

The Toronto World

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FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 27, 1912

CALLING THE ROLL.

The stockholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company will be asked at a special general meeting to be held in Montreal on October 2 to authorize an increase of capital to the extent of \$60,000,000. Such increase of capital cannot be made, however, without the consent of the Dominion Government and the company's application for that consent has been pending for some weeks before the governor-in-council. Not unnaturally many surmise that some information will be given to the company as to what action the government will take upon its application before the stockholders' meeting is held on next Wednesday. However that may be, it seems more than likely that some declaration of policy will be made before the 12th proximo, the date of the by-election in the constituency of Macdonald, Manitoba.

Several courses are open to the government. It may grant the company permission to issue new capital, or refuse the same or withhold action until parliament has been heard from. If permission is given to issue new capital, the way is open for the cutting of another big melon by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

What advice is the government getting from the newspapers of this country?

We have endeavored to classify the newspapers of Canada upon this subject as being for the melon, against the melon, uncertain, or non-committal. The Montreal papers have been silent. They certainly have not opposed the melon, but they have had little or nothing to say outright in its favor; even that staunch friend of the railways, The Montreal Gazette, has barely alluded to the subject. The Peterborough Review, having written vehemently on both sides of the question, we classify as uncertain. The Toronto News paddy-footed around the question once but arrived nowhere, and is therefore labeled "uncertain." The Hamilton Spectator and The Saskatoon Phoenix may consider themselves against the melon, but they have shown a disposition to concede the claims of the company. For example, if The Spectator is right in considering the C. P. R. lands as belonging to the stockholders as proprietors thereof, the biggest possible melon ever contemplated by the company is justified.

The Winnipeg Telegram may consider itself unjustly treated in not being put down as against the melon. We would be glad to see The Telegram fighting the melon, side by side with its neighbors, The Free Press and The Tribune. But it has been sitting tight for so long as to justify the presumption that its mind is not fully made up. This is unfortunate, because it leads in some quarters to the supposition, perhaps quite erroneous, that the Hon. Robert Rogers is not riding the whirlwind and directing the storm of western opposition to the melon.

Our classified list follows:

FOR THE MELON.

Toronto Mail, Montreal Financial Times, Montreal Gazette, Toronto Financial Post, Peterborough Review, Winnipeg Post, Brockville Times, Windsor Post.

AGAINST THE MELON.

Toronto World, Toronto Globe, Toronto Star, Toronto Telegram, Hamilton Herald, London Free Press, Ottawa Free Press, Ottawa Journal, Montreal Witness, St. John Sun and Telegram, St. John Globe, Sudbury Star, Huron Examiner, Berlin Record, Fort William Times-Journal, Fort Arthur Chronicle, Kingston Standard, Kingston Whig, British News of Canada, Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg Tribune, Regina Leader, Regina Province, Moose Jaw News, Edmonton Bulletin, Edmonton Capital, Calgary Herald, Calgary News-Telegram, Nelson (B.C.) News.

UNCERTAIN.

Toronto News, Hamilton Spectator, Saskatoon Phoenix, Peterborough Review, Winnipeg Telegram, Victoria (B.C.) Times, British Columbian (New Westminster).

NON-COMMITTAL.

Montreal Star, Montreal Herald, Ottawa Citizen, Halifax Herald, Halifax Chronicle, Hamilton Times, London Advertiser, Peterborough Examiner.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC EXEMPT.

Yesterday the court of revision gave judgment on the question of assessing the city's hydro-electric property to the effect indicated by Mr. W. F. Ardagh, when it first came before the court. The policy of transferring the city funds from one pocket to another is one that for the most part merely means additional expense in the book-keeping department.

Another serious objection to the taxation of the hydro-electric property is the guarantee that the system is to be run at cost for the benefit of the com-

sumers of light and power. That the system should be taxed to supply the deficits in other departments is entirely against the hydro-electric policy. Moreover, the increase in price of power and light, which would result, must have the effect of reducing the consumption, and this affects not only Toronto, but every municipality and consumer in the power union. They would naturally object to be made a party to paying deficits in Toronto's loosely managed civic business.

Another point of inconsistency in the assessment department's policy occurs in their failure to tax the poles and lamps, which are quite as much a part of the hydro-electric system as the power stations. Perhaps the absurdity of the policy was more evident to the assessors in this respect than in the other property of the Hydro-Electric Commission. But if the buildings are to be taxed, why should the poles and lamps be exempt?

DISPEL THE CLOUD.

There is beginning to be a pretty well defined feeling that no corporation counsel will be appointed this year.

Mayor Geary cannot be regarded as faithful to his trust, as executive officer of the city, if the grounds out of which this feeling arises, be correct. As mayor, his duty should impel him to hasten to secure the best legal adviser which Canada can produce, who will accept the office of corporation counsel. There appears to be no impulsion of this description operating on or in Mayor Geary.

It is stated, and we have no doubt about the matter, that no lawyer of repute will permit his name to be before the city council to be slighted at the hands of a clique organized to secure the appointment of Mayor Geary. The board of control cannot undertake to involve a man of reputation in the storm which would follow their recommendation in a city council debate. In other words, Mayor Geary and his friends are playing a blocking game.

Mayor Geary ought to realize that such a policy is hopeless, besides being damaging to his reputation. We are quite prepared to believe that these deductions are incorrect, and that Mayor Geary is playing the noble Roman, and treating all these insinuations and rumors with silent contempt, while he is preparing to bring forward a man who will please all sections of opinion and prove a worthy and public-spirited successor to Mr. Dryden. But, if this be the way of it, Mr. Geary should not keep us waiting much longer, or the suspicion will become too deeply rooted for eradication.

MR. STAIR'S SIDE OF THE CASE.

Editor World: I just arrived home after having had my wife in a hospital in New York for the past two weeks following an automobile accident and find a great hub-bub being raised about the Star Theatre during the trial of the Rev. Mr. St. Clair.

It would seem from the proceedings that the Star Theatre was on trial instead of the said St. Clair, but with no chance of the Star Theatre putting in any evidence in its own behalf. I have been conducting the Star Theatre for eleven years now. Before that I was for four years managing the Grand Opera House in Hamilton and before that I managed the old Academy of Music (now the Palace) here in Toronto, so that Chief Justice Knowlton pretty well and has not had to look me in the eye in Buffalo, where I never lived in my life.

If the police department had taken the trouble to look up my record from day to day I was born they would never have found me an advocate of arson and mob violence, as it is reported one of the witnesses confessed his willingness to indulge in.

When I first opened the Star Theatre I went to Inspector Archibald, who was then head of the morality department, and told him that I intended to give a clean performance and that any help from him would be appreciated. I also told him that I intended to submit to him all pictorial posters and anything that he disapproved of would not go out (at that time the present law re submitting paper was not enacted).

I have never had any trouble with the morality department for the simple reason that I have always been strict about enforcing any cuts or recommendations from its censors, and the Star and Gayety Theatres are certainly well censored.

The circular which Mr. St. Clair wrote about the show at the Star Theatre could be written by most any evil-minded person about numerous musical comedy shows at the 32 theatres. The burlesque theatres seem to be a mark for the so-called moralists and take their place in the circle with race tracks, saloons, etc. When other matters are slack they turn to the stage and particularly the burlesque stage.

The few people who are not burlesque patrons would think from the reports of this trial that the foundation and the entire structure of burlesque is smut, dirt and indecency, while the very opposite is the fact. Burlesque as now put on is the most expensive production and in order to draw has to have merit. The Empire Circuit, of which I am a member, has long since issued strict orders against indecency in their shows and I understand the other wheel to which the Gayety belongs has done the same thing. Numerous theatres in our circuit play to many ladies as men. As for the Star Theatre I have never tried to cater to ladies as we allow smoking and the men would feel uncomfortable smoking with ladies present. Years ago you couldn't get a lady to go to a variety show. Now it is vaudeville and the best people in the country are its patrons.

The old saying, "To the pure all things are pure," seems to fit these appointed guardians of the public's morals. Yours sincerely, F. W. Stair.

HORSE JUDGING AT EXHIBITION.

Editor World: I have read in your paper with a great deal of interest the expressions of many critics regarding the management of the recent Canadian National Exhibition. Now,

REMINING HIM



As I am one of the oldest exhibitors, I think I am placed in a position to give an opinion, which I shall give without any biased feeling. I can candidly say the management has been above reproach, and every year I have found that body of officers doing all in their power to treat us exhibitors fairly, and they cannot be blamed for the mistakes of management of affairs in the judges' ring or before the stand. My interest lies strictly in the horse line, as the public know. For many years I have furnished some of the best, but I'm not selfish enough to expect to win first prize in every class that I might enter in, and think I can speak for several others who are of the same mind.

Now there is one thing needed, and the management must pay attention to it: this system of appointing judges will have to be abandoned. The chairman of the horse ring will have to be a man of the horse ring, and not an untrained, therefore have judges appointed who can give an unbiased judgment. The decisions in the ring this year were such as to drive the smaller exhibitors from the exhibition entirely.

The judges will have to either admit they were not capable of fulfilling their duties, or that they were compelled to do as directed. In talking with a number of other exhibitors during the fair, I found a great deal of dissatisfaction expressed as to the partial manner in which horses were inspected as to soundness. One stallion was not allowed to show because he was blind from amaurosis of the eyes, although he has proven himself a great producer, and not one of his colts is troubled with eye affection. Now, another stallion, this was not one case, but many cases. Is the veterinary examination a burlesque? I claim that the man who enters the ring as a judge if he is not qualified to distinguish between a sound and an unsound horse is not capable of filling the position, and if the judge has to be advised by the chairman of the horse committee as to how he shall make the awards, it is time for the management to make a change, because we exhibitors are not all blind; we do not ask for favors, only fair play.

Now I have pointed out a few facts which I am prepared to prove any time I am called upon to do so, and I think I am voicing the opinion of a number of exhibitors when I call attention to these matters.

One of the Oldest Exhibitors.

THE POLITICAL BOSSES

Woodrow Wilson to the Princeton students:

"The man we call boss is the agent of those who wish to control politics in their own interest."

"I have known some of these gentlemen personally, and I know exactly how they work. They haven't any policy at all. That is the point, and there is no difference between a Democratic boss and a Republican boss, because neither of them is working for his party. They are both working for their clients. And their clients wish to see that man do not get into office who will drive around the city and a luncheon. The Academy of Medicine, he said, would also entertain them and the university authorities and the local physicians had made arrangements for a reception in Convocation Hall. Dr. McPhedran suggested that the mayor give them a luncheon, so the matter was left in abeyance till further details had been considered."

WANT HYDRO, TOO.

An electric light service for the Humber Valley surveys was another matter brought up by Mr. Home Smith, who stated that he would prefer to deal with the civic hydro-electric department if they would put a service outside the city limits. If this is not passed, he stated he would look for a service elsewhere. The matter will be dealt with by the Hydro-Electric Commission.

Visiting Doctors.

Dr. McPhedran waited upon the board and urged that the city entertain the visiting German doctors, to be here next Thursday, by giving them a drive around the city and a luncheon. The Academy of Medicine, he said, would also entertain them and the university authorities and the local physicians had made arrangements for a reception in Convocation Hall. Dr. McPhedran suggested that the mayor give them a luncheon, so the matter was left in abeyance till further details had been considered."

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY.

A general meeting of the party will be held in the hall of the T. L. on Saturday, the 28th inst. Business: To consider what steps shall be taken in view of the forthcoming municipal elections on the 1st January next. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.

INSURE SERVICE CIVIC MARKET FOR FRUIT HAS BEEN ENDORSED

Ald. Robbins Claims East Toronto May Be Without a Service if Policy is Not Outlined Regarding Franchise of Scarborough Line—Water and Light for Humber Valley.

Unless the city in the near future decides upon some definite policy regarding that portion of the Scarborough radial line in East Toronto, the franchise of which expires on November 15, there is grave danger of that district being deprived of all transportation facilities, according to Ald. Robbins, who brought the matter up yesterday before the board of control. He was told, however, that this problem was being dealt with by the traffic experts and that the city expected a definite recommendation in the report now being compiled. Mayor Geary intimated that he thought there would be no trouble in obtaining a service from the Toronto Street Railway for any period of time required. Even though the company declined to relieve the situation the opinion was expressed that the railway board would order a service to be given.

Ald. Robbins also brought up the question as to the city's policy regarding the Gerrard street car line, which at the present time is nearly completed. The mayor, however, stated that the traffic experts were also dealing with this question and that the city would be guided by their report. The equipment, the style of cars and the number of cars were being considered by the experts at the present time, he said, and recommendations would be made regarding the whole situation.

R. Home Smith wrote to the board stating that he would like to make arrangements with the city to obtain a water service for his Humber Valley properties. "I should like to discuss with you, he stated, 'an arrangement whereby the city would sell me water at the meter rate and I would put in my own mains and service lines. The demand for water for the first two years would not be large, and it seems to me that it would be advisable, in the interests of all parties, to make an arrangement with the city rather than that I should be thrown back on 'the alternative of incorporating a water supply company and putting in my own pumping stations, etc.' The board did not discuss the question, but referred the whole matter to the commission of works."

TOO MUCH DRINK CAUSED DEATH

John Clover's Skull Was Fractured, But He Died of Excessive Alcoholism, According to Jury.

"That John Clover came to his death in St. Michael's Hospital on September 18, and that his death was due to excessive alcoholism," was the verdict returned by the jury last evening in the inquest into the death of John E. Clover. The jury did not even retire to arrive at a verdict, as the evidence of Thomas Riddell, his companion on the night of the death, and the surgeons who attended the dead man at the hospital proved beyond a doubt the real cause of the man's death.

Riddell related how he and Clover had been drinking heavily all day Thursday, when in the evening they had protested to a man Johnston at the corner of Teraulay and Queen about his teasing a small boy, and Johnston hit Riddell in the eye, knocking him into the road. Riddell got up in time to see Clover fall over backwards, striking his head on the pavement.

Dr. Silverthorne of St. Michael's Hospital stated that when brought into the hospital Clover was wildly delirious and became so bad that he had to be strapped to the bed. He had a fracture of the skull, but in Dr. Silverthorne's opinion the man's death was due to delirium tremens.

Dr. Singer, who performed the post mortem, stated that the skull was undoubtedly fractured, but added that the fracture would not necessarily have caused death. He had found the lungs in a very weak state from pneumonia, and the man's brain was clogged from alcoholism. "In my opinion," said the doctor, "Clover died from pneumonia, with his constitution weakened by the constant use of alcohol."

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No better aid to digestion—no more pleasing beverage—nothing better for you.

Pure, sparkling, delicious. Relieves brain fog. Bucks you up. The mildest of stimulating liquid food.

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the tracks and west of the Toronto Electric Light Company's building. This property is owned by the Niagara Navigation Company, and it is a question whether the city could obtain it. At any rate, it did not compare favorably in the eyes of the committee with the Bayside Park location. Here, it was pointed out, there was every advantage. Both the boats and the railways had easy access, quite as easy as the G. T. R. market, and provision could be made for the entrance of radial lines. There was ample room, and when the viaduct is built, the approach for the vehicles will be facilitated. Bayside Park was the favored site, but nothing was done in the way of a definite recommendation.

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CONSUL ARRESTED FOR THEFT

DULUTH, Sept. 26.—(Can. Press.)—Charged by the police with taking \$4000 from four estates left in his care, V. D. Nikoltch, general consul for Montenegro in the United States and Canada, was arrested here today. The consul, upon being taken to jail, declared that international law prohibits his arrest by civil authorities.

In default of \$1000 bail he went to jail. Bonding companies caused his arrest. The prisoner says he has already written to Montenegro for \$6000 and that he will soon pay all obligations.

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