

## The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1880.

A Morning Newspaper Published

Every Day in the Year.

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Corner James and Richmond Streets.

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FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 26, 1912

BENEFITS OF MUNICIPAL EN-

TERPRISES.

Opponents of municipal ownership

and operation of public services are

prone to affirm that they are conduct-

ed with less regard to popular needs

than those under private management.

This assertion is not borne out by

British experience and is not believed

by the people in the United States and

Canada, who suffer from that principle

of private company operation which

has regard first to the necessity of

profit earning. Now that the im-

perial parliament is about to resume,

many applications by cities and towns

have been entered for power to make

extensions and improvements in street

railway systems. Among them is

Sheffield, which contemplates an ex-

penditure of over \$1,000,000 for ex-

tensions and over \$200,000 for the purpose

of trying out the trackless electric car

for suburban service. Belfast is an-

xious to proceed immediately with im-

portant street railway extensions in

the city and suburbs at a total cost of

\$750,000, while the stock of cars is also

to be largely increased.

A further proof of the enterprise

shown by municipal managers is af-

forded by the result of the street rail-

way parcel delivery service, estab-

lished some years ago by the Man-

chester City Council. During last

Christmas week no less than 37,081

parcels were carried, a figure well

above the previous record. When the

experiment was started the depart-

ment organized a system of collection

and delivery by horses and vans, but

in 1906, after a lawsuit, the council had

to change its methods and the traffic

fell away. Since 1906, however, the

service has more than made up the

lost ground, and from \$125 in 1907 the

net profits have risen to \$12,420 in 1911.

Shoppers have merely to give direc-

tions for the sending of purchases by

car and the shops with the street rail-

way department do the rest. Every

car conductor is authorized to take a

parcel from anybody who hands it to

him, and gives a receipt in the form

of a counterfoil of the ticket which he

pasted on the parcel. For four cents

a parcel up to seven pounds weight is

delivered at its destination by mes-

sengers from the district depots and

only another two cents is needed for

double that weight.

UNIQUE AESTHETIC STANDARDS.

Those who are aware of The Tele-

gram's musical limitations in the mat-

ter of "O Canada," will not place

much weight on its artistic value in

describing the floor-strut viaduct as

"a monstrosity," especially after the

professional endorsement given by Mr.

Lennox. The Telegram's standards

of beauty are not to be modified by

outsiders like Dr. Vogt or E. J. Len-

nox.

MARRIED WOMEN AS CITY COUN-

CILLORS.

Mrs. Hume Ponsent, who sits in the

Birmingham City Council, was the

first married woman in England elected

to that office. She was qualified to

stand for election by the decision in

October, 1909, of the revising barrister,

which enabled the over-seers to place

duly qualified married women on the

burgers' roll without further question.

He held that as none but electors are

eligible to county and town councils,

the enabling act of 1907 must have

been intended to remove the electoral

raise your taxes. You are not encour-

aged in Toronto to make im-

provements or to help the city to look

finer and become healthier. But if you

let your old houses decline in value

and run down so as to be ramshackle

and worthless, the assessor will en-

courage you in that course, and will

reduce your assessment and lower your

taxes, and generally speaking do

what he can to make you feel that it is

a poor policy to try to be enterprising.

The tax reform movement is intended

to stir people up to understand these

things, and to have the burden of tax-

ation fall where it will not discourage

enterprise, but will rest upon the estab-

lished values of the land, which is not

to be moved and can always be levied

upon.

CHEAP RURAL PHONES.

It is quite evident from the report

of the workings of the Municipal Tele-

phone Act, as set forth by the hydro-

electric commission in a pamphlet, de-

scribing its operations in the Township

of Rochester, Essex County, that there

is room in the province for a very great

expansion in the adoption of its provi-

sions. In Rochester, after two years' operation, 135 subscribers paid off one-

fifth of the debt of the indebtedness, and

in seven years they hope to own the

system free of debt. Therefore, at the

end of seven years a charge of \$1 a

year will cover all the cost of opera-

tion and maintain the system.

There are now fifteen municipal tele-

phone systems in operation, the largest

being at Brussels, with 800 connections.

Rochester has 225 at present. When the

Rochester people started their system

they found they had no authority to

issue telephone debentures when they

wished to raise \$3000 to install their

system. The power to issue debentures

was given in 1908.

At a gross annual cost of about \$7,

and the prospect of a future charge of

only \$1, the farmers in Essex County

have a service which would otherwise

cost them \$20 a year or more. It is

highly desirable that residents in rural

communities throughout Ontario should

understand their opportunities under

the act, and the advantages presented

as compared with either a private com-

pany or the Bell monopoly. The pri-

vate companies have in many instances

been opposed to the municipal systems,

and members of such companies elected

to municipal boards have already in-

fluenced the boards. A desirable invest-

ment in a private telephone company

which there is disinclination to disturb,

or the privilege of a free phone some-

times prevails over the common inter-

est. But when phones are in sight at a

dollar a year, there should be no pos-

sibility of any personal interest in the

part of a councilman standing in the

way of so great and cheap a conven-

ience.

The pamphlet includes a full state-

ment of the workings of the act and

the text of the act itself. It can be had

on application to the hydro-electric

commission.

With the prospect in view of the On-

tario Government taking over the long-

distance trunk lines, a decided impetus

ought to be given to the establishment

of municipal telephone systems. To

the farmer, as well as to others, the

phone is no longer a luxury, but a ne-

cessity.

BOARD OF TRADE INAUGURAL.

Toronto has reason to be proud of

such an address as that made by Mr.

G. T. Somers, inaugurating his en-

trance on the presidency of the board

of trade. It showed him to be thoroly

conversant with the situation in On-

tario and in sympathy with those pro-

gressive policies that seek to secure

public advantage. Not the least sat-

isfactory among the signs of the times

is the willingness to recognize that in

the long run what makes for the ben-

efit of all the people is the surest basis

of individual success and that the dif-

fusion of wealth, if it results in

fewer multi-millionaires, means larger

average prosperity.

The future will be with those provi-

dences that protect their natural re-

sources and public services from ex-

ploitation for private profit. Mr. Som-

ers referred to the vast water powers

that would be rendered available by

the enlargement of the Welland and

the St. Lawrence canals. These, he

truly said, might well become impor-

tant sources of revenue to the govern-

## Our "Viator" Caps

ARE IN \$1.00

Woolen Scarves from 75c up

to \$1.50.

Mercerized Scarves for 50c

\$1.50 Sweaters for 50c

Our best \$4.00

Sweater Coat for \$3.00.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

WREYFORD &amp; CO.

85 King Street West

when the Duke of Connaught arrived,

and the American national anthem

when he departed. Perhaps The Tele-

gram, with its profound musical dis-

crimination, can tell us how to distinguish

them. Or, is one to be two-four time

and the other six-eight time? If the

American anthem is six-eight time there

is danger of The Telegram going Yank.

The Telegram, which likes a jiggle in

its music, naturally likes a jiggle in its

viaduct.

A man has seen a sea-serpent 100 feet

long in the St. Lawrence. Rudyard

Kipling gives a graphic description of

two he saw, and everybody reads it as

romance. A sea-serpent is one of those

things you never see. It isn't good

form. Extracts from the log-books of

all the master mariners who have seen

sea-serpents would convince nobody

who had not seen one himself.

At Osgoode Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Jan. 25, 1912.

Judges' chambers will be held on

Friday, 26th inst., at 11 a.m.

Master's Chambers.

Before Cartwright, K.C. Master.

Ross v. City of Toronto-Bell (W.

Johnston). Plaintiff's Motion for

plaintiff. Motion by defendants

for an order for the medical examina-

tion of plaintiff. Order made. Costs in

the cause.

Scully v. Madigan-McNaught (Rit-

chle &amp; Co.) for defendants; J. F. Bo-

land for plaintiff. Motion by defendants

for an order striking out paragraph 8

of statement of claim and clause 6

of prayer for relief. Order made with

costs to defendants at any event. Time

for delivery of defence to run from deliv-

ery of amended statement of claim.

MacPhail v. Tremblay-G. A. Mc-

Gaughey (North Bay) for plaintiff; G.

S. T. Bull (North Bay) for defendant.

Motion by plaintiff, assignee, for the

benefit of Boulanger &amp; Tremblay.

Tremblay, for a declaration that cer-

tain property purchased by defendant,

Pelletier, was purchased by defendant,

Pelletier, and that the property should

be declared a part of the firm's

assets. Plaintiff also asks that a con-

tract of sale between defendant and

Pelletier be declared void. Plaintiff

also asks that the property should

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