

THE HAMILTON TIMES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1908.

STUDY THE MATTER.

When a Premier keeps back important legislation involving pledging the credit of the Province for millions of dollars for a private corporation fill the last hours of the session, and then secures its passage by falsely representing that it is absolutely necessary to make the vast concession so as to secure the Province from loss, it is reasonable to think that the deception practised is intended to hide things that would not stand critical examination by the public.

And this is exactly what Whitney did in the case of the guarantee of \$2,500,000 to the C. N. R.

His organs and sharers in his guilt now try to excuse the passing of the measure by saying that the Opposition is to blame; it should have kept the Legislature in session all summer fighting the bill, whereas it let it slide through.

In other words, they blame the wrong done upon the little Opposition because it accepted the Premier's false statement, made to deceive the Legislature, and induce it to consent to the legislation on the plea that the original guarantee for \$1,500,000 was faulty. What queer notions of right and wrong and of Ministerial responsibility such an argument—at least an excuse—involves!

A few facts should be borne in mind: The original guarantee was for \$1,500,000, and was provided for by Act of the Legislature under Ross. Whitney violently opposed such guarantees, and in the House and on many platforms denounced them and solemnly pledged himself that there should be no more of them.

The Ross bill provided that all the property of the railway at the time existing, and all that it should in the future acquire, should be mortgaged to the Province as security for the guarantee.

Ross' Government evidently made ample provision for security for the Province; but it was defeated and went out of power before the guarantee was given and the mortgage executed.

Mark well that fact. If fell to the Whitney Government to take the mortgage, under an act which gave it authority to include ALL THE PROPERTY WHICH THE COMPANY OWNED OR MIGHT IN THE FUTURE OWN.

Whitney's Government did execute the mortgage to secure the guarantee, it being drawn in July, 1906, and signed by Hon. A. J. Matheson as Provincial Treasurer. It is now filed at Ottawa, and speaks for itself.

Now as to railroading the bill through. It was not hinted at till the very close of the session, and the printed bill was not distributed till Saturday morning, the last day.

Why such secretiveness and haste about it? Mark the manner of its presentation, and then draw your own conclusions.

In presenting the bill the Premier explained that the security held by the Province for the former guarantee of \$1,500,000 was worthless, or at least insufficient, because it did not cover the terminals, and that only in this way, by increasing the guarantee to \$2,500,000, could the error be remedied. Hence the great urging to get the bill through that day. In the face of such an assurance, by the Premier, of those being the facts of the case, would any patriotic Opposition have been warranted in resorting to obstruction? At that late hour it was not practicable, even had the Opposition suspected the Premier of falsehood, to secure the facts from the records and confront him with them. It accepted his statement in good faith.

That is where it was too easy. The Premier had not hesitated to deceive the House. He spoke "with a double tongue." Now after having pleaded urgency and the Province's security to secure their assent to the measure, thus giving the Premier's pledge of honor as to the facts to prevent delay and inquiry into them, the Government and its organs attempt to blame the Opposition for the guarantee! It taunts it with having had confidence enough in Whitney to accept in such a matter his statement on the honor of the Premier!

Truly, that was where the Opposition erred! It thought it might safely believe Whitney's solemn statement! Some things in this matter are very clear. The Ross legislation for the \$1,500,000 guarantee was ample. The mortgage to secure it was executed by the Whitney Government, and if defective the Whitney Government is to blame. It is probably not defective, as the plans, terminals, and all, were filed long before.

To get the second guarantee of \$2,500,000 railroaded through Whitney grossly misrepresented the facts of the case to the Legislature; and his party, in the face of that, now seeks to make the acceptance of the Premier's assurance a cause of blame.

What is behind the increase of the guarantee to induce a public man to adopt such means to put it through? What, think you?

BIASED "INDEPENDENCE."

The beautiful independence of the Ottawa Journal is evidenced in its treatment of the new Dominion Elections Act. It declares that in providing for a revision of the lists in Provinces where their preparation is not left to the municipal officials, the Dominion Government "deliberately departs from the principle of Dominion acceptance of the provincial lists for Dominion purposes." And moreover, in view of the

well-rounded, whole-souled sacrifice of principle that the maintenance of the Government's present attitude would involve, the only possible inference would be that it was bent upon mutilating and then stuffing the Manitoba lists for the purpose of electing its own candidates."

Were the Ottawa Journal merely an ordinary party newspaper, and not one of the superior "I-am-holier-than-thou" independent organs (for better Tory effect), it might have hesitated to make such statements. In a discussion of the bill of 1898 the Liberals, through Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Solicitor-General Fitzpatrick, and other speakers, made it amply clear that they were willing to accept Provincial lists when kept up to date, and when their preparation was placed in the hands of the municipal councils, as was done in Ontario and Quebec. There has been no departure from that principle in the new Elections Act. By it the Dominion accepts the Provincial lists when they are prepared by the municipal officials. But the Liberals are not committed to the theory that they must accept the Provincial lists, for Dominion purposes, no matter how they may be prepared. In the discussion referred to, even Mr. R. L. Borden specifically declared that it should be understood that although the Dominion accepted "the Provincial enactments as they exist at present; and the basis on which the voters' lists are now made up in the different provinces."

"I do not see why we should pledge ourselves to the wisdom of what any Provincial Legislature may pass in the future."

The Liberal leaders and the leader of the Opposition were in practical agreement on this matter, but, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier said—and in so saying he expressed the opinion of the House: "But if the day comes when a fraud is committed, when legislation of a hostile character is brought forward in the Legislature, then it will be always open for the Parliament to resume its own powers, and to enact a franchise law of its own." Up till 1904 the preparation of the Manitoba lists was in the hands of the judges. In that year the Manitoba Government took it into its own hands. THEY TOOK AWAY FROM THE JUDGES THE APPOINTMENT OF THE REGISTRATION CLERKS, AND MADE THEIR SELECTION A MATTER OF PARTY PATRONAGE.

Does a professionally independent journal see in that no reason why the Dominion should resume its own powers in the case? Has the Journal no word of disapproval for Roblin's partisan legislation?

It is somewhat amusing to find the Hamilton Spectator, which bitterly opposed the building of the National Transcontinental line at all, complaining that it has not been pushed forward fast enough as a means of "real relief for the people of the West, who are every year crying out more loudly for greater shipping facilities." But as the organ, in connection with its complaint, reiterates the fake story of the Toronto World—which has already been authoritatively denied—that there is trouble because the line has been located too far north, its regret, both as to the lack of haste in building, and the location, may be regarded as what Carlyle would have called a "simulacrum."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Whoever murdered the friendless foreign lad at Erindale deserves no sympathy.

Don't forget to get posted this week—to-night, if you can—on how and where to get registered: Go to the Liberal Club for information.

The announcement is again made that Col. Gibson will be the next Lieutenant-Governor of the Province. Here's hoping it may be true.

Port Arthur complains of an invasion of over 500 laborers, from Duluth, in search of employment, and is wondering what is to be done with them. Send them out on the new railway lines.

Surely Mayor Stewart should see that Mr. Berry gets on the city pay roll now. But he should not try to knife Mike Nelligan, or any of the other old servants of the city, to make a vacancy.

Some of the east end heeleders are beginning to become apprehensive. They think it is time the "bar!" was broached. The organ continues to remind them that the candidate is still on the ocean, but is soon expected to be home.

The Asquith Government seems to be pretty popular in Scotland. Montrose yesterday returned the Liberal candidate with a plurality of over a thousand over both the Labor and Unionist candidates combined. The Tory was at the bottom.

The Quebec Chronicle, which has been indulging in some reckless criticism of Hon. Mr. Parent in connection with Major Hodgins' statements regarding the Transcontinental Railway Commission, finds itself compelled to dine on crow. It is now busily engaged in withdrawing its slanders and apologizing.

A perusal of the Spectator's opinions of one Charles Collins, who openly flouts the Tory machine, leads to the conclusion that, if wishes could blast, the said Charles would promptly wither into a shapeless and attenuated morsel resembling the consciences of some of the machine's manipulators.

The electors of South Wentworth—and especially the temperance electors—are patiently awaiting Mr. Ham Regan's reply to their question on that local option clause. Why, Mr. Regan, should it take the votes of three temperance men to be as good as those of two liquor men? Speak up, Ham; we're waiting.

The Toronto News sorrows over the withdrawal of Mr. T. H. Preston from the Legislature, describing it as "a serious loss to public life in Ontario." The News' tears are crocodile. Its course toward Mr. Preston, while a member of the Legislature, has been such as to make its present performance but accentuated hypocrisy.

As we expected, Sir Wilfrid Laurier gets no credit for meeting the Opposition half way in the matter of the Manitoba election lists. The Mail and Empire, in a scare head, calls the compromise "a complete backdown." The Opposition, brought to time by the Opposition, of

fers capitulation on the Elections Act. The position of the Government, in the first instance, was eminently fair, and we are somewhat sorry it did not stick to it.

The senior local Tory organ complains that Mr. MacKay condemns a Government campaign pamphlet as "a lying document." The words are plain words, not lacking force in conveying their meaning. That the statements it contains are lying statements is proven by the testimony of Edward Gurney, J. E. Leonard, M. J. O'Brien and B. W. Folger, each of whom has categorically denied them. We observe that the Spectator, while it complains of MacKay's references to it, does not dare to defend the pamphlet's truthfulness.

There is no need for undue haste in dealing with the street railway proposition. It is one of those things that merit careful consideration. Many months have been spent in fencing before any real negotiations were entered upon. Large interests are involved. Now let there be a full and clear understanding of what each party to the negotiations proposes to undertake, and let there be no slipshod methods in dealing with the details. Let the city be carefully protected, but watch any man who seeks to obstruct a fair settlement.

Toronto is within \$1,725,000 of the limit of her borrowing power. The cost of her sewage disposal and filtration systems is estimated at \$5,120,000. Then there is \$700,000 for her waterfront wall, and \$2,250,000 for her Niagara power scheme. The amount required would exceed by \$6,250,000 the amount the city can by law borrow. She is therefore constrained to put off some of the by-laws for a while. What a riot of profligacy would be indulged in were our municipal "statesmen" not trammeled in loading the taxpayers with debt!

But how does the Times explain its own position? Was it not several weeks ago in favor of the guarantee just as Mr. MacKay was? And is it not a fact that it suddenly came to see the need of a "business" side to it, had he not felt sure that Mr. Cochrane and the Premier would show no displeasure at this hardly disguised offer of a bribe. But will these ministers be bribed with their own money?

There is no need for this time for a Purification. The party has what the practical politician calls the "fat wads" in tow.

Spring is here. The lark crows at heaven's gate; grass and trees take on a tender green; and Mr. Joseph Seagram has engaged a new jockey.

Won't Stand It. (Kingston Whig.) At Hamilton, Mr. Whitney is said to have talked in an earnest manner. Did he? He justified, or attempted to justify, the gerrymander, and threatened to take us into the job more completely. That is an idle bluff. It will never be called. Why? The people won't stand it.

But Total Vote Was Smaller. (Windsor Record.) Even in Dundas Winston Churchill reduced the Liberal majority from 5,411 to 2,709, indicating the influence of the personal factor in this as well as the Manchester election. Unfortunately his election will again saddle him on the Government. His elimination would have been a more desirable result on the whole.

Hard on Billboards. (A California Supreme Court.) "A glaring billboard, advertising, for instance, a popular beer, set opposite a man's house, in a vacant lot, bordering upon a public highway in a country town devoted to homes, is just as offensive to the immediate residents as a stone-breaking machine, or a chime of hoarse bells. In principle there is no difference between the two. It would be a singular result of our law if relief could not be had against the maintenance, for purely advertising purposes, of an unclean billboard erected opposite my house, having painted upon it grotesque advertisements of wines, beers, and whiskies, and constantly, hourly and daily, a detriment to my property, and a serious injury to the feelings of myself and my family."

The Premier and the Power Question. (Toronto Globe.) Neither Premier Whitney nor his Government can justify claiming public credit in connection with the project to supply the municipalities with cheap electric power from Niagara. Public credit is what they deserve. They made a pretence at favoring Hon. Adam Beck's campaign, but secretly they opposed it, and in the end they thwarted it, and made its immediate and large success impossible. It is an open secret that the

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organ, pretending of respectability, lauds resort to murderous defiance of law and order, and attempts to ridicule and depreciate resorting to the means provided for the legal adjustment of such differences. Such vicious opinions can serve no good or useful purpose.

The threat of Mr. Herbert Lennox, ex-M. P., who has been touring Northern Ontario with Hon. Mr. Cochrane, to a meeting at Cobalt, that if the people there did not vote for the Government they need not expect to be generously treated in the matter of colonization roads, and the mining industry, has not yet been repudiated by either Whitney or Cochrane. Lennox, who has been one of the small men in Provincial politics, would hardly have dared to so plainly intimate to the miners that voting had a "business" side to it, had he not felt sure that Mr. Cochrane and the Premier would show no displeasure at this hardly disguised offer of a bribe. But will these miners be bribed with their own money?

OUR EXCHANGES

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Thursday, May 14, 1908 SHEA'S May Manton Patterns Are Absolutely Safe to Use. All 10c

Going Out of Dress Goods Business

Still this tremendous sale goes on with unabated vigor. Everything is being sold at practical and money-saving reductions. No matter what kind of Dress Goods you want it is on sale reduced from 20 per cent to 50 per cent. All goods that are new and thoroughly dependable. Silks Reduced, Wool Dress Goods Reduced, Waterproof Cloths Reduced, Cloths for Men's Wear Reduced. Table Linen worth \$1.25 for 99c, Cream Table Linen worth \$1.20 for 99c, Table Napkins at \$1.19, Awning Cloth at 30c.

A BIG OFFERING IN DRESS SKIRTS

Recent purchases of manufacturer's clearing lines of Dress Skirts have put us in a position to offer new and up-to-date Dress Skirts at the most astonishingly low prices. Tweed Skirts, Worsted Skirts, Voile Skirts, Venetian and Broadcloth Skirts, etc., white, cream, black and colored, on sale as follows: \$3.00 Skirts for \$1.50, \$4.00 Skirts for \$2.50, \$6.00 Skirts for \$3.95, \$7.50 Skirts for \$4.95.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL.

Dundas High School By-law Meets With Approval. Novel and Picturesque Event in Methodist Church. Mr. James Somerville Going to California.

Dundas, May 13.—After a meeting of the Finance Committee last evening a special meeting of the Town Council was held, beginning at 9.30. The members present were Mayor Moss, Reeve Lawson, and Councillors Bertram, Spittal, Lawson, Mount and Lunn. A number of accounts were presented for payment by the Finance Committee, among them being the street lighting for April, \$105.45, and one from W. E. S. Knowles, of \$38.23 for defense of the town in the action by Woods for injuries sustained by falling over the dam.

A communication from the Board of Education asked for \$4,000, with which to purchase the High School present interest in the present school buildings for Public School purposes, and a further sum of \$12,000, to be added to the amount thus received, the whole amount to be expended in erecting a new high school building. The application was granted and a by-law introduced to raise the amount by the issuing of 20-year debentures.

William Armstrong asked permission to move a frame structure on King street, now used as a laundry, on to the back end of the lot, to be used for stables, etc., as he proposed erecting two new buildings on the front. Left to the Mayor and Reeve to deal with, as it was thought such permission might be a contravention of the fire limit by-law.

The Property Committee reported having rented the site for the new Grove Cemetery, at \$6 per month, and recommended the erection of 375 feet of fence and three gates at the cemetery, at a cost of \$430. The report was adopted.

The Finance Committee recommended that A. P. Wardell be notified that when his client, Mr. Fielding, paints the Head street bridge according to agreement, the town will release mortgage taken to secure the due performance of the original contract.

Methodist Japanese Tea. Something new, beautiful, quaint and enjoyable in the highest degree was the Japanese tea given last evening in the school room of the Methodist Church under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society. The room was finely decorated for the occasion with Japanese rugs, drapes and other beautiful and picturesque articles from that wonderful country. The Rev. T. J. Mansell was master of ceremonies. The entertainment began with a programme of readings, songs, etc., all Japanese. The first on the programme being a quartette, the Japanese national anthem, by Mrs. John Lyons, Mrs. W. H. C. Fisher, Fred Barrett and Bert Baker. Mrs. W. Moore, Mrs. J. H. Bowman and Mrs. T. W. Whalley gave readings describing the Japanese, their country, customs, etc. Japanese songs were contributed by Mrs. Petty and Hamilton and Miss Goddard and Miss Sutherland of Hamilton, all of which were to the King's taste. Mrs. Robert Clark told a mission story to the boys and girls, and judging by their attention given, it was one of the best stories to which they had ever listened. Little Miss Elsie Farr gave a recitation, one of the cutest and most pleasing recitations you ever listened to. Mrs. Col. Grafton played music-lovers, and everybody loved music these days, with a piano solo. Miss Nellie Ham presided at the piano.

This part of the programme over, then came the refreshments. This part was right up to the mark, as well as the first part. For the purpose a number of class rooms were darkened, and then brightened by Japanese lanterns. The floor was covered with Oriental rugs and Japanese drapery hung profusely around the walls. Tea was served on low tables from tiny Japanese cups and saucers, those partaking sitting on cushions spread around the tables. Pretty Dundas girls in pretty Japanese costumes served at table. Each guest was permitted to retain as a souvenir of the occasion the cup and saucer used by them. There was a crowded attendance.

It is reported that Mr. James Somerville, ex-M. P., has sold his fine residence on the Governor's road to W. E. S. Knowles, and will in future reside in California, where he has a married daughter. What will Dundas be without James Somerville? Harry Hamilton, who has been about

CEMETERY BOARD.

Mr. F. Chester Fearman Elected Chairman. The Cemetery Board re-organized for the year last night and elected Mr. F. Chester Fearman, who has been an active member of the Board for many years, chairman. Many nice things were said of him by the retiring chairman, Mr. W. Armstrong.

The superintendent and secretary provided the financial statement for April, showing that the general receipts were \$835 and the amount received for the perpetual care fund \$1,203. The expenditure was \$1,065.

The Board received an estimate from the civic works department for building a cement walk from the main gate of the cemetery to Anderson's hotel. It was \$2,249. The Board decided not to go on with the work at present, the cost being too great.

Dr. James A. R. Dickson, of Galt, has been elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Synod of Toronto and Kingston. Mayor Oliver, after his trip to the States, says that a filtration plant can be established in Toronto for \$750,000.

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The Finance Committee recommended that A. P. Wardell be notified that when his client, Mr. Fielding, paints the Head street bridge according to agreement, the town will release mortgage taken to secure the due performance of the original contract.

Methodist Japanese Tea. Something new, beautiful, quaint and enjoyable in the highest degree was the Japanese tea given last evening in the school room of the Methodist Church under the auspices of the Women's Missionary Society. The room was finely decorated for the occasion with Japanese rugs, drapes and other beautiful and picturesque articles from that wonderful country. The Rev. T. J. Mansell was master of ceremonies. The entertainment began with a programme of readings, songs, etc., all Japanese. The first on the programme being a quartette, the Japanese national anthem, by Mrs. John Lyons, Mrs. W. H. C. Fisher, Fred Barrett and Bert Baker. Mrs. W. Moore, Mrs. J. H. Bowman and Mrs. T. W. Whalley gave readings describing the Japanese, their country, customs, etc. Japanese songs were contributed by Mrs. Petty and Hamilton and Miss Goddard and Miss Sutherland of Hamilton, all of which were to the King's taste. Mrs. Robert Clark told a mission story to the boys and girls, and judging by their attention given, it was one of the best stories to which they had ever listened. Little Miss Elsie Farr gave a recitation, one of the cutest and most pleasing recitations you ever listened to. Mrs. Col. Grafton played music-lovers, and everybody loved music these days, with a piano solo. Miss Nellie Ham presided at the piano.

This part of the programme over, then came the refreshments. This part was right up to the mark, as well as the first part. For the purpose a number of class rooms were darkened, and then brightened by Japanese lanterns. The floor was covered with Oriental rugs and Japanese drapery hung profusely around the walls. Tea was served on low tables from tiny Japanese cups and saucers, those partaking sitting on cushions spread around the tables. Pretty Dundas girls in pretty Japanese costumes served at table. Each guest was permitted to retain as a souvenir of the occasion the cup and saucer used by them. There was a crowded attendance.

It is reported that Mr. James Somerville, ex-M. P., has sold his fine residence on the Governor's road to W. E. S. Knowles, and will in future reside in California, where he has a married daughter. What will Dundas be without James Somerville? Harry Hamilton, who has been about

CEMETERY BOARD.

Mr. F. Chester Fearman Elected Chairman. The Cemetery Board re-organized for the year last night and elected Mr. F. Chester Fearman, who has been an active member of the Board for many years, chairman. Many nice things were said of him by the retiring chairman, Mr. W. Armstrong.

The superintendent and secretary provided the financial statement for April, showing that the general receipts were \$835 and the amount received for the perpetual care fund \$1,203. The expenditure was \$1,065.

The Board received an estimate from the civic works department for building a cement walk from the main gate of the cemetery to Anderson's hotel. It was \$2,249. The Board decided not to go on with the work at present, the cost being too great.

Dr. James A. R. Dickson, of Galt, has been elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Synod of Toronto and Kingston. Mayor Oliver, after his trip to the States, says that a filtration plant can be established in Toronto for \$750,000.

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