent."

According to an official of Kohsaat & Co., of Chicago, its buyer last year paid $50,000 more for butter, lard, eggs and ham than the year previous, the ham being used in the company's lunchrooms. The buyer was notified yesterday of a 1½ cent advance in ham, and complained that he paid 2¼ cents a pound for butter.

The hundred and fifty bakers employed by the Kohlsaat Company are paid from $12 to $18 a week. A similar scale is paid by Hefesler & Junge Company, employing eighty men, and the H. Piper Company, whose thirty men do considerable of the baking for the north side of Chicago.

Use 1,000,000 Loaves a Day.

It is estimated that nearly 1,000,000 loaves of bread are consumed daily in Chicago. The standard wholesale price is 4 cents a loaf, and the retail 5 cents. Rye bread and a few other varieties are cheaper, but are not made in considerable quantity, comparatively speaking. About one-third of the people bake their own bread, that being the custom with a large percentage of the foreign element.

"It's costing bakers more every day to manufacture cake, cookies, cream puffs and other sweet stuff," said the head of a department of a Toronto firm yesterday. "Prices must be advanced all along the line if there is to be any money in the business."

"VICIOUS SUBSIDY POLICY" AS GOLDWIN SMITH SEES IT

Goldwin Smith, in The Weekly Sun, under the title of "An Unparalleled Situation," arraigns the subsidy-giving government thus:

The situation at Ottawa to-day is one that could not be paralleled at any other capital. A great railway corporation and leading politicians who are associated with it are bringing their powerful influence to bear to secure an enormous donation from the Dominion treasury. They seek it from a people whose contributions to railroad promoters since Confederation are already greater, several times over, than similar contributions from the people of any other country in their entire history. In no European country has a policy similar to ours ever been pursued. The Americans are sometimes referred to as subsidy givers, but if the promoters, who are now so actively lobbying at Ottawa, were to turn up at Washington or at any State capital and proffer a similar request, they would be laughed at by the legislators and covered with ridicule by the press. Any political party supporting them would be annihilated on its first appeal to the people. The presentation of such a demand, and its serious consideration, is possible in Canada and in Canada alone.

* * *

When the representatives of the Farmers' Association at Ottawa last week declared their unqualified opposition to subsidies, Mr. Fielding asked them if they wished to deprive their fellow-farmers of means of transportation. This is the way in which the defender of the subsidy system almost invariably seeks to suport it. He assumes that the extension of our transportation system depends upon the granting of subsidies, and he endeavors to put the opponent of subsidies in the position of an opponent of national development. He does not attempt to explain how it is that while railroads are built south of the international boundary, Canadian promoters must always have a donation from the public treasury. At the period when the United States aided transcontinental roads, railroad construction and equipment cost several times over what it costs to-day, yet the United States did not give money to the promoters—it loaned it—and has now received back in principal and interest alomts double the amount originally advanced. The defender of subsidies does not explain how it is that while the United States gets back principal and interest, we have to give—and get back nothing. Thirteen years ago Oklahoma was a wilderness. To-day Oklahoma has a population of nearly 400,000; it has about 1200 miles of railroad, built without a subsidy or a land grant. Could we have more striking evidence of the fact that development does not depend upon donations? And then there is Cuba, wild, war-ravaged Cuba, across whose territory Sir William Van Horne and his associates have just constructed and equipped a railway many hundreds of miles in length. How indignant Mr. Fielding would have waxed if Cuba had been in the Dominion, and the Farmers' Association had objected to subsidies being given to railway promoters there. How he would have appealed to them in the name of humanity to give their money to the great and good men who were only waiting for action by them to open up a desolated island! But Sir William Van Horne and his associates knew that no subsidies could be secured in Cuba, so they went ahead and built their line; they even paid for their right of way, and now Cuba has a great railroad, and at the close of its first year as a nation it had a real surplus of over $2,000,000 in its treasury. If the system which Mr. Fielding defends had been followed in Cuba, this surplus would have been in the pockets of Sir William Van Horne and his fellow-capitalists.

Happily, signs are not wanting that we are coming to our senses on the subsidy question, and that the "jollying" process which has been worked on us so successfully in years gone by can be worked on us no longer.

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

Ask Public Contributions To Aid the Investigation

HOW BRUNET WAS RELEASED

Papers in the Case of the Man Convicted in St. James Division Election Given Out.

WHO URGED CLEMENCY FOR HIM?

Government Officials Explain Details Touching the Convict's Pardon.

Ottawa, April 1.—(Special.)—The papers connected with the release of Arthur Brunet, convicted of corrupt practices in connection with the St. James' Division election, were laid on the table of the House of Commons to-day. They show that no petition for executive clemency was presented to the government. There is a petition included in the return, but it is that sent to the Court of King's Bench, asking that a lenient view be taken of Brunet's offence. This Chief Justice Lacoste took into consideration in pronouncing sentence. L. O. David, Arthur Tourville and Rudolphe Brunet seem to have been specially active in securing Brunet's release from jail, and sent repeated assurances to Mr. Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice, that Mr. F. D. Monk, M.P., would make no objection to the exercise of clemency.

Mr. Tarte, Hon. Mr. Brodereau and Senator Dandurand made representations in a similar sense. Mr. Arthur Tourville, on Aug. 25, wrote to Mr. Fitzpatrick, however, saying it was useless to insist on Mr. Monk's signature, as it could not be had. Mr. Tourville went on to say: "I assure you that there is here a great deal of discontent among our Liberal friends who do not understand that one can't persist in refusing a release which is asked by so many friends of the government in which could, perhaps, be better disposed towards us."

The release followed the issue of a certificate by Dr. Henri Duhamel, that there was immediate urgency that Arthur Brunet should take some exercise, that he suffered from his throat, and that it was absolutely necessary that he should walk in the open air at least five hours a day. Mr. Bremner recommended, under the circumstances, that he be released. This certificate was dated Sept. 9.

On Sept. 10 the following order was issued: "In view of the certificate dated 9th inst., of Dr. Duhamel, specially charged by the Attorney-General of Quebec to examine the prisoner, the undersigned recommends that Brunet be released.

"(Signed) A. Powers,
"For D. M. J."

This was marked, "I concur, C.F.," and respectfully recommended to His Excellency by R. W. Scott, Secretary of State. Then follow the words, "Approved, 12th Sept., 1902.—Minto."

WEST AIRS A GRIEVANCE.

Want a Standard Weigher Attached to All Threshing Machines.

Ottawa, April 1.—(Special.)—The west aired a grievance this evening when Mr. Stewart (Lisgar) asked for all papers relating to grain weighers. He declared that the threshers of the west were in the position that they could not collect their accounts against customers in the courts. They are paid by the job and by the number of bushels threshed. Often the owner of a threshing outfit claimed as high as $800 for a threshing, but because threshing machines had no standard grain weigher attached he could not go into court and collect his accounts. A grain weigher had been invented that was absolutely correct, but the Minister of Inland Revenue had declined to sanction it. The condition of the thresher was hard.

Nat Boyd followed Mr. Stewart and laid the whole blame on the Hon. Mr. Bernier, who had promised a year ago to authorize a grain weigher that was exhibited to him. But within the past six months a new man had come into the department, a blacksmith and scale maker, and had changed the opinion of the Minister. Meanwhile the western thresher had suffered gross neglect.

Dr. Roche added to the discussion, and Walter Scott had the floor when the Speaker called 6 o'clock. The question will come up again.

WORK OF BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

Ottawa, April 1.—(Special.)—The following cable was received here to-day: "London, April 1.—Mr. Sifton arrived at Hotel Cecil yesterday morning with party, having had a quick and pleasant passage by the Kron Prince Wilhelm. He at once took possession of the rooms which had been prepared for the officials connected with the Alaska boundary work, and proceeded to get matters in shape so that work will begin immediately. He spent the whole of yesterday evening in consultation with Hon. Edward Blake, Canadian counsel, and has to-day been in communication with the Colonial Office. Attorney-General Sir Robert Finlay will be the counsel for the British side, together with Mr. Blake and Mr. Christopher Robinson. Everything is progressing satisfactorily, and the members of the Canadian staff are all hard at work.

TO-DAY IN TORONTO.

Massey Hall, Harry de Windt lectures, 8 p.m.
Cumberland Hall, North Toronto Liberals, 8 p.m.
Lucas House, Simcoe County Old Boys, 8 p.m.
Victoria Hall, leatherworkers' benefit concert, 8 p.m.
West Y.M.C.A., Excelsior Division S. O.T., concert, 8 p.m.
Armouries, Grenadiers parade, 8 p.m.
City Hall, Public School Board, 8 p.m.
St. James Cathedral, Lenten services, 12.30 p.m.

DEATHS.

CRAWFORD—At St. Michael's Hospital, March 31, 1903, Robert Crawford, collector for the Township of Scarboro, age 75 years.
Funeral Friday at 2 p.m., from his residence at East Toronto, to Knox Church Cemetery, Agincourt.

TOY—At her residence, 28 Spruce-street, Toronto, on Wednesday morning, 1st April, 1903, Martha Martin, widow of the late Samuel Toy and mother of S. M. Toy, in her 83rd year.
Funeral (private) on Thursday, the 2nd, at 4.30. Interment in the Necropolis.

ROBERTSON—At the residence of his son-in-law, H. Weekson, 16 Macpherson-avenue, D. D. Robertson, aged 81 years.
Funeral private, Thursday, 2.30.

ANOTHER BIG OPERA HOUSE.

Toronto Will Be Replaced by One of the Finest of Play Houses.

Toronto is to have one of the handsomest theatres on the continent. The erection of an auditorium with a seating capacity up to the requirements of a growing city has been decided upon by A. J. Small. The new amusement house will be known as the Majestic. In an interview with The World last night, Mr. Small stated, that since the destruction of the Toronto Opera House he has received offers of some fifteen sites for a new house, and of these only four were suitable for the structure which it is intended to erect. A decision on one of these must be made before the end of the week, as the booking season is rapidly progressing, and every day lost occasions considerable inconvenience.

"The impression prevails that the new theatre will be run on the same plan as the Toronto," said Mr. Small. "This is totally incorrect. The new house will be booked with high-class attractions only, and will be the largest and handsomest house in Canada. I recognize the fact that the city should have such a theatre, and that is the kind of building that will be constructed. As to locations under consideration? I do not think it would be fair to make public the locations at present, but a decision must be arrived at before the end of the week, and as soon as this is accomplished, building will begin immediately."

Mr. Walter S. Painter of the Detroit firm of architects who make a specialty of theatre construction, and Messrs. Mason, Reed, Hill and Painter are still in the city and will commence work on the plans immediately the site is decided upon. Mr. Painter is the architect who had charge of the construction of the Russell Theatre for Mr. Small, Ottawa, and is at present building the new theatre in Quebec.

John Kay, Son & Co. are negotiating for the purchase of the site of the burned building. It is owned by S. Perrin of Detroit. The Kay firm is directly south of the site on King-street.

GROCERS TO COMBINE.

Capitalization to Be $5,000,000 and Charter Will Be Sought.

A meeting of wholesale grocers was held yesterday to consider the question of combining into one big business, and late last night H. C. Beckett of Hamilton handed out this announcement:

"A number of leading Ontario wholesale grocers are making application for a charter to carry on business as the Canada Grocers, Limited. The capitalization of the company is to be $5,000,000, of which a large proportion has already been subscribed, and the balance of the stock, it is expected, will be subscribed very shortly by other prominent firms in the province. The objects of the new company will be to extend business by establishing branches at growing points in Ontario and in the Northwest; to provide more systematic and efficient service to the retail trade; to be in a position to furnish cheaper goods to the retailer by reason of larger buying; to specialize certain branches of the trade and to manufacture when necessary. F. C. Letts and N. M. Letts of Chicago are identified with the company. The volume of trade of the houses who have already taken stock in the company aggregates about ten million dollars annually. The identity of the various firms forming the company is to be preserved. There will be no reduction in the traveling staff of the houses, but a probable increase, as it is intended to make a more frequent and systematic canvas of the retail trade."

No further information was vouchsafed. Owing to the charter not having been obtained, and for other reasons, the names of the firms intending to combine were not made public. It will all come out later, it was said.

10c Gates Cigar sold for 5c—Havana. Alive Bollard, New Store, 128 Yonge St.

Did you ever try the top barrel?
Try the Decanter at Thomas.

"Chub" Rowell Taken Ill.
"Chub" Rowell, a prominent downtown hack driver, was taken very ill last night at his post at King and York streets and had to be taken to his home. He has been a hackman for over 20 years.

Cigars Marguerite, Irving's Boston. 4 for 25c. Alive Bollard.

Smoking Perfection Mixture, nothing to equal it. Alive Bollard.

Corona Fruimeat is delicious. Pies, pud

Fund Started to Assist Manitoulin Member in Meeting Expense of the Trial.

An "investigation fund" has been announced with which to make more certain a vigorous presentation of the evidence of bribery as charged by the member for Manitoulin. Those in charge of the prosecution point out that Mr. Gamey's expenses will be larger in connection with the preparation of the case, even tho the actual witness fees are paid by the government. At Mr. Gamey's request Mr. Emerson Coatsworth, Jr., 312 Temple Building, has consented to act as treasurer, and the fund will be disbursed on order by Mr. W. D. McPherson. The notice to the public of their intention to handle the case in this manner recites that:

"From the expense already incurred in necessary preliminary work, it is evident that the probing of the charges to the very bottom will entail a large outlay. It is certain that no expense will be spared on the part of those implicated. Even should all the witness fees and counsel fees be paid by the province, other large expenses must necessarily be incurred to ensure anything like a complete investigation. This is a case where all lovers of freedom will feel it a privilege to come to the rescue. Mr. Gamey should be backed up and encouraged by the entire province. The work of proper preparation should not be hampered for want of money. Already numbers of earnest and independent thinking citizens have urged that a fund should be organized. The names of subscribers and amount subscribed will be considered confidential. In the case of each new subscriber an acknowledgment of the amount subscribed will be made by the treasurer by official receipt."

Court Sits at City Hall.

It has been decided that the judges who are to conduct the investigation into the Gamey bribery charges will sit in one of the court rooms at the City Hall. The first sitting of the commission will be on Friday morning, but nothing more will be done than to arrange for the hours of the daily sessions, and to hear representations of counsel relative to the general conduct of the case. The cabinet ministers were unable to say yesterday what accommodation would be made for the press. It is certain that there will be a great demand for space for the newspaper men, and there is some disposition to limit the number from each paper to two or three, to conform to the limited capacity of the court room. In addition to the local press there will be special correspondents present from many outside towns, and to give writing space to each would seriously tax the accommodation.

Source of Lively Gossip.

The coming enquiry continues to be the liveliest topic of conversation on the streets. Sensational developments are expected from the minute the first witness takes the stand, and there is much anxiety to learn what are the strong cards Mr. Gamey has up his sleeve. The utmost confidence is expressed by Conservatives in the ability of Mr. Gamey to prove what he has charged, but on the other hand the accused say they have strong reasons for believing that everything will turn out right and they will emerge from the enquiry with clean hands, to the utter discomfort of Gamey. There are some who have been mentioned in connection with the affair whose position is not clear. For instance, there is "a prominent Liberal lawyer, who was to arrange a stock deal. The name of this lawyer has been pretty freely mentioned, and there are some who declare that the instructions to the judges and the bill respecting evidence were so framed as to keep the lawyer out of the enquiry altogether, on the ground that his practice may be damaged if he is dragged in.

There are several others who are said to be living in hot water daily. The uncertainty of the situation is making a whole lot of people decidedly uncomfortable. Already there are stories going the rounds that all the chief witnesses will be on hand when the enquiry opens, but so far there is no word of anybody having "turned up missing." The chief actors are busy with the counsel in the case every day, and by Monday the lawyers will be prepared as far as they can be without knowing what sensations the other side will spring.

The public will probably be admitted to the court room during the investigation.

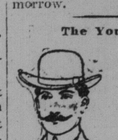
WILL ASK PUBLIC AID.

A meeting, for the purpose of securing more aid financially, was held yesterday by the Dominion Exhibition Association. They purpose calling upon the public-spirited men of Toronto to donate liberally towards defraying the expenses of the fall fair.

The association feel that the exhibition is widespread in its good effects, not only in stimulating Canadian enterprise and industry, but does more to advertise Canada than anything else. Toronto, they claim, receives the greatest amount of benefit, hence their call for aid.

Failed to Start the Mill.

Belleville, April 1.—Mr. Kirkwood of Toronto, when he purchased the Belleville rolling mills, made a bargain with the city that he was to have the mills in operation by March 31 or forfeit $2500. The money was put up with the Bank of Montreal. The time limit expired, and Mr. Kirkwood had made no effort to run the mills, so the city to-day claimed the money, which will probably be paid over tomorrow.

The Young Statesman.


The young statesman is the name of the new wide brim Derby hat. It is the favorite in all the big centres of the world. It is made in good quality of felt; at least, those by Dineen's are such. These are the new styles for spring, 1903.

MILD AND UNSETTLED.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, April 1.—(8 p.m.)—The weather has been a little cooler to-day in nearly all portions of the Dominion. Local showers have occurred in Western Ontario, but it has been for the most part fair in the provinces.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 14—32; Victoria, 38—50; Kamloops, 32—50; Calgary, 26—32; Edmonton, 14—38; Prince Albert, 20—26; Winnipeg, 36—42; Port Arthur, 20—34; Parry Sound, 24—50; Toronto, 30—45; Ottawa, 30—50; Montreal, 30—46; Quebec, 28—38; Halifax, 32—42.

Probabilities.

Lakes and Georgian Bay—East and southeast winds: mild and unsettled, with occasional rain; winds becoming westerly at night.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence—Easterly winds, cool weather, becoming showery.

Lower St. Lawrence—Cool easterly winds; rain at night.

Gulf and Maritime Provinces—Easterly winds; fair and cool.

Manitoba—Cloudy and cooler, with light local snowfalls.

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STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

April 1.	From.	At.
L'Aquitaine	Havre	New York
Oceanic	Liverpool and Queenstown	New York
Prince Wilhelm	New York	Bremen
Parisian	St. John and Halifax	Liverpool
Trave	Genoa, Naples and Gibraltar	New York
Rotterdam	Rotterdam	New York
Kaiser Wilhelm	Bremen	New York
Roma	Naples	New York
Carthaginian	Liverpool	Philadelphia