

The Chatham Daily Planet.

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CHATHAM ONT. THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1907.

NO. 63

Linen Sale!



Our Special Sale of Table Linens, which Opened To-day, contains the most interesting offerings of slightly damaged cloths and napkins ever on our counters.

The damages are very slight, and are really of no consequence as far as the wearing properties of the goods are concerned.

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2 yds. x 3 1/2 yds. at \$2.50 up to 6.00 each
2 1/2 yds. x 2 1/2 yds. at \$4.50 to 5.50 each
2 1/2 yds. x 3 yds. at \$5.00 to 6.50 each
2 1/2 yds. x 3 1/2 yds. at \$5.00 to 6.50 each

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WAS WHITE INNOCENT?

Abe Hummel Gives Some Very Startling Evidence

DAMAGING TESTIMONY

New York, March 14.—James Clinch Smith, Stanford White's brother-in-law, was called again as a witness in the Thaw trial yesterday morning. Mr. Smith was tardy in arriving and Mr. Jerome summoned Abraham Hummel to the stand. Hummel had scarcely taken his seat when Smith put in his appearance. Therefore Hummel was temporarily excused and Smith took his place.

Hummel had answered two questions put to him by the district attorney. He said he knew Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, and saw her in the office on Oct. 27, 1903, following her return from Europe. Mr. Smith was questioned by Mr. Delmas for the defence, having been recalled to testify as to the cablegram he received from District Attorney Jerome early in February, summoning him to return to this country.

Mr. Smith said he did not have either the original of the cablegram or a copy. Mr. Jerome offered a letter-press copy, but Mr. Delmas refused to accept it. "As I remember the message," said Mr. Smith, "it read, 'Your evidence most important. Your attendance desired.'"

Mr. Smith said he returned on Feb. 17 last, and met Assistant District Attorney Garvan on the 19th. Mr. Smith said he had reduced to writing his conversation with Thaw on the Madison Square Roof Garden, and had showed the memoranda to his counsel and to Mr. Garvan. They both said it was good. Mr. Smith was excused and Abraham Hummel once more took the stand.

Mrs. Thaw's Statements.

"Did Mrs. Thaw tell you that Thaw wanted to injure White and put him in the penitentiary, and that Thaw had begged her time and time again to swear to documents he had prepared, involving White, and charging that he had drugged and ruined her; and that Thaw had beaten her because she would not sign the papers?" asked Mr. Jerome.

Mr. Delmas interposed to ask Hummel, if at the time of the conversation with Miss Nesbit, he was acting as her legal adviser and attorney.

"I was acting only for Stanford White," replied the witness.

Evidence Vastly Important.

"The material issue here," argued Mr. Jerome, "is whether Evelyn Nesbit Thaw told Thaw the story in Paris that she told on the witness stand. If I can show that the woman under solemnity of an oath absolutely denied that she told Thaw any such story; that she repelled his demands that she should sign papers making such false charges against White; that Thaw was so angered at her refusal he beat her; stripped her naked and beat her; these are the things which must have weight with the jury as to whether she told Thaw the story which is said to have driven him insane and which has been the basis of the theory of experts that this defendant is insane."

Swore White Was Innocent.

"Stanford White did not drug me," she said, "Stanford White did not touch me." She withstood Thaw's lashings and beatings because the story which Thaw wanted her to swear to was not true. Stanford White never harmed her.

"If I can show not only that she told this, but that she later swore to it in a paper the contents of which she well knew, I submit it bears strongly on the truth of her statement that she told this story to Thaw in Paris, and that it unbalanced his mind."

The court adjourned at the close of the morning session until to-day in order to allow counsel time to look up the authorities in reference to the hypothetical question it is proposed to put to the scientists. It is expected that the case will reach the jury on March 27.

THE DOMINION BANK

The Dominion Bank will in future pay interest on Savings Deposits four times a year, namely, March 31st, June 30th, Sept. 30th and Dec. 31st, at Highest Current Rates.

Read The G. H. J.

HON. DR. REAUME HEARS DEPUTATION FROM CHATHAM

It Is Expected That Some Action Will Follow Relative To Some Means For Preventing The Annual Spring Freshet—Clements Persistent

Some of the members of the Kent Thames cut-off deputation, which made representations before the Minister of Public Works at Toronto yesterday, arrived home last night, and the balance are expected to arrive in Chatham in the afternoon. Ald. Charles Austin, Warden Somers, Clerk Gosnell and Reeve Irving came home on the 9.55 last night.

Hon. Dr. Reaume, Minister of Public Works, was quite a busy man yesterday. When the deputation from Chatham arrived they found that he was busy listening to representations being made by a deputation from Sturgeon Falls. It was eleven o'clock before the Kent deputation gained an audience. The local deputation was twenty-six strong all told.

All the representatives from the city and county were present with the exception of John Pigott and Reeve Crawford, who at the last moment got word to attend the W. E. & L. S. R. R. suit which is being tried in Windsor.

The deputation was introduced to the Minister of Public Works by Philip H. Bowyer, M. P. for East Kent. Ald. J. G. Kerr was first called upon to read the joint petition coming from the city of Chatham, the county, and the various local towns, villages and municipalities affected by the yearly spring freshets.

Ald. Kerr also presented the Minister with a printed statement of the damage done by these floods. Warden Somers and Reeve Griffith, of Thamesville, followed, the latter presenting photographic views of Thamesville's condition during some of the floods of recent years. Ex-Reeve Corey, Purser, of Dover, also addressed the Minister on the subject.

George W. Sulman, the Conservative candidate for the Ontario Legislature, made a concise and effective address on the evils resulting from the annual spring freshets. He was followed by A. B. McCoig, M. P. P.

After these gentlemen had concluded their remarks, Hon. Dr. Reaume remarked that he noticed Herbert S. Clements among those present, and he would like to hear Mr. Clements' views on the subject.

In calling upon Mr. Clements, the honorable gentleman passed West Kent's Dominion representative a very high compliment.

"I have heard from Mr. Sulman and Mr. McCoig several times on the subject of Thames freshets," said Hon. Dr. Reaume, "but if Mr. Clements has been after us once on this issue, he has done so a hundred times."

Hon. Dr. Reaume said he would be glad to hear from Mr. Clements as to the Federal Government's attitude on the matter.

Mr. Clements replied that owing to the fact that the Dominion Public Works Department is without a permanent head at the present time, and as Mr. Fisher was only acting Minister, the latter gentleman did not feel like making any definite statement.

Continued on Page 4.

THE LOCAL OIL FIELD'S A WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITY

Demand For Casing Exceeds Supply—Romney's Ten New Wells—Tremblay Well Said To Be Making Good Showing

Although numerous oil man's supply companies have sprung up and are doing a successful business in Chatham and vicinity, and though trainloads of supplies are arriving daily, it has been found almost an impossibility to meet the ever-increasing demand for casing, piping, etc., from the Romney and Tibury oil fields.

Derrick's are spring up and dotting the country in myriads, oil men are out securing leases day and night, and yet 'tis said on good authority that the local fields present hundreds of possibilities for enterprising men. There are a few Canadians taking advantage of the opportunities offered, but American capital and enterprise predominates in the veritable whirlwind of activity which has suddenly evidenced itself in the local fields.

Almost every day the names of some new American capitalists may be seen on the local hotel registers, and some of the representatives of Uncle Sam's oil kings have lately found that they have more business to look after than they can very well handle.

Ex-Councillor James Ross, who was in the city this morning, declared that he has never before seen anything like the activity which is so much in evidence in Romney and Tibury.

"There are oil men everywhere apparently," he said, "and you hear nothing but oil talk, leases and contracts. I tell you there is going to be a bigger boom there this summer than anyone at present imagines."

It has been pointed out by local men interested in the field that Chatham is not as alive as she ought to be to the possibilities that surround her. These men think that no effort should be spared to advertise our rich oil district. It has been suggested that municipal envelopes bearing a map of the surrounding district should be gotten out and supplied to business men for correspondence purposes. Some short phrases might also be used on these envelopes to draw attention to the great local oil industry.

NOTES FROM THE FIELDS.

The Tremblay well was drilled in yesterday, and is reported to be proving itself a good well, although no definite information has yet been learned as to the showing it made.

There are now ten wells in the process of drilling in Romney. The Schuler and Partridge No. 3 well will be in to-day.

C. A. Corey has placed a standard rig over the Purdy well, which it is expected will be finished in ten days' time.

F. E. Schaffer, of this city, has started a well on the Williams farm, concession 3, Tibury. Drilling operations were commenced yesterday.

Robert Robertson expected that the well on the Richardson farm would come in yesterday, but on account of the delay in getting casing operations had to be abandoned for the time being. The casing, it is understood, arrived last night, and drilling was re-commenced to-day.

L. W. Hott intends starting a well on the Merritt farm, Romney. Mr. Hott will commence operations immediately.

Schaffer Bros. are again drilling No. 2 in Raleigh township.

Hugh McDonald has started a well in Tibury for the Central Oil and Gas Company, and he is also planning the Murphy gas well.

The Maple City Oil and Gas Company's No. 4 well is now pumping at the rate of fifty barrels a day.

A new well has been started on the Tetrault farm, Con. 7, lot 4, Dover Township. This is the second well that has been started in Dover. At the depth of 150 feet enough gas was found to feed the engines. This is a good sign, and prospects are bright for a good well.

LIQUOR SALE TO MINORS

P. H. Bowyer Brings In A Very Important Amendment

BILLS IN LEGISLATURE

Toronto, March 14.—At the opening of the Legislature yesterday Mr. W. H. Hoyle (North Ontario), chairman of the Standing Orders Committee, took occasion to make the significant announcement that gross irregularities were being found day by day in petitions and private bills presented to his committee. "Promoters," declared Mr. Hoyle, "systematically disregard the regulations of the House regarding time of filing and publicity of private bills." This should, in Mr. Hoyle's opinion, be penalized by the Government. Mr. Hoyle added that the irregularities were usually those of the legal fraternity. At the morning session five important bills had to be laid aside because they did not fulfill the requirements.

"I am thankful the chairman has called attention to this matter," observed the Prime Minister, Hon. J. P. Whitney. "It is well known that great laxity has long existed among those who promote private legislation. Some country lawyer, like I was, comes along and appeals to his member. He is told he has failed to comply with the regulations. 'Oh, well,' he declares, 'let it go through any old way,' and so it goes along. The greatest possible publicity should be given to all private bills that every imaginable interest affected may be assured of due consideration. It may as well be distinctly understood that this whole rule cannot be set aside."

Mr. Preston Takes His Seat.

Hon. J. P. Whitney and Dr. Smellie (Fort William) and enthusiastic Government applause introduced Mr. W. A. Preston, to whom the courts recently awarded the Port Arthur seat. Mr. Preston sits on the end seat of the rear row to the right of the speaker.

Mr. F. H. Bowyer (East Kent) introduced a bill amending the Liquor License Act. At present only a license holder or his employees are liable to penalty for selling, giving or supplying liquor to minors. The amendment is designed to cover all persons, excepting parent, guardian or physician.

Another clause is amended by Mr. Bowyer's bill, making it necessary for any clubs under a Dominion charter desiring a license to obtain the same from the Provincial Secretary, instead of from the local license commissioners as at present.

Mr. McDougall (Ottawa) introduced bills to give a fixed assessment to a new Ottawa hotel and to validate a debenture bylaw of the Ottawa separate school board, which is slightly irregular.

It was private members' day and the second reading of several local measures was proceeded with.

Land Titles Bill Scotchd.

Hon. Mr. Whitney killed the bill of Mr. Ferguson (Grenville) to amend the Land Titles Act, in short order. "There is little in it to commend it to public approbation," was his laconic comment.

In moving the second reading of his bill to amend the Municipal Act, which gives the municipality power by bylaw to fix the last Monday in November for elections, Mr. T. H. Preston (Brant) read a number of letters he had received from various municipal authorities in favor of the measure.

Hon. Mr. Whitney did not concur in the referendum idea in the measure. It was a question that should be treated in a manly and virile fashion, because, after all, it was a mere matter of administration.

Hon. Col. Matheson said that the chief objection was in the fact that, under the altered conditions, the representatives of the people would not be responsible to the people from the 1st of December until the end of the year.

Hon. Mr. Graham was not at one with the Prime Minister in conceiving that there were many weighty reasons for a change in the date. The holiday season interfered with the elections at present. The question was whether the date should be set a little before the close of the year, or a little after, say the first Monday in February.

The bill was referred to the municipal committee.

A Revolution in The

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