

## ..The Planet..

S. STEPHENSON, — Proprietor.

## THE DUTY ON OIL.

A petition to Parliament has been extensively circulated amongst business men and manufacturers in Ontario, asking that the import duty be removed from petroleum and its products, says the Toronto Sun. The duty now levied is five cents per gallon on illuminating oil, which averages about 50 per cent on importations. This is certainly a heavy duty. The old story of the infant industry will hardly be brought out to serve as an apology, for there is a limit even to partisan credulity. The Standard Oil Company cannot be classed as an infantile. Its adolescence can no longer make public sympathy. It controls, through stock ownership, the oil refining business of Canada, and handles the entire Canadian output. Canada is an oil importing country. The local supply is not equal to the requirements. A large quantity must be obtained from the United States, and it is the price of this, with the duty added, that determines the price of the local product. According to reports of the Ontario Bureau of Mines the output in this Province is valued at over a million dollars. This means that the Canadian oil consumers are forced to pay the Standard Oil operators about \$600,000 more than the value of their oil every year. This is a nice little present for the owners of the great monopoly, perhaps not much to them, but a great deal to the people of Canada, who pay it. It is possible, as Mr. E. B. Osler said of the railway subsidies, that a part of it finds its way to the pockets of the politicians who vote it. Some of it goes to the well owners, and heretofore the Standard operators have been able to enlist their support in sustaining the protective tariff.

The well owners are numerous, and for that reason are influential politically. They are the owners of the oil-bearing lands, and many have one or two wells augmenting the revenues of their farms. The refinery controlled by the great monopoly is the only purchaser, and fixes the price so as to encourage the desirable activity among well owners. The threat of a reduction of price is held over their heads so as to make them active in defending the special privileges conferred by the protective tariff. The only fair way for parliament to mediate between oil producers and oil users is to give no special favors. If the price be increased to the consumers some wells now idle will be pumped. If the price be lowered some wells now pumped will be left idle. The proper level to strike is the natural price established by competition without the influence of a needless tariff. Justice would demand an extension of the system so as to give the oil producers their machinery and supplies equally free.

## MICHIGAN'S LOSS IS ONTARIO'S GAIN.

It took the Conservative party in the Ontario Legislature some eight or ten years to induce the Ontario Government to prohibit the export of Ontario pine logs to Michigan. The Government depends largely on the receipts from the sale of timber for its revenue and it feared that if it forbade Michigan mill men taking the logs into that state for manufacture they would not buy our timber limits. But finally, with a provincial election looming up, the embargo was put on. There was a cry to the effect that Michigan lumbermen were handsomely subsidizing Premier Hardy's election fund. The report was having considerable effect and the only way the Government could meet it was to accept the oft-repeated suggestion of Mr. Whitney and his friends and prohibit the export of pine logs. This was done with many misgivings. It was predicted it would depopulate our lumber woods and kill our timber industry. Well, it has done just the reverse. Aubrey White, of the Crown Lands Department, Toronto, furnishes the Detroit Tribune with the following information in an interview concerning the result of the new policy:

Twelve firms have removed their saw-mills from Michigan to Ontario, nine large new mills have been erected in Ontario since April, 1898, when the policy went into force and three firms which had mills on both sides of the line have enlarged their operations in Ontario. The correspondent says: "It is estimated that between 150,000,000 and 200,000,000 feet of pine formerly sawn in Michigan has been prepared for the market in Ontario each year since the embargo went into force. The price paid per thousand for dressing is from \$2.25 to \$2.50. Mr. White, considering these figures, thought that the annual sum now spent here, but which formerly was distributed among Michigan shanty-men, would average about \$750,000. Making allowances for freight on railways or boats, and containing expenses, it would be a fair calculation which would put a million dollars as the amount by which Ontario will be enriched during the present year. Our giant forests will no doubt withstand the assault of axe and saw for years to come, and during

## Your Doctor.

We wish you would ask your doctor what he thinks of Vapo-Cresolene. He will say "It's certainly the best way of reaching the throat and lungs, this inhaling method." You see, it brings the medicine right in contact with the weak places. If it's asthma, bronchitis, whooping-cough, croup, or any such trouble, the Cresolene vapor touches every inflamed place. Relief is quick, certain.

Vapo-Cresolene is sold by druggists everywhere. The Vaporizer and Lamp, which should last a lifetime, and a bottle of Cresolene 25 cents and 50 cents. Illustrated booklet containing physicians' testimonials free upon request. Vapo-Cresolene Co., 100 Fulton St., New York U.S.A.

Recommended and sold by C. H. Gunn & Co., Central Drug Store.

these years Ontario's gain and Michigan's loss will be many millions of money."

Are the aldermen being driven by the Banner-News in letting the city engineer go before his successor is in sight?

The Toronto Star, Liberal, says Hon. G. W. Ross is making his position impregnable by good legislation. That is pretty rough on his predecessors, Mowat and Hardy.

In other cities people are talking about having seen four British sovereigns on the throne. That is nothing. Anyone born prior to June 20, 1820, has seen five.

Those young people who undertook to obstruct the progress of a moving engine the other evening should never again call thirteen unlucky. They are the luckiest thirteen who ever missed becoming attractions at a funeral.

The aldermen who voted on a hearing charge against Engineer Shackleton, ought to post themselves on the real facts before next council meeting, and then deal with his case on its merits. It will do no alderman any harm to be fair and just, and if they recorded themselves under a misapprehension last meeting, there is yet time to right the wrong.

A blunder in making a sewer connection at the C. P. R. cost the city \$35. The board of works could not say it was the city engineer's fault, but the council fired him for it just the same. In Chief Justice's case, Ald. Scane laid down the principle that if being the first charge made against the chief he should not receive summary punishment. Later on he and a majority of the council voted to dismiss Engineer Shackleton, not formally on the charge mentioned above, but largely as the result of it. Yet it was a first charge and an unproved one at that.

## BEFORE THE GRIPPE

is the proper time to prevent the ailment; too late when you're down with it.

SCOTT'S EMULSION is one of the best preventives known to medical science. It feeds the system with germ-destroying substances and distributes blood-food that fortifies the system against the invasion of the disease.

With SCOTT'S EMULSION come vital strength, solid flesh and rich blood—the surest safeguards against grippé.

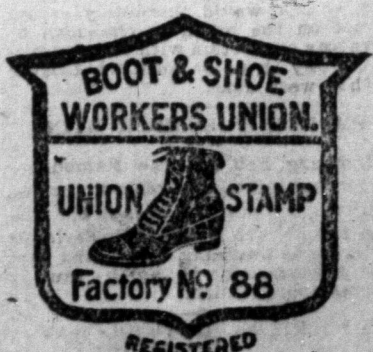
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SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Canada.

## UNION LABEL

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This stamp used by JOHN McPHERSON CO., Limited, of Hamilton, the only Union Factory in Canada.

A genial man is both an apostle and an evangelist—an apostle because he brings men to Christ, an evangelist because he portrays Christ to men.—F. W. Faber.

WANTED!—Engineer for the city of Chatham—must be a \$5,000 man willing to work for a thousand dollar salary. Must be incapable of making mistakes; prepared for dismissal when any alderman expresses the opinion that he is incompetent. Must do all office work, prepare all plans, inspect all improvements and cover all duties that it usually requires an engineer, an assistant and a typewriter to attend to. Anyone competent to fill this office will be guaranteed against dismissal with less than two weeks' notice.

The Globe is doing excellent work in the matter of law reform by occasionally devoting a well-pointed article to that subject. The address by Matthew Wilson, K. C., which The Planet published the other day, furnishes that journal with material for one of these editorials, which concludes thus: "If all court fees were abolished and the officials put upon salaries it might be said that the general public would be burdened with costs that should be paid by litigants. But the system might be simplified, offices amalgamated, useless proceedings abolished and fees reduced. In fact, the whole system of the administration of justice would be the better for a judicious but vigorous application of the axe."

THE SHADOWNY SARA. Philadelphia Times. The suggestion that Bernhardt would make a better ghost than a Hamlet is positively cruel.

A GOOD EXAMPLE. Hamilton Herald. In devoting only five minutes to his speech about the Queen, Mr. Borden set a good example to parliamentary orators. To be able to sit down when one has said all he desires to say is a good quality in any speaker, parliamentary or otherwise.

## WANT MONEY FOR ABUSE.

Injured Hospital Patients Want It From Greater New York at Once.

Municipality May Lose Thousands by The Brutality of the Nurses in Bellevue.

New York, Feb. 14.—The Bellevue Hospital scandal bids fair to result in many damage suits against the city by patients claiming to have been abused. One new instance has been brought to light by the filing of a complaint by Vincenzo Palumbo, who complains that he has been incarcerated for work as a result of cruel treatment last November.

Palumbo has a family in Italy to whom he sends his earnings. On retiring on the night of Nov. 3 he accidentally turned on the gas. He was found unconscious next day and was taken to the Harlem hospital and while in a state of semi-consciousness, was a result of cruel treatment last November.

"I regained consciousness on the third day," said Palumbo, "and found myself tied to a bed. My feet were fastened, and there were leather bracelets around my wrists, connected by a rope beneath the cot. I went to sleep in that condition, and was awakened by blows on my body. 'A man,' I was beating me with a stick, for no reason that I could learn. He beat me on the arms and legs and told me to get up. My feet were fastened, and there were leather bracelets around my wrists, connected by a rope beneath the cot. I went to sleep in that condition, and was awakened by blows on my body. 'A man,' I was beating me with a stick, for no reason that I could learn. He beat me on the arms and legs and told me to get up. My feet were fastened, and there were leather bracelets around my wrists, connected by a rope beneath the cot. I went to sleep in that condition, and was awakened by blows on my body. 'A man,' I was beating me with a stick, for no reason that I could learn. 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