

THE TORONTO WORLD

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES IN ADVANCE.

One year, Sunday included, \$3.00.

Six months, Sunday included, \$1.80.

Three months, Sunday included, \$1.00.

One year, without Sunday, \$2.50.

Six months, without Sunday, \$1.50.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.90.

One year, without Sunday, \$2.00.

Six months, without Sunday, \$1.20.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.75.

One year, without Sunday, \$1.80.

Six months, without Sunday, \$1.00.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.60.

One year, without Sunday, \$1.50.

Six months, without Sunday, \$0.80.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.50.

One year, without Sunday, \$1.20.

Six months, without Sunday, \$0.70.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.40.

One year, without Sunday, \$1.00.

Six months, without Sunday, \$0.60.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.35.

One year, without Sunday, \$0.80.

Six months, without Sunday, \$0.50.

Three months, without Sunday, \$0.30.

One year, without Sunday, \$0.70.

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In a special message to the Wisconsin Legislature, its immediate effect was the passage of the Railway Taxation Bill and the concentration of the railroad and the state machine's energies on the defeat of his Freight Rate Bill.

The agitation vigorously carried on by Senator La Follette has convinced President Roosevelt that the general level of freight and passenger charges is too high. In the words of a recent editorial in The New York Press: "The president has therefore, it is said, adopted the conclusion of the senator, and that in order to arrive at a scientific and just determination of reasonable rates, it is necessary for the government to find out what the railroad properties of the United States are worth." This would be strictly in accordance with the dicta of the supreme court of the United States, which declare that "if a railroad corporation has bonded its property for an amount which exceeds its fair value, or if its capitalization is largely fictitious, it cannot impose upon the public the burden of such increased rates as may be required for realizing profits upon such excessive valuation or fictitious capitalization," and that "if a corporation cannot maintain such a highway and earn dividends for stockholders, it is a misfortune for it and them, which the constitution does not require to be remedied by imposing unjust burdens on the public."

In his speech to the senate on the Hepburn bill Senator La Follette estimated that the railroads of the United States were overcharging the public from \$285,000,000 to \$485,000,000 a year for transportation, depending on what interest, ranging from 8 per cent. to 10 per cent., was deemed a fair rate on the capital employed. But he explained, any estimate to be even approximately correct required an examination of the corporation books and a scientific valuation of the properties. The demand for such an examination and valuation is a perfectly fair one, and it will be granted in the case of all public service corporations. Only thus can it be seen what their transportation is, what amount of "water" is in their capitalization and how far the public users are being mulcted in the shape of excessive rates and charges. The necessity for check and supervision has already been conceded by the provisions of the proposed new Companies Act now before the Ontario legislature, and to be effective for the public protection these should be made more stringent and thorough. Only by disclosing the actual value of the property of public service corporations can it be ascertained whether and how far these public trustees have been giving the citizens a square deal.

COMMONS AND LORDS.

Threatened individuals and institutions are reported to be living long, but when threats begin to materialize the day of reckoning comes appreciably nearer. The house of lords ever since its character practically identified it with the British Conservative party has ever and anon been the target of radical reformers. Yet never till this year of grace has its position in the state been directly challenged or formed the subject of a paragraph in the royal speech on the opening of parliament. That it has done so now places reform of the house of lords among the questions of immediate practical politics and subjects it to parliamentary debate. This of itself is a sufficiently important matter, the present session of the imperial parliament of great historic interest.

The property of a second chamber is generally admitted, and there is no serious dispute about the theoretical qualities it should possess. Mr. Gladstone once described the policy of the reforming party in the state as "trust in the people tempered by prudence." The second chamber should stand for the qualification. But the house of lords, although in fairness it must be said that it has not altogether failed to discharge that function, has been more aptly described as the drag on the wheel of the coach, and a drag used not always wisely. From its constitution it is the embodiment of traditional privilege in all its forms and in its most extreme developments. Only some real or imaginary inroad upon the vested interests of the church or the aristocracy has sufficed to cause a revolt against ordinary party allegiance; here, indeed, and here only have the peers severed themselves from the Conservative government of the day.

Under present conditions the house of lords is an anachronism, and what

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PUBLIC OWNERSHIP LEAGUE.

I approve the formation of a public ownership league and am prepared to give the movement my earnest and personal support.

Name

Address

A list of 36 names was handed in yesterday by an employee of the postoffice department, who said the staff were almost unanimous in favor of the proposal to form a public ownership league.

The suggestion made a few days ago, that the coupons be pasted on a sheet of paper and that a score or more persons be asked to attach their signatures, has been followed by several enthusiastic public ownership men. This is the right spirit. Bring in your friends. Tell them about it and get their signatures.

ever the result of the first bout may be, the fact that it must now be completed to justify its existence before the constituencies marks the beginning of the end. To be the subject of a political campaign must necessarily rob the upper house of something of the dignity that hedges an hereditary chamber. This aspect of the issue seems to have tinged the comments made by the peers who took part in the initial debate on the King's speech. The house of lords is in this unhappy position, that every step in the contest between the representative and the hereditary houses must emphasize the distinctive differences and the ultimate result is not doubtful. This contest, as all others in Britain have done, must eventually in the supremacy of the popular chamber.

THE CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION.

From the 35th annual report of the Confederation Life Association, published in this issue, it will be seen that the directors had no reason to complain of the shareholders on the very gratifying nature of the results attained during the year ending Dec. 31 last. This has been secured despite the circumstances which subjected the United States companies to a prolonged and dangerous government investigation of Canadian conditions by a federal commission. That these disturbing incidents did not affect the volume of new business obtained by the Confederation Life—in point of fact it exceeded that of the previous year—marks a testimony to the confidence felt in the sound position of the association and the excellence of its management.

The favorable impression produced by this general summary of the year's doing is confirmed and no reason to speak very highly in your praise for your effort in parliament to have the railway companies' extremely high passenger fare cut down to a reasonable figure. Two cents a mile first-class, and 1 1/2 cents for third-class, or less.

The people gave the railway companies many millions of dollars as a reward to help them to build their roads; so after the roads were built they charged the passengers very high fares. The high passenger fare charged by the railway companies is a penny more than the fare charged by the street cars.

Be tenacious and stick to your guns; you are sure to succeed in time.

Feb. 13, 1907.

REJECTED.

The Manchester (England) Guardian says it is noteworthy that Laurier, discussing a motion for a "full partnership between the colonies," definitely rejected political measures to that end.

A POSTPONEMENT.

The meeting of the members of the advisory council of the Presbyterian Church Extension Union, which was arranged for this evening in Central Church, has been postponed for two weeks, and will be held in the same place on the 28th inst. Tea will be taken together at 6 p.m. Afterwards the work of the year will be discussed and plans submitted for the present year campaign.

Three new congregations have been organized and their future assured thru the work of the union during the past year.

In the Jury Assizes.

With a jury Justice MacBain is hearing the action of Mrs. Alice Wilson, who is suing for herself and four children Robert Davies of the Don Valley Brick Works for \$10,000. Her husband, John Wilson, was employed as a night fireman by the company. On July 7 last he was transferring a loaded car of bricks from the drying to the cooling-room. His head was caught between the car and an upright post and he was killed. It is claimed the place was badly lighted.

J. D. Watkins sued J. McAfee for \$2000. The jury heard him \$200. Two were porters in the Albion Hotel. While working together McAfee upset a bottle of muriatic acid, some of the contents entering the eye of the plaintiff, which caused him to have it removed.

Presentations.

Oshawa, Feb. 13.—J. Smith, who is retiring from the ownership of the Commercial Hotel on March 1, was presented by his guests with a handsome gold-mounted walking stick, and the employees presented Mrs. Smith with a gold-mounted silk umbrella.

Clean, dry, fine Salt—that slips from the spoon, grain by grain—WINDSOR SALT.

AT OSGOOD HALL.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THURSDAY.

Chambers.

Cartwright, master, at 11 a.m.

Single Court.

Cases set down for hearing before Mr. Justice Brannon, at 11 a.m.:

Horlock v. Eachwell.

Quebec Bank v. Williams.

Ashworth v. Musko, etc., Co.

Mint v. Employers.

Maynard v. Moss.

Buck v. Martin.

Lavin v. Redson.

Munro v. Gibson.

Divisional Court.

Peremptory list for 11 a.m.:

1. Elcott v. Milman.

2. Butler v. Fulton.

3. Evans v. Jaffray.

4. Gibson v. Gardner.

5. Bonaker, Comptand.

6. Ray v. Kilgour.

7. Chicago v. Duncombe.

Toronto Jury Settings.

Peremptory list for 10 a.m.:

1. Orr v. Toronto Railway Co.

2. Mulren v. Grenadier Ice Co.

3. Moore v. Toronto and York Radial.

4. Elcott v. Butcher.

5. Heath v. Wythe.

Toronto Non-Jury Settings.

Peremptory list for 10:30 a.m.:

1. Kendrick v. Barker (to be concluded).

Trusts and Guarantees v. Hare.

Weber v. Bagnett, et al.

Henders v. Parker.

Redford v. Boyson.

Dreany v. New Ontario.

Embree v. McGee.

Claims on a Covenant.

Thomas Clark has issued a writ against E. A. Darnett of Toronto, claiming \$1500 on a covenant contained in a certain mortgage. The principal is \$500 and the interest is for 15 years less five days, amounting to \$554.

Custom House Work.

Charles Bully has been made defendant in an action brought by the Excelsior Concrete Paving Co., who are claiming \$386 for balance of contract and extras for work performed and material supplied at the custom house, Toronto.

Wants to Be Paid.

Nick Pisto of Toronto has begun an action against Richard Reynolds and P. Town of Parry Sound, claiming \$225 for work done by the plaintiff for the defendant, and also for an account in chocolate.

Alfred Craigie is suing MacLure and Langley of Toronto for \$10,000 damages for fraudulent misrepresentation and breach of contract in the sale of certain chocolate by the defendants to the plaintiff.

Promissory Note.

Alex. Cameron and J. J. Flanagan of Fort William are being sued by H. Barkey of Kingston for the recovery of \$2000 a promissory note made by the defendants.

Wants Payment for Services.

Elizabeth Ann Reynolds has brought suit against Richard Reynolds and P. Town of Parry Sound, claiming \$386 for work done by the plaintiff for the defendant, and also for an account in chocolate.

Money in Court.

On Jan. 3 last the defendants, in the action brought by George Reid & Co. against Edward L. Gould, et al., paid into court \$1195.01. Upon consent an order was granted by the master in chambers, allowing the money to be paid out to the plaintiff.

Settled.

Job Winchester Bows and James Murdoch have settled their difference. Upon consent an order was obtained from Master in Chambers Cartwright dismissing action, without costs to either party.

Claims Illegal Seizure.

The seizure by Alexander Wilson of the goods of Albert E. Travis, under a chattel mortgage covering the goods in his hotel at Clarendon, is the subject of an action brought by Travis against Wilson and the bailiff, who made the seizure. Upon the application of the defendants an order has been granted directing Travis to give particulars of the goods alleged in his statement of claim to be exemptions that were illegal seized.

Judgment Granted.

There being no cause shown to the application on behalf of the Ontario Bank for judgment against James J. Walsh and Peter Ryan, the master in chambers granted judgment for the amount endorsed on the writ, with costs. The bank's claim is on certain promissory notes,