

The Toronto World

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SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 17, 1912

HOW THE COUNCIL THREW THE PEOPLE DOWN.

We showed our paper yesterday how the great bulk of the citizens of Toronto are forced to live in the older congested area of the city where the franchise of the Toronto Railway obtains, and that they are kept from getting out into the suburbs by the action of the property owners and the Toronto Railway, who are immensely benefited by maintaining the congested area.

But now we want to be specific in our charge and to show how scurvy the treatment was that was given to the great bulk of the people of Toronto by the mayor and council.

We showed that there are 35,000 tenants who pay taxes in Toronto as against 30,000 who are owners; that these taxpayers or tenants have only one voice in the city's affairs and that in the selection of mayor and aldermen. They have no votes on bylaws; their only representatives are the members of the council, and the mayor, and their only voice for justice is thru these men, who are their representatives. To them, therefore, they went for better street railway service and for a wider city to these aldermen, controllers and mayor, who have been in the habit of going around appealing to "the people" for their support and asking to be sent to the council because they would be "representatives of the people" in fact as well as in name.

But mark what happened! The moment these people asked for tubes and for the expansion of the city, their "representatives" turned "the people" whom they represented over to the tender mercies of the property owners, who alone had votes in connection with bylaws, either in the matter of tubes, the Bloor-street viaduct or the annexation of North Toronto. We do not know of a more contemptible betrayal by the council. It is true that the question of tubes and the question of the viaduct had to go to the property owners, but why was there not one generous, truly liberal member in the council who was ready to ask that the tenants and taxpayers who were not property owners, be given a voice on matters of fact, they pay nearly all the taxes of the city, and they are the ones who suffer from congestion, and they are absolutely refused a voice; and where they have a voice thru their representatives, these representatives by some underhand influence deserted their constituents and played the part of those who want a congested city and a congested street car service.

We ask Mayor Geary to say how he justifies his handsomely with "the people" that he has carried on for two or three years and then to betray them, as he did betray them, when he turned over the question of the annexation of North Toronto to the property owners? And we ask the controllers and the members of the council if that is to be their attitude hereafter? Whether they, who represent "the people," will turn them over to the property owners again the next time they want annexation and a larger city?

As we said, it takes some time to find out these things, and The World has found them out and dug them up at last, and it now challenges the city council to say whether this condition of affairs is to continue. And we challenge The Telegram newspaper to say whether it is prepared to justify this treatment of the people of Toronto, who want better railway facilities, and who want to see the city expand, and who have no voice other than thru the council. Was it Telegram influence at the city hall that did the trick?

Toronto is more congested than almost any other city on the continent, and the statistics that were given out at the meeting the other night proved it. Ex-President Courtney of the board of trade gave some startling figures, showing how whole families lived in one room, and dozens of families were living in very small houses, altogether lacking in accommodation. And there is the report of the medical health officer on the same matter; and yet our so-called city council, made up of "representatives" of "the people," deliberately dodged the petition of the people and are prepared to do it again if not exposed. The World has exposed them in this matter and now gives them a chance to say whether they did it in ignorance or whether it was done by design. If it is true that they are not there to represent the people, but that they are there to sit for a congested city and for a congested street car area and franchise, let them say so boldly. We await their answer, but we are not going to let them get past it, and again

We ask Mayor Geary: Is he the people's friend, or is he not? and why did he put up the question of annexation and the expansion of the city to the very men who were most interested in defeating it? Or has the mayor now got courage—and we hope he has courage and breadth of view—to take up a big and broad scheme for the expansion of the city so as to give the public a chance to get out into the suburbs and to get a single fare there. There are a lot of ways of meeting their wishes, and one is by voting for a single street car fare and for a Greater Toronto. Is he going to do it? If he will, we will give him the best support, but first we give him a chance to stand up and explain.

THE WRONG MAN.

Day after day The Telegram belabors Sir Alan Aylesworth on the supposition that he was minister of justice in 1904 when the amended contract was made which has resulted in the government being called upon to pay \$10,000,000 to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company. Of course Sir Alan was not in the house of commons or in the government at that time. He became minister of justice in 1908, succeeding Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, the present chief justice of Canada.

Someone was certainly to blame for the bungling and it may have been the gentleman who was then minister of justice. Certainly Sir Alan Aylesworth had nothing on earth to do with it. The Telegram in its editorial pages might as well try to be accurate.

POLITICS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Some Conservatives who were officeholders during the late Liberal administration suffered hardship and grievances; some of them are certainly entitled to promotions that were denied them, and to the same treatment that was accorded to their more fortunate Liberal associates. That is one thing; but for any of these men to be active now in having Liberal civil servants removed or degraded is not good policy on their part. The Liberal party as a party are making quite a row over the dismissals that have taken place and are threatening all kinds of vengeance and retribution when the next change takes place; and political changes happen in the most uncertain ways and when least expected; and therefore it would be wise for those in office to keep clear of all intrigue. Once you go into the civil service drop your politics; continue your agitation for changes that are based on legitimate promotion.

Ulster will fight when Ulster gets tight.

Mr. Dorn's big rock hen feels humiliated, says The Star, after having an egg the size of a sparrow's. How do the opposition leaders feel?

REV. DYSON HAGUE TO-MORROW.

As will be seen by announcement elsewhere the new vicar of the Church of the Epiphany, Parkdale, Rev. Dyson Hague, will preach his first sermon in the church to-morrow morning and evening. Canon Hague has long been recognized as one of the great outstanding preachers of the Anglican Church, with an influence extending far beyond the borders of his own communion. He has also been most successful in his parish work, especially with men and boys, and has written many books on church history and kindred subjects. His coming to the Church of the Epiphany is a great addition to the pulpit power of the diocese of Toronto, but as a very decided acquisition to the religious life and thought of the city as a whole.

Doctors Condemn Oily Liniments.

Public are Warned Against Strong-Smelling, Oily Liniments Containing Harmful Acids and Ammonia.

Many people have clung to the old-fashioned idea that a thick, greasy liniment is the best thing for aches and pains. Recently a number of these white, oily liniments were analyzed, and they were found to contain an enormous percentage of harmful acids, and such irritating chemicals as ammoniac, turpentine, and camphor, which cause a warm sensation when first applied, but their continued use never cures rheumatism, and only deteriorates the skin, sets up inflammation, and causes endless trouble.

THE FRIENDS OF THE POOR.

The Helping Hand.

Editor World: We in England are now in the depth of the dark, dreary days of winter, and I venture to send this letter over the seas to ask all your readers who remember the grim struggle for existence that goes on ceaselessly in the slums of the mother land, to join our ranks to-day, and become a "friend of the poor" at home.

Our president is H. H. Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, and our most ardent and distressing cases of poverty that come to light in the metropolis. Unfortunately, there are many other deserving families who still remain to be helped—half-starved men, women and children, and their little ones who have fallen and may never struggle to their feet again, unless we assist them over this hard and cruel time of sickness and want and cruel food. We on this side are doing our best, but we think to-day that if your hands were only stretched out to help from the distant portions of the world, we could extend our work of relief to a far greater number.

The qualifications that are now impossible for a "friend of the poor" are not very difficult or onerous. All we ask a "friend" to do is to send us a donation, no matter how small the amount, or a gift of clothes or boots, but if, in addition, he or she cares to take charge of one or more of the families who are suffering, and to put them into touch with deserving families who have nobody to help them, all around them looks black and threatening, but who have been recognized by the people.

At Osgoode Hall.

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Feb. 18, 1912

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2—McMullin v. Traders Bank.

3—Welland v. Shure.

4—Dovey v. White Pine L. Co.

5—W. J. v. Anderson.

6—Ro Auger Estate.

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