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OPPOSED TO ALL STRIKES.

WHAT GRAND CONDUCTOR WHEATON SAYS OF THE ORDER.

An Exhaustive Review of the Objects and Aims of the Body Over Which He Presides—A Welcome from the Mayor and Aldermen—Business of the Convention.

C. S. WHEATON, G.C.C. Elmira, N.Y.
E. E. COMAN, A.G.C.C., Kansas City, Mo.
WM. P. DANIELS, G.S. & T., Cedar Rapids, Ia.
A. R. GARRETTSON, G.S.C., Denison, Texas.
CHAS. E. WEISZ, G.J.C., Middletown, N.Y.
W. F. SHEEHAN, G.O.S., Indianapolis, Ind.
HIRAM HURTY, Ex-Com., Hornellsville, N.Y.
E. H. BELKNAP, " " Galesburg, Ill.
WM. C. CROSS, " " Burlington, Ia.
W. S. SEARS, Ins Com., Adrian, O.
W. J. DURBIN, " " Milwaukee, Wis.

At Shaftesbury Hall yesterday morning the visiting railway conductors were tendered a reception by the members of Toronto division No. 17. The City Council was represented by Mayor Clarke, Ald. Dodds, Maughan, Carlyle (St. Thomas), St. Leger, Pelis, Harvie, McMillan, Verral, Ritchie, Swait, Macdonald and Hewitt. Mr. H. E. Clarke, M.P.P., represented the Ontario Legislature.

The delegates were welcomed by Chief Conductor Mitchell of Toronto division, who introduced Mayor Clarke.

His Worship was proud to receive the delegates, and he felt sure the citizens felt honored at having them as guests. Conventions composed of men of intelligence were always welcome to Toronto, and he hoped that the gentlemen would leave Canada with the best of opinions of the country in general and Toronto in particular. The silver-tongued Ald. Dodds, with well rounded periods, followed the Mayor. He trusted that the convention would have a pleasant and profitable session. That the work would be well attended to he was assured when he looked over the array of talent and manly beauty on the floor of the hall.

Addresses were also delivered by Ald. Harvie (himself an old-time conductor), Ald. Maughan and Dr. John S. King.

Then Grand Chief Conductor Calvin S. Wheaton replied. He said:

Mr. Wheaton Explains the Conductors' Order.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayor, Members of the Order of Railway Conductors, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have listened with great interest to the kindly spoken words of those who have preceded me, and I can assure you that the sentiments expressed have found a responsive echo in the heart of every member of the organization that I have the honor of representing. The assembling of the representatives of the Order of Railway Conductors, within the limits of the Dominion of Canada, marks a new era in the history of our organization, and we may reasonably be able to represent to your people the representatives of our Order, coming fresh from their constituencies, and representing every state and territory of the United States, every province of the Dominion of Canada and Mexico. Within the boundaries of our Order, nationality, blood, creed and boundary lines are entirely obliterated; no north, no south, no east, no west, but coming from all sections, meeting to exchange views, and counseling for the betterment of the condition of the conductors of the country.

We are also glad to note that even our national governments are becoming imbued with the spirit of our organization and are gradually obliterating the trans-ital lines which have so long surrounded them, and I trust that we shall see the time when they will be classed as we are, and called brothers. We have noted with pleasure the advance in this direction, during the last year, small it may have been, yet it is a step in advance. May God speed the day when a complete reciprocity shall be established between all nations that inhabit this great American Continent.

The organization that I have the honor to represent is somewhat peculiar in some of its views, and I think that I may appropriately, at this time, touch briefly upon some of the tenets to the platform of the order.

THE ORDER DOES NOT ENGAGE IN STRIKES.

I am aware that it is known the world over that the Order of Railway Conductors engage in no strike, and on this account has been roundly condemned by the press and strikers in railway service. We have been led to ask many an hard times, how long it would take to educate the intelligent railway employe above the prejudice and out of the rut in which he seems bound to be placed by the designing strikers. We are pleased to note that even the most aggressive strikers of years gone by have, by their experience, been led to compromise measures, and to urge instead that there be devised means and measures, and the education of the intelligent as an opportunity for the education of the employees, not only as members of their organization, but in their duties as citizens. There is not a man in the world but what will not stand against an unwarranted injury, or a man with his private business; then, we say, why should we interfere with the business of another? If we are right in the government of the encroachment of others upon our rights, then certainly there can be no opportunity for the interference, either by individual or by an organization, in the affairs of another. The Order of Railway Conductors do not countenance the strike because they believe it wrong in principle, while they consider that every man has a right to regulate his own employment, he has a right to ask for an increase of compensation, he has the right to leave the service of his employer at pleasure, but the right of any man to manage his business for him we deny. We believe that the right to engage in business with an employer is a right given us by the laws of the country and that right should not be curtailed in any particular.

ARE OPPOSED TO ALL COMBINATIONS.

The Order of Railway Conductors are opposed to all combinations that have for their sole aim and object the compelling of individuals in the transaction of private business to submit to the conditions of a proposed contract in which they have no voice in the making. They are opposed to any organization endeavoring, by illegal and unlawful means, to dictate to others how they should manage their business, who they should employ or who they should employ; then submit to the dictating, leading people of this country that the time has gone by when they can afford to countenance any organization having for its object any of the illegal ends above referred to. Is there a person within the sound of my voice who can measure and compute the injury that is brought about by the so-called strike? Is there a person within the sound of my voice who wants to become responsible for the privation and the suffering to which innocent people are subjected by such acts? We submit that the responsibility is too great for any organization. An organization conducted purely for the benefit of members, for the forcing of the price of a commodity to an undue limit and beyond that which will bring a fair and reasonable value, when priced on an equitable basis, becomes a labor trust, and of this time we hear so much about corporation trusts and so forth, we are certainly surprised to find those who have sympathize with the labor trust, in this country in the world but what will suffer when its currency is contracted; when money is plenty, times are easy, business thrives and a general air of prosperity surrounds all; but when closer times come, all commence to get within their income as a matter of necessity, and times become hard, strikes are one of the strongest elements in this country in forcing this very state of affairs. When you stop to consider that one strike alone, happening within the year, has taken out of circulation over three millions of dollars that would have been expended among its line of road, paid to its employes, by them to tradesmen for their living, and by the tradesmen to others who they employ, and so on increase in circulation, whom they employ, and so on increase in circulation, can any of us compute the good that this money might have done, if continued in circulation? but though the acts of an organization formed for the benefit and betterment of self only, at the expense of others, if necessary, have compelled the withdrawing of this amount of money from the circulating medium of the country, again I ask, who can compute the injury to the working people of the country? And yet we find this very scene repeated, and again we are led to ask when and how the laboring man of this country will become educated to the fact that the agitator is not his best friend. We plead for the education of the masses of American working men. We plead that he may know wherein his best interests can be subserved; we pray that he may known why he is a citizen and the benefits derived from his citizenship; for when men understand, thoroughly, their standing before the law and their privileges under it, they are very loath to curtail them.

REACTIONS OF DISORGANIZED AGGRESSIVENESS.

The aggressive acts of organized labor are having the effect in all countries of bringing down upon their heads restrictory legislation which curtails their privileges, and if not discontinued, we venture to predict that in the near future they will be surrounded by legislation that will make them, in a measure, slaves to the law.

The aggressive character of some of these organizations that stimulate insurrections among the laboring men, are to be condemned by the citizens of every country; in every instance where they have occurred they have been characterized by acts of lawlessness and violence which would bring a blush to the face of any honest man. The organization which controls these men and the officers in charge are the ones directly responsible for these outrages, and from it they can not escape. Communities, heretofore peaceful, happy and united, are rent asunder; homes, bright, prosperous and pleasant, are broken in pieces and the grim spectre of want stares in the face thousands of innocent women and children who are not responsible for the acts that has brought them to this condition.

Is it possible that there is in this country a man so blind that he will court the possibility of a state of affairs such as all present have witnessed? And yet we find that it is repeated, none being willing to profit by the experience of another; they must gain for themselves the experience, at whatever cost.

The days when vile invectives will have any effect are over, and the days when terrorism or threats will avail the maker are done; and the time will soon be here when the term "Scab" will lose its wonted significance when the term "Scab" will lose its wonted significance and it will signify to the community that the person to whom the term is applied has had the manhood to obey the dictates of his own conscience, and the moral sense of right, dignity and manhood, and performed his service fearlessly under the laws of the country of which he is a citizen.

STRIKERS AND THEIR INGENUITY.

Our order has been denominated by some an organization of this class. I know that we have among our ranks members who have dared to do right under any and all circumstances. The cry of taking the bread out of another's mouth is an ingenious falsehood invented by the striker, whose ignorant ways and debased inclinations have brought him to the level of such an institution. The man who voluntarily quits his employer, leaving a vacant place, is the man who takes the bread out of his own mouth and out of that of his family. And any attempt on his part to transfer that responsibility will be fruitless. There will be a final awakening which will fix the responsibility very definitely on him, in the days which are to come.

Again we say, let us educate the members of our organizations, let us educate the people of our countries; let all be educated to their best interests as employer and employe, and by that education and upon the principle of right we believe that these questions can be solved satisfactorily, pleasantly and amicably.

We do not believe that those who are in a position to handle and direct the policy of capital should be aggressive in their position. We do not believe that those who labor and take charge of laboring men should be aggressive in their policy. Capital and labor in partnership is one of the grandest combinations that was ever communicated, and any measure which has the tendency, or for its object the dissolution of that partnership, is not a friend of either, but an enemy to both. We believe that labor is entitled to an equitable share in its products, and we also believe that capital is entitled to an equitable share in the profits; we believe that the best results can be arrived at upon the platform presented by the Order of Railway Conductors.

CONDUCTORS AND THEIR PAY.

The increase in compensation to conductors in the past two years has been very flattering, and there is not to-day a manager of a railway company in this country but what we can approach in a friendly spirit and discuss questions with him, and part with him as friendly as when we met. We believe that the time has come when the men who work for a living should be gentlemen, and we believe that they should meet their employer as gentlemen, and there, in a gentlemanly spirit, discuss all differences which have arisen. And while the proportionate increase has not been as much as it might have been, yet by the united action of all and the harmonious laboring for the best interests of both, that percentage will be increased from time to time in ratio with the increase of the business, until all are better satisfied than at present.

The Order by its example has endeavored to raise its membership above the moolum element in the railway service. We venture to predict that the time is not very far distant when these aggressive organizations will be obliged to make changes and come within the pale of the laws of our country, or discontinue their workings altogether. There is no country in the world that can afford to foster or perpetuate organizations which by their acts break down the essential principles which are guaranteed to men in their citizenship. This reason, if no other, will compel them to bring their business within the pale of the laws of the country.

NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY DISCORD.

Better far a friendly and generous spirit budded and maintained in the railway service, at the expense of a trifling loss in compensation, and a permanency in position, than to engage in discord and be comforted with misery and want, in endeavoring to compel an increase in that compensation, and while the Order of Railway Conductors has, perhaps, not gained as much in the matter of the increase in compensation as some other organizations, it has gained beyond all computation in its permanency of employment, and the demand for members of the Order is increasing every day. It is a fact that there are now, among the twelve thousand members that I have the honor to represent, only one-third men who are temporarily out of employment. To men who work for a living, employment means a living not only to themselves, but to the majority of cases to their loving families. What better mission in this world can any organization have than to assist in procuring employment for its membership?

The professional agitators throughout the country never consider this in their demands to their employers. The Order has gained friends wherever it is known, and their principles are such as to commend them to every intelligent citizen of the country. The platform of right and justice can be advocated on any and all occasions without a blush. Allowing everyone within the pale of its membership the right to regulate his own employment according to the dictates of his own conscience, leaving him free to engage, free to resign, without restriction upon his standing, in his membership in the Order of Railway Conductors, a sovereign in and of himself and we submit that this is a fairer platform than that of any organization which requires a man to leave his employment, whether satisfactory or not, at the beck or command of another. Our Order desires and expects the sympathy and assistance of every conduct; thinking men, for all are interested in the welfare and the best interest of the country of which they are citizens.

A LARGE INSURANCE PAYMENT.

During the year 1887 our Order paid from the Insurance Department connected therewith a sum of $126,700 to the widows and orphans of deceased members and to those who are disabled. Fifty-two families were thereby relieved from this department. Through the various subordinate divisions there was the same time, paid $20,115 in sick benefits to the members of the Order, making a total paid for the relief of the distressed during the year the sum of $149,815. We do not believe that there is a member of our Order to-day but what is proud of the record. Since the organization of this department there has been paid out for the relief of distressed members and their families over three hundred thousand dollars. This we consider a grand work, when the age of this department is considered, as it has only been in active operation for about four years. The Order publishes each month a journal of seventy-two pages, which contains matters of interest to the membership and those with whom we come in contact. It is also read to report, also is in a very flourishing condition, having been furnished during the year over eighty thousand subscribers, and reaching directly in this circulation over thirty thousand readers.

I desire, in conclusion, to return my most sincere and heartfelt thanks on behalf of our organization for your kindly expressed and good wishes, and I believe, from evidence which I personally as a representative have heretofore enjoyed, that our visit will be made pleasant, for I know full well the boundless hospitality of our brothers of the Order in Canada and of the citizens of your city, and I trust we will leave that our coming among you and the acquaintances and friendships that will be built up will be lasting ones that we shall take away in our departure, the pleasantest of memories of your kind, generous and unbounded hospitality.

Mr. Wheaton Knows How to Run the Convention.

Mr. Wheaton's speech brought to a close the proceedings and the delegates separated until 2 o'clock when the Grand Chief took the chair and called the convention to order.

Mr. Wheaton dresses in black. He is really a handsome man, and he knows how to run the convention. At his right hand is a marble table on which lies a gavel, and when the members don't pay sufficient attention the thump of the little mallet brings them down to business.

At a table a little behind Mr. Wheaton Grand Chief Secretary Daniels presides over a large pile of papers. Mr. Daniels has a big moustache, a business-like air, and bright red stockings, of which the delegates get a full view when the secretary sits down.

Half way down the hall, at a big desk on which reposes a Bible, sits Grand Senior Conductor A. R. Garrettson of Texas. The cowboy representative stands 6 feet 4 inches in his dressed in a bright blue cut-away suit. With his military moustache, his nice white teeth and his alligator leather slippers, Mr. Garrettson is quite the most noticeable delegate present. The reporters thought so, for they pursued him everywhere and always found him ready to help them.

Appointing the Committee.

After the meeting got down to work these gentlemen were appointed on the various committees:

On Grand Officers' Reports—H. Gilmore division 120, A. S. Ostrander 291, Thomas M. Mitchell 148, M. S. Hedley 10, E. A. Cleary 21.

Division Reports—F. F. Silversnail 44, P. J. Collins 187, J. B. Schultz 1, J. H. Johns 29, C. D. Rockwell 121.

Finance Committee—Howard Evans 45, J. P. Esmay 18, E. H. Belknap 60, W. H. Hogan 98, M. J. Durbin 1.

Jurisprudence—L. H. Wilkins 41, S. D. A. Littlejohn 168, E. E. Clarke 124, E. Morrell 100, B. F. Blunt 77.

Grievances and Appeals—J. B. W. Johnson 69, W. Dixon 19, J. H. Kettlhine 169, R. P. Dodge 242, W. Webster 21.

Insurance, other than law—E. H. Bleakesley 183, R. E. Harris 105, W. H. Cummings 197, C. A. Frost 115, Mark Wayde 15.

The Conductors and Engineers Don't Agree.

The Grand Chief then made his annual address. After reviewing the history of the order since 1863, when it was instituted, Mr. Wheaton spoke of the relation which the order held to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, an organization with whose members the conductors came into contact frequently. The strikes of engineers on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and other railways furnished the Chief with a theme upon which he enlarged. He forcibly stated his opinion that strikes were unmitigated and unnecessary evil. That the locomotive engineers had injured the conductors' order by every means in their power Mr. Wheaton thought no one would deny. The Grand Chief thought and said that the time of the convention should not be taken up with talk, and he called on Grand Chief Secretary Daniels to read his report.

The G. C. S. went for the locomotive engineers in lively shape. He told how the engineers were ready to get the conductors to pass them, and then have their benefactor "fired" because the conductors didn't take any stock in strikes and didn't accept the engineers' invitation to coalesce with them. Mr. Arthur, the head of the engineers, had refused to speak at a meeting at which Grand Chief Conductor Wheaton would be present. The strike system had placed thousands of lives annually in danger. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers had decided that any man who joined them and whom they accepted was a competent engineer. The result was that there were men now employed on the American railways who knew almost nothing about their duties. Mr. Daniels then recited the history of the monthly, which had been making satisfactory progress. He thought it would be a great success as a weekly.

The reports will be considered this morning by the Committee on Reports. The remainder of the session was spent in receiving notices of motion, of which over fifty were sent in.

Other Celebrities of the Gathering.

A gentleman who seems to be a special chum of Mr. Garrettson is Grand Junior Conductor C. E. Weisz of Middletown, N.Y. Mr. Weisz is a sturdy little man with a block frock coat and a habit of mussing up his hair when half a dozen drive him to desperation by asking him simultaneous questions.

The funny man of the convention is Grand Assistant Chief Conductor Cowan. Mr. Cowan says he isn't going to say anything funny while he is at the convention because the gentlemen have talked too much of his qualities as a joker.

A gentleman who is in the habit of sitting back in his chair with his feet on the table is Mr. William C. Cross of the Grand Executive Committee. Mr. Cross comes from Burlington, Iowa.

Gazetted Governor-General.

LONDON, May 8.—Lord Stanley of Preston is gazetted as Governor-General of Canada.

THE DEBT OF THE DOMINION

SIR CHARLES TUPPER'S VIEW OF CANADA'S POSITION.

The Resolution Authorizing a Loan of $25,000,000 Considered in Committee and Adopted—Montreal Harbor and Lake St. Peter Channel Debt Resolutions.

OTTAWA, May 8.—The House this afternoon agreed to adjournment from Wednesday to Friday, Thursday being Ascension Day and a statutory holiday, and also to sitting on Saturday.

Sir Charles Tupper moved his resolution asking authority to borrow to an extent not exceeding $25,000,000 to pay floating liabilities and for other purposes. In moving the resolution he entered into a minute explanation of the position of Canada with respect to the national debt. He first explained that the loan was necessitated at the present time by reason of the fact that the reduction of the maximum of deposit in Government savings banks had deprived the Government of funds from this source, and this, in conjunction with stringency in the money market, had made it necessary to incur in London a floating indebtedness of £1,000,000. To wipe off this was one of the objects of the loan. Though power was asked to borrow $25,000,000, it must not be supposed that the Government intended to borrow to this amount, or to any amount that was not absolutely necessary.

Having pointed out the valuable assets possessed by Canada as an offset to the debt, he held that whereas the borrowings of this country are not intended to be paid at maturity, but to be renewed, the amount of the debt is to be measured by the terms upon which we will be enabled to meet it when due. Calculating upon this principle and upon the basis of the increased credit of the country and reduction of the rate of interest upon loans from 4½ per cent. of twelve years ago to 3½ to-day, it would be found that the debt of the country, which in 1877 was $123,000,000, had increased not to the figure of $227,000,000 which it nominally is to-day, but to a sum $53,000,000 less, or $174,000,000. That is, at the rate of interest now paid a loan of $227,000,000 could be renewed now at a charge not greater than would have been incurred in borrowing $174,000,000 in 1877.

The debt of 1877 was:

In England	$116,000,000
In Dominion notes above specie held	34,000,000
In savings banks' deposits	7,000,000
In trust funds	2,000,000
	$159,000,000

At present it is $150,000,000 in England, representing by the above system of renewals, $114,000,000; in Dominion notes, $12,000,000, the nominal increase of $4,000,000 costing the country only the cost of management, that is 1 per cent., or $120,000; savings bank deposits now represent $40,000,000 of debt, but the Government, proposed to ask authority from Parliament, though most advantageous, to call in the savings banks deposits that no higher interest should be paid for them than the Government now pay, that is, one-half per cent. Government now pay, that is, one-half per cent. He did not think depositors would have just cause for complaint as long as they were paid interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. and could get elsewhere. This would reduce this portion of the indebtedness to $29,500,000 in place of $40,000,000. Then there is the Canada Pacific Railway debt, with the deposit of $12,000,000, on which 4 per cent. is now paid. This being replaced by a loan at 3½ would reduce this portion of the debt to $8,500,000, and lastly there is the debt of $13,000,000 due for trust funds, on which we were bound to continue to pay 4 per cent. interest.

No Ground for Alarm.

He held therefore that there was no ground for alarm relative to the increase of the debt, which, in fact, this country being such as to show a certainty of decrease of the burden which it imposes upon the people.

In answer to the question as to why the Government asked for a loan larger than it desired to spend, Sir Charles said a margin should be left, the money being at the present time $11,000,000 remaining unborrowed which the Government had obtained authority to raise, if desired, for various purposes.

Mr. Charlton took the view that the debt had increased at such a rate in direction the conflict of the country, and increase rather than lessen the burden.

Mr. Laurier was sorry that he could not consider the large figure of $25,000,000 of decrease computed by Sir Charles as anything but a figure of speech.

The debate was continued by Messrs. McLean, Patterson, Davin, Davies and Mitchell. In the course of his remarks the last named referred to and condemned the proposition for the sale of the Intercolonial Railway to the Kamper Syndicate which, he said, had formed the subject of negotiations at Ottawa between a syndicate on one hand and three ministers—Sir Charles Tupper, Hon. Mackenzie Bowell and Hon. Mr. Chapleau—on the other.

Sir Charles Tupper then intimated that he had ever been a party to any negotiations for the sale of the Intercolonial, and said that the interview in London the only subject discussed was the establishment of iron and steel works in the Lower Provinces.

Mr. Mitchell followed, criticising Sir Charles' methods of finance, and at 6 o'clock Mr. McMullen had the floor.

After considerable further immaterial discussion followed, and the resolution authorizing the loan was then considered in committee of the whole and adopted.

Montreal and Quebec Harbor Debts.

Sir Charles Tupper then moved the House into committee to consider the resolution providing for the assumption of the Montreal Harbor and Lake St. Peter Channel debt. Sir Charles said he thought the time had arrived when this great waterway should be made free in the interest of the trade of the whole country, and in assuming this debt the Government had made it a condition that all tonnage dues were to be abolished.

The resolutions were considered in committee and adopted and the House resumed, when the resolutions authorizing assumption of the Quebec Harbor Commissioners' debt. These were also adopted, discussion being deferred by special agreement until a further stage.

The House adjourned at 1.25 a.m.

A Characteristic Speech.

OTTAWA, May 8.—During a debate in the Senate on the sawdust question Senator Alexander made one of his characteristic speeches. The Hansard reports him as follows:

Mr. Alexander: "Instead of the Government devoting their time and attention as they ought to the great interests of the country their time is taken up in considering how to mislead our constituencies and keep themselves in power while they are neglecting the great interests of the country."

Hon. Mr. Boulerdy: "What has that got to do with the question?"

Hon. Mr. Alexander: "The poor old gentleman from Sackville, who is blundering on the grave as I am, is always ready to support that which is wrong, always ready to raise his poor voice—not knowing how soon he may go to his death-bed, always ready to raise his infirm voice to support that which is wrong, though he is a man of 80—God help him. The health of Ottawa and of Montreal and of all the cities along this river depends upon the lumbermen burning their slabs and sawdust to preserve the waters of the river pure, yet that poor, unfortunate man, near the borders of the grave—"

Hon. gentlemen: "Order, order."

Hon. Mr. Alexander: "I pity him. It is pitiable, something like the senior member from Halifax who spoke about hallucinations, and the hon. gentleman from Ottawa (Mr. Scott) is another who spoke about hallucinations. Whenever any of us tries to raise his voice in the interests of the people and of the public health, we have always pitiable men like the senior member from Halifax and the member from Ottawa and this venerable gentleman to justify the neglect and the omission of duty on the part of the Government. God! how can the country be well governed when we have such men here in the Senate of the Dominion, who who ought to have a feeling of the responsibility of their positions! The hon. gentleman from Sackville does not seem to feel the responsibility of his position."

The Montreal Rifle Range.

OTTAWA, May 8.—Col. Bond and Major Campbell of Montreal are in the city for the purpose of seeing the Minister of Militia and urging that some steps should be taken to put the new rifle range in shape for practice this season. The range is a new one, but no butts or works have yet been placed in position, so that unless speedy action is taken the Montreal volunteers will be deprived of their shooting this season. In addition, the two Montreal volunteers who are on the Wimbledon team will be deprived of the opportunity of practicing before they start for England.

The Hart Divorce Case.

OTTAWA, May 8.—The consideration of the report of the Select Committee on the Hart divorce bill took place in the Senate this afternoon and occupied the time of the House for fully two hours. Hon. Mr. Gowan, who has made a special study of the subject of divorce, delivered a lucid and learned exposition of the law and precedents bearing on the case, and summed up the evidence at some length. He was followed by the Macdonalds of British Columbia and Toronto and Senator Dickey. The debate was adjourned until to-morrow afternoon, when it will be taken up as the first order of the day.

Mrs. Middleton's Petition Rejected.

OTTAWA, May 8.—The counter-petition of Mrs. W. H. Middleton for a divorce from her husband has been thrown out by the Private Bills Committee of the Senate on the ground of insufficiency of notice, six months being the time required. In the application of Mr. Middleton asking for relief evidence will be heard on Tuesday next. There is to be a big array of witnesses in attendance. All hopes of a compromise or settlement are now past.

The Coffin Combine.

OTTAWA, May 8.—Robert Moffatt of Toronto appeared before the Combine Committee this morning with the complaint that he had been refused the privilege of entering into the undertaking business in that city, the local association refusing to admit him to membership, and thus cutting him off from a supply of coffins and other necessaries. The reason alleged was that they were not going to sign away their bread and butter. He claimed that the undertakers made very excessive profits, thence their exclusiveness.

Frauds on Farmers.

OTTAWA, May 8.—Mr. Adam Brown's committee to investigate the alleged frauds perpetrated on the farming community by bogus agents met this morning. Mr. Brown was elected chairman. In addressing the committee he stated that the Minister of Justice is anxious that some short measure should be passed this session to protect the farmers. Mr. Brown narrated a few of the frauds, and stated that the seed wheat men in Western Canada had got so far as to obtain an act of incorporation from the Ontario Legislature. They managed to get agreements from farmers to pay for goods which the sharpers never delivered, and those agreements the sharpers got money on as promissory notes. The committee will summon defrauded persons to give testimony.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The Bucket Shop Bill—Crofter Immigration—New Y.M.C.A. Building.

OTTAWA, May 8.—The Minister of Justice will not, it is understood, favor any amendment to the Bucket-shop Bill as proposed by Mr. Hall, and it will probably get a third reading as it came from the Senate.

Mr. Begg, who is interesting himself in the settlement of Crofters in British Columbia, is here urging the Government to render some assistance. He wants a grant of £2 per Crofter to be applied on passages.

The corner-stone of the Young Men's Christian Association building was laid to-day in the presence of a large number of people. The building, when finished, will probably cost $20,000, and is situated on the corner of O'Connor and Queen-streets.

Edwards' majority in Russell is 224.

At the Agnes Thomson testimonial concert to-morrow night Miss Maud Ravelle, the celebrated contralto, will sing. Admission fifty cents.

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

Annual Meeting of the Council at Montreal—Fire Insurance Rates.

MONTREAL, May 8.—The annual meeting of the Council of Arts and Manufactures was held here this morning. S. H. Ewing read his annual report, which thoroughly reviewed the work of the year. He pointed out that the Montreal committee had effectually carried out the wishes of the Council on technical training. Technical education throughout the country during the past year had been taught. A committee was named to draft a memorial asking further assistance from the Government in the credit of developing the work of practical teaching which the Council had taken in hand. The old board of officers was re-elected.

A movement is on foot to form a fire insurance company commencing business on fair and equitable rates is in circulation and has been largely signed up. It is said that owing to the high rates one of our largest railway companies has withdrawn its risks from the Canadian and placed them with foreign companies.

Mr. Justice Lavallee, Legislative Councillor, has been arrested. It is alleged that on Aug. 22, 1886, at the Parish of St. Felix De Valois, District of Berthier, he did libel Pierre Lafrenière for $18. Hon. Mr. Lavallee was released at the preliminary examination on Monday.

At the Agnes Thomson testimonial concert to-morrow night Miss Maud Ravelle, the celebrated contralto, will sing. Admission fifty cents.

A New York Broker's Mysterious Death.

NEW YORK, May 8.—The dead body of Nathaniel W. F. Hatch, a banker and broker at No. 14 Nassau-street, was found this morning in the yard in the rear of 64 West Twentieth-street. Mrs. Lilian Scofield and her husband, the Kimballs and the Hatchs have been arrested. One story of Mr. Hatch's death says Mrs. Scofield was a lady customer with whom Mr. Hatch had done business at his office during the day. He escorted her home, accepted an invitation to enter and was surprised by the husband, to avoid whom he climbed into the back yard. In an apparent attempt to escape he jumped or fell from a one-story extension that runs under the drawing-room windows and was killed. His skull was crushed.

Victoria College Theological Union.

COBOURG, May 8.—Rev. A. M. Phillips, B.D., of St. Marys preached the annual sermon before the Theological Union of Victoria College from the text, "Our Father Who Art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name."

To Discuss the Pope's Rescript.

DUBLIN, May 8.—In accordance with the request of the Catholic members of Parliament, the Lord Mayor of Dublin has called a meeting for May 17 to discuss the Pope's rescript. The requisition had sixty-six signatures.

A Plague of Crickets.

LONDON, May 8.—Crickets are devastating Algeria, entirely destroying vegetation. Thousands of people are living in a pestilence and interfering with the running of trains between Constantine and Batna.

At the Agnes Thomson testimonial concert to-morrow night Mr. Whitney Mockridge will sing "Celeste Aida," from Verdi's great opera, and "Love's Sorrow," by Shelley. Admission fifty cents.

An Echo of the Allison Affray.

BARRIE, May 8.—At the Assizes yesterday and to-day the Allison shooting affray of last March was thoroughly sifted, resulting in the acquittal of all the participants except Patrick Carroll, who was sentenced to three months' hard labor.

Fatal Lamp Explosion.

TROY, N.Y., May 8.—Mrs. Wm. Webb and her infant child were fatally burned at Fort Edward last evening by the explosion of a lamp.

The Wayside Inn.

BERLIN, May 8.—The famous old tavern in Sudbury, which Longfellow immortalized in his "Tales of a Wayside Inn," is to be sold at auction to-morrow. It dates back to 1686.

Arrested for Murder.

CLARION, Pa., May 8.—Dan Everhart, stepson of Mrs. John Everhart, and Jimmy Horner, a neighbor, were arrested yesterday for the murder of Mrs. Everhart and her mother on March 8, 1886.

At the Agnes Thomson testimonial concert to-morrow night Mr. Whitney Mockridge will sing "Celeste Aida," from Verdi's great opera, and "Love's Sorrow," by Shelley. Admission fifty cents.

China's Population Decreasing.

LONDON, May 8.—Three thousand persons have been drowned by a flood in the Canton River. A severe earthquake is reported in Japan.

Sligo will be Guided by Parnell.

DUBLIN, May 8.—A National League meeting at Sligo to-day adopted resolutions condemning the Pope's rescript and pledging those present to submit themselves to Parnell's guidance.

Bush Fires in Maryland.

MIDDLETON, Md., May 8.—A great fire is raging on Catoctino Mountains, and much damage is being done to timber, fencing, etc.

Killed His Uncle in a Duel.

LONDON, May 8.—In a duel at Nyiregyhaza, Hungary, yesterday, a magistrate named Hegedusz was killed by his nephew.

$570,000 for New York Canals.

ALBANY, May 8.—The Assembly has passed the $570,000 Canal Appropriation Bill.

At the Agnes Thomson testimonial concert to-morrow night Hons. F. Julia Frumee, violinist to the King of the Belgians, will play Wieniawski's "Romance et Rondo Giocoso" and Vieuxtemps "Air Varie." Admission fifty cents.

THE CARDWELL VACANCY.

The Conservative Convention To-morrow—Strong Opposition to Mr. Bob White.

MONO MILLS, May 8.—There is to be a big gathering here on Thursday at the Conservative convention. The feeling in favor of a local man grows more intense, notwithstanding that letters have been sent all over the county, signed by Sir John, in favor of Mr. Robert White. The letter run thus: "The Old Man says he has received a number of inquiries as to what should be done; that while he does not wish to interfere he thinks it would be a gracious thing to give the nomination to Mr. White, jr., and that the latter has his cordial approval. But responses have already been sent to the chief to the effect that a local man must get the nomination. Among the local men mentioned are the Caledon boy, Mr. Willoughby, Mr. Evans and Mr. Stubbs. The local aspirants have united on the submission of a resolution at the opening of the convention in favor of a local man—that is he must be a voter in Cardwell. Mr. Campbell of The Brampton Conservator, who has a record for hard and active work in the cause, is also in the field. He is not a resident of Cardwell, but quite near it and well known to everyone.

Considerable amusement was caused among those versed in political matters by the article in The Empire in favor of young "Bob" White. In Frontenac Geo. A. Kirkpatrick in 1870 succeeded his father, who had represented the constituency from the Union. The Kirkpatricks are large landed proprietors in the county, and after the death of Mr. Kirkpatrick the elder his son was the most prominent man in the county. In Restigouche, Robert Moffat succeeded his father, Geo. Moffat, at the age of 38 years. Mr. Robert Moffat was at the time of his election engaged in extensive mercantile operations in the county. Edward Holton, the only surviving son of the Hon. L.R. Holton, was chosen in Chateauguay on the decease of his father, and this is the case given by The Empire of the son succeeding the father, a non-resident of his constituency. But Chateauguay adjoins Montreal, the home of the Holtons, and in Chateauguay they have large financial interests. The other precedent given by The Empire is Charlevoix, where recently the son of the late member, Mr. Cimon, was selected as the Conservative candidate, and elected by a large majority. But Mr. Cimon is also a resident.

The Butter Reform Candidate.

The news that Mr. Maclean would contest the riding on the Butter Reform platform has been received with great interest, and it will affect the situation considerably. He has sent word that he will be in the county this week and the intelligent farmers are avoiding committing themselves until his plans are announced. They see that an outsider has come to spend his money among them neither good nor harm; but that Butter Reform means $100 a year to every farmer in the county. Several prominent gentlemen have written Mr. Maclean that they will assist him by stumping the county and canvassing.

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THE DIFFICULTY UNSETTLED.

Hamilton Painters' Troubles—Fatal Accident—Two New Industries.

HAMILTON, May 8.—The painters' difficulty with the bosses remains unsettled. The employers have got all the men they want for the present and those who are out on strike are working at odd jobs on their own account.

On Sunday last Michael Sullivan, hotel keeper, took a drive to the Beach, and just as he was nearing Dynes' Hotel his horse started off and ran against a tree, throwing Mr. Sullivan out. He was removed to Dynes' Hotel, where it was found that he had sustained a severe fracture of the spine. He was taken home shortly afterwards, and lingered until 9 o'clock this morning, when he died.

The manufacturing industries of this city have received two important additions in the Hamilton Steel Wire Fence and the Stone Manufacturing Company. The latter company will employ fifty hands at the start and manufacture lime, stone, pressed and stamped ware and other specialties.

Mr. William Golding, a civil and mechanical engineer of New Orleans, La., has been in the city for a month past "he proposes to supply the city of Hamilton with water power sufficient to drive nearly all the manufactories of Canada."

Last evening County Constable McNair arrested a young man named Daniel Jones for assaulting Mrs. Taylor, who lives on the Beach Road, near Queen-street, and removing five cows from the pound.

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DESISON.

Snow All Gone and Prospecting Commenced.

Quite a number of persons have left for Denison gold mine to prospect their lots, and already some have returned with some very rich specimens. Mr. R. H. C. Browne, 12 King-st. east, has some of the choicest by him, and anyone desirous of having an interest in that locality cannot do better than call and see him.

A Disorderly House Raided.

There was a genuine old-time Ward row in a small cottage in rear of 68 Terauley-street yesterday afternoon. There was any quantity of fighting, whisky and bad language. The place is occupied by William Crowe and his alleged wife Sarah. He is a big fellow, and his wife's face bore ugly marks of the cottage into the lane bleeding copiously from a bad scalp wound. Policeman Fitzsimmons was there and arrested the combatants, when his wound was dressed and he himself locked up for the night. As the orgy consisted of Policeman Tripp, Barbers Black and Black and arrest, Mr. Crowe, his wife and a cripple named Mary Seymour. Crowe and his wife were registered as keepers and Mary Seymour as inmate of a disorderly house.

Opening the General Sessions.

Judge McDougall opened the General Sessions of the Peace yesterday with a brief address to this Grand Jury: James Stewart (foreman), Wm. Ashall, Alex. Barclay, John R. Davidson, William Davidson, Thos. Ratcliff, Robert Sangster, William Watson, William A. Wilson, Wm. Simpson, Samuel Softley, W. S. Sprague, Wm. Stone, Frank Stubbs, Wm