

THE HAMILTON TIMES

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1909.

THE NIAGARA ICE JAM.

The great ice jam in the Niagara River below the Falls has caused enormous damage to railway and electrical property. The Gorge railway for a distance of six miles is buried under from twenty to thirty feet of ice, and the poles and wires are all down. The Ontario Power Company, which supplies Rochester, Syracuse and some other American points, and with which the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission has contracted for its supply of current, is completely closed by the backing up of the water and ice. The Electrical Development Company, which is controlled by Canadian capital, and which supplies Toronto, is in better shape, and is said to be secure from any possibility of danger from such a cause. All the power plants of the locality have been helpless in the circumstances, but the Electrical Development Company has come to the assistance of its rival, and is furnishing it with 25,000 h.p. of current.

It is many years since anything approaching the present ice jam has occurred, and while it is improbable that it will be frequently repeated, it illustrates vividly the danger of loss to which electrical investors are subjected, and the inconvenience to the public which may be caused by such interruptions. The water below the Falls is now 35 feet above the normal level, and the Ontario power house has been flooded to a depth of nearly 20 feet. Considerable damage has been done to other property below the Falls, and it is feared that the abutments of the steel arch bridge have suffered. Fortunately Hamilton's electric service is subject to no such interruptions.

BRITAIN'S DANGER.

Whatever Britain's danger from invasion by Germany may be, there is ample evidence that the Tory party over there is doing its best to turn the "war scare" to party advantage, and that circumstance renders it all the more difficult to size up the real situation. Premier Asquith bluntly charges the Conservatives with trying to stampede the country in an effort to get into power. Over here an attempt is being made to blame the Liberal newspapers for giving the question a political party bent so as to prevent Canada assisting the old country at this juncture. The Hamilton Herald makes this charge with no ground for doing so, while at the same time it is foolish enough to raise the raw cry in connection with it, declaring that Canada's naval policy is the French-Canadian policy. Of course, the loyalty cry is also raised, some Tory papers voicing their wonder as to what Sir John Macdonald would do if he were alive. Well, if he were to do as he did on similar occasions he would do nothing. From Mr. Asquith's recent speeches and from Mr. Haldane's public utterances (one of which appeared in Saturday's Times) we gather that there is no immediate danger of Germany gobbling up the old country. She is still far behind Britain in the matter of Dreadnoughts, and both these gentlemen have expressed their determination that Germany will not be allowed to outclass Britain with Dreadnoughts or any other class of vessels. The London Times states that Britain is well able to take care of herself, and it counsels the colonies to take steps to protect themselves. This advice is in line with Canada's intention to create a navy of her own to protect her own shores and to assist in the defence of the empire on the advice and according to arrangement with the British Admiralty. It is just possible, however, that the building of Dreadnoughts is not so pressing a matter as the building of airships. Germany leads the way with these aerial monsters, and any day may be able to launch an armed fleet of such ships against an enemy, and so far Great Britain is ill prepared to repel such an invasion. But Prof. Bell may be able to save the situation.

BRINGING TRADE TO HAMILTON

In Buffalo and some other United States cities a simple plan of building up local trade has for some years been in use, and has been made very successful. It has been purely the outcome of local private effort, and has been made possible by the co-operation of the merchants, who have not been slow to recognize its benefits. The plan adopted in Hamilton by Stanley Mills & Co., of conducting excursions by electric railway at their own private expense, could very easily be elaborated by the co-operation of other city merchants and manufacturers, into a system that would be productive of great and Hamilton-benefiting results. The plan in vogue in the United States cities referred to is that of refunding to visitors to the city the full amount of their fares up to a certain sum, upon the presentation of a purchase record card, punched to show that a given value in goods has been bought by the holder from the co-operating merchants, or any of them. The punch marks enable a sort of clearing-house apportionment of sales to be made; and the proportion of the cost to be borne by each is thus determined. In this way visiting people are given the advantage of all their purchases in making up the rebate of fare; the inducement extends to a wider radius of country, and the expense is shared by all who co-operate in the plan. It is one that is worth trying. Lying so near Toronto, our merchants have to consider the efforts—not always confined to legitimate trade methods—to get ahead of them. It is worth their while giving this plan more than a passing thought.

WHEAT UP.

May wheat closed in Chicago on Saturday at \$1.25 1/2. A year ago the figure was 91 1/2c. July wheat in Chicago touched \$1.15, and September wheat \$1.07 1/2. The bulls are in control of the wheat market, and the United States crop report indicating a yield of 430,000,000 bushels, 1,600,000 bushels below last year's harvest, was greatly to their liking. Reports from London favor higher prices. British wheat has risen 6 to 7 shillings a quarter since November, and has now reached the highest price in twenty-five years, if we except the figures of the period of the Letter corner. A belief that the Argentina crop will furnish five to seven million quarters less for export than last year is believed to have something to do with the advance in British prices. The New York Journal of Commerce says Patten, the Chicago manipulator, "has been taking his profits whenever Chicago May came close to the \$1.25 mark that he set for it. It is estimated that by this method he has already turned actual profits of much more than a million dollars and still has contracts for anywhere from 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 bushels of May wheat." A large premium is being paid for cash wheat in some markets, \$1.42 having been paid for No. 2 red in Kansas City, and \$1.22 for No. 1 northern in Minneapolis. The United States Government crop report for April represents the condition of the wheat crop to be 82.2 per cent., considerably lower than for some years. The shipments from North America for the last week have been 1,249,000 bushels, and the world's shipments, 6,129,000 bushels, as compared with 2,848,000 last week, and 9,428,000 last year. It will be noticed that the falling off from this continent is important. Some authorities, however, are inclined to discount the recent United States Government crop report. In the meantime, however, bull operators confidently look forward to a period of higher prices.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. S. C. Fox, of Locke street, seems to have established his eligibility for a position on the detective force.

Selling papers on Sunday through a hole in the door reminds one of the old days of illegal whiskey selling in Scott Act counties.

Poor Jim Clancy, Provincial Auditor! How it must gall him to work with a Whitney muzzle on. He was always a man who dearly loved to work his talk factory.

The Legislature has ended its labors without presenting the offer of a Dreadnought to the British navy! And it had example may chill the ardor of Roblin & Co., of Manitoba.

Three persons whose names have been made widely familiar to the world have within a few hours passed from this life. Mme. Modjeska, F. Marion Crawford and Algernon Charles Swinburne. Death's harvest time is all seasons.

The liquor interests of Michigan were hard hit by the vote of Tuesday last. Not less than 600 saloons and 10 breweries were put out of business. The handwriting is on the wall, although Hamilton license commissioners strive to hide it.

Now it is rumored that Colorado is to be swept by the temperance hosts, and that much of the State will soon be "dry." But as long as the liquor men can retain the present License Commission and their majority in the Council, Hamilton is immune against drought.

Great Britain spent last year for manning her navy £9,500,000. Germany spent for like purpose \$1,500,000. And the efficiency of the services is represented by the proportion. The men of the British navy number 128,000; Germany's, 54,000; the United States, 61,000.

Castro has been expelled from Martinique. Feigning illness to escape the order of the French Government, he was carried to the vessel on a stretcher by gentlemen. Castro will have reason to congratulate himself if he escapes without being tried and punished for some of the many crimes charged against him.

Inspector Hughes, Toronto, has opened two new depots for the supply of shoes and clothing to needy school pupils. In some Toronto schools it is said pupils have been reported as suffering from insufficiency of food! Now, were that in Great Britain it would be attributed to "the blighting effects of free trade."

New York life insurance men are considering a proposal to give free medical examinations of insured persons every five years. It is contended that such careful examinations would be valuable as a means of discovering dangerous diseases in their incipency when they might be successfully combated, thus lengthening the lives of the insured.

Washington Legislature has passed a law against the polite form of begging known as "tipping." It holds both the solicitor or receiver of a tip, and the giver of the same, to be guilty of a misdemeanor. The purpose of the measure is laudable, but it is doubtful whether it will prove successful in stopping the tipping nuisance.

"A gift of 2,000,000 acres of land, including the spruce and the jack pine, represents more than Ontario ought to do for Mackenzie & Mann," says the Toronto Telegram, and then it proceeds to praise Whitney for giving away this

huge asset and to abuse the Opposition in the Legislature for objecting! The Telegram is nearly as "independent" as the Mail and Empire.

We should have more hope of the Legislature succeeding in framing a sensible assessment bill, were it not intimated that the committee appointed to draft it are going to ask suggestions from the same municipal muddlers who spoiled the measure now on the statute book. Why not apply a little economic science and common sense to the work and leave the bunglers out of it?

When Sir James Whitney's language towards Mr. MacKay is contrasted with that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier towards Hon. George E. Foster, the difference between Conservatism and the Laurier type of Liberalism become the more apparent.—Mail and Empire.

But then, consider the difference between Mr. MacKay and Hon. Mr. Foster! The manners of the men and their styles of address are certainly in still greater contrast.

Not only does Great Britain enormously excel Germany or any other power in her battleship and cruiser fleets, but in small craft she is in a class by herself. Of destroyers, ocean-going craft of 500 tons or over, Britain has 62 to Germany's 37, and of other destroyers 109 to 49. Britain also has a great advantage in torpedo boats and submarine boats, the figures of the latter being 72 to 8.

The pressure of taxation in Japan is great. The Japanese whose income is \$500 a year has to give up 17 per cent. of it to the Government, leaving him \$415 a year for the support of himself and family. If, however, he has \$50,000 a year income he must contribute about 63 per cent., or \$31,500, leaving him \$18,500 intact. On an average the Japanese pay \$1 out of every \$3 which they receive, to the Government in taxes.

The Haitian charges against Hon. Mr. Calder, Saskatchewan's Minister of Education, have been investigated by two judges, and have been declared to be utterly foundationless. It is a pity that a man like Haultain should join in this detestable work of trying to besmirch honorable opponents whom the people preferred. If we had a rule that the men bringing such calumnies against opponents should be muled in the costs when they are proven to be unfounded, it would be in the interest of decent politics.

It is the intention of the United States Government to purchase all the property along the St. Mary's rapids on the United States side of the river, so as to protect navigation and control the development of power on that side of the boundary. That is the information furnished to Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, who went to Washington to discuss the rider added to the waterways treaty by the United States Senate. The information obtained will be considered by the Government before it is decided to accept the treaty with the rider proposed by the Michigan senator.

The devoted junior local Tory organ argues that Hazen's Commission's report places Hon. Mr. Pugsley "under suspicion," therefore he ought to resign. But some people may think that to establish such a precedent would make it quite too easy for scandal-manufacturing politicians to attack and demolish their opponents, right or wrong. Does it not seem to be a more reasonable proposition that the Hazen Government, if possessed of evidence to justify the report sent abroad, should take legal proceedings against the gentlemen reflected upon? If it is so easy to do, why not convict them in the criminal courts and punish them?

The Mail and Empire, commenting on the fact that two Conservatives voted with the Ontario Opposition against Waitney's gift of 2,000,000 acres of land to the C. N. R., says the incident "proves that Conservatives can keep their election pledges, even though they have to go against their own friends in order to do so—an exhibition of fidelity of which no Oppositionist is guilty." Isn't the slavish old organ indiscreet to put it in that way? The "pledge" not to make any such grants was made by Whitney, who severely denounced past grants of a like kind when railway development was so necessary. In what a light the organ places the Premier!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES: Sir,—Will you kindly inform me in the columns of your valuable paper what became of the young boy—a resident of Hamilton—who appeared at the Grand Opera House or the Association Hall at a benefit concert a number of years ago, and was gifted with powers similar to those of Mrs. Eva Fay. His name was Basil, or Bassille, and he was evidently about four years of age? Thanking you in advance for your space, I will await with interest the answer. Curiosity.

WHERE'S THAT? (London Free Press.) Allan Studholme has concluded his labors and returned to Podunk.

CANT DO IT. (Toronto Star.) A man must not suppose that he can buy indulgences by subscribing liberally to the missionary funds.

MADE HIM WAIT. (Toronto Telegram.) It was a typical Canadian proceeding for Prof. Orr's predecessors on the programme to occupy all the time in sight, thus crowding into the tag end of the evening the scholar whom sixty per cent. of the audience had come to hear.

COST OF RURAL MAIL BOXES. (Dundas Banner.) A few weeks ago we noticed in a local contemporary that the residents on the Ancaster road who have rural mail delivery had been mulcted to the extent of \$8 per year for this service. We were somewhat surprised at this, if correct, and on enquiring we find that the only payment required is \$3 to pay the net

cost of the mail box at their gate, and to place the post upon which the box is fastened.

TOO EXTRAVAGANT. (Toronto News.) With the consent of the Legislature, but without the vote of the people, Toronto has in ten years raised \$6,000,000 on debentures. Most of these issues were made under statute. But altogether too large an amount has been expended upon works the cost of which should have been met by current revenue.

BARREL OF WHISKEY. (Grimby Independent.) There was one little incident in connection with the prosecution of doctor, druggist and barber that I regretted to hear of, and that is the rumor that the Methodist minister allowed a barrel of whisky to be kept in his cellar pending the trial of the owner. How a Methodist preacher could sleep peacefully at night with a barrel of whiskey in his cellar is a mystery to me—as much as I hate the stuff it would be all I could do to keep my hands off the barrel, and morally, the temptation that should be allowed to be placed in any preacher's way.

MISSIONARY CONGRESS. (Toronto Saturday Night.) Thoughtless, instinctive cruelty belongs to past ages, but at the same time we have far to go before we reach that Utopia of living of which every man dreams. The speakers of the Laymen's Missionary Congress talked much of China, Japan and India, but I saw not even a passing reference to the saddest and most deplorable of the great capitals of the Christian world. There was much talk of the Hindoo, but what of the homeless who wander nightly along the Thames embankment in London, or of the squalid thousands in the tenement districts of New York, or of the millions in the God-forsaken fields of helpless, hopeless Russia?

BEHIND THE SCENES. (Kingston Standard.) What drivel has been written concerning the danger of an invasion of England by a foreign army! The causes of all this excitement are not difficult to ascertain. In the first place the great English shipbuilding firms are in need of work, so are their workmen, so are contractors for naval supplies. In the second place an attack of this kind for political effect would have a tendency to weaken the hands of the present Government. In the third place both naval and army officers are always keyed up to look for trouble and spoiling for a fight. Then there is a strong faction in the British House of Commons favorable to Admiral Beresford and unfavorable to Admiral Fisher, who is now at the head of the navy and responsible for its condition.

DEARER WHEAT. (N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) The extent of acreage abandoned will not be known until the May report is out. In the meantime there is some chance of improvement in condition and in harvest prospect, and the high price will, doubtless, encourage large spring sowing. But the prospect of a continued high price for wheat, and flour is pretty well assured. Farmers may benefit by this, those, at least, who do not suffer from crop injury, and it may increase the value of the exported surplus in proportion to its quantity, but it is not cheering for the great class of consumers whose cost of living will be affected. For the country, the large and the general well-being, abundant crops and moderate prices are the things to be desired.

A DEPARTURE. Canadian Club Will Hear Greater Hamilton Speakers.

The closing luncheon for the season in connection with the Canadian Club will be held on Thursday evening, the 22nd. Instead of following the usual practice and having an out-of-town speaker, the club will entertain the members of the Industrial Committee, and Mr. John Hoopes, and his associates will give short talks on the plans and objects of the association to make a Greater Hamilton. The luncheon will be 6 o'clock and of the usual informal character, and the citizens interested are expected in large numbers to honor the leaders of the foremost movement in the development of the city.

LAND TARS. British Bluejackets Protecting Foreigners in Persia.

London, April 12.—The situation in Persia is gradually developing in the direction of an Anglo-Russian intervention. British Bluejackets were landed from the cruiser Fox at Bushire on Saturday, after a British resident has issued a proclamation setting for the necessity of this action because of the inability of the local authorities to protect foreigners.

HEAD CUT OFF. American's Headless Body Found on French Railroad.

St. Raphael, France, April 12.—A middle-aged, well-dressed American, Emil Amy by name, was killed on the railroad tracks here yesterday afternoon. His headless body was found near the station, but it has not been definitely established whether the man was accidentally killed or committed suicide.

TINY GIRLS. Twin Babies Dead Hid in a Shoe Box in Detroit.

Detroit, April 10.—It was a gruesome discovery that the two DeQuire boys made in D. M. Ferry & Co.'s lumber yard at Reaubien and Rowens street yesterday. Two tiny twin girls, nestled in a solitary shoe box formed the remarkable find. Life was extinct and so the horror of the thing rather dismayed the little fellows, who were wandering among the lumber piles.

Both of the boys hurried to the grocery store of August Tremble, 686 Beaubien street. Mr. Tremble notified the police department and coroner Burgess had the bodies removed to the county morgue. All marks of identification had been carefully scratched from the box in which the infants were found.

There seems no possible way of identifying the parents of the two nestlings, and so it is probable that those responsible for the abandonment of the bodies will not be found.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1909 SHEA'S New Spring Suits for Women. Made up in the very newest styles, blacks, greys, greens, browns and navies, all beautiful pure wool materials, newest style coats and perfectly made and fancy skirts, finished with stylish braid and the most fashionable button adornments, all thoroughly well tailored. Special prices are: \$12.00 Suits for \$8.95 \$15.00 Suits for \$10.95 \$17.00 Suits for \$12.50

WAS A BLUFF. Threatened to Blow Up a House With Cheap Perfume. Got Government Job—Charge of Horse Stealing. (Special Despatch to the Times.) Brantford, April 12.—Edward Hall was committed for trial here on Saturday before Squire Howell on the charge of horse stealing at Zion's bridge. Dan Boughner is wanted on a similar charge. County Constable Kerr submitted evidence to show that the horse, which was a valuable one, had been disposed of to a man at the Big Four Hotel, Hamilton. The constable is hopeful of recovering the stolen animal. Bail was renewed to the prison at \$800.

CASTRO QUIT. Expelled From Martinique—Pre-tended to be Ill. Fort de France, April 10.—Apriano Castro, ex-President of Venezuela, was tonight ignominiously expelled from the island of Martinique by the French Government. He protested to the last against his expulsion, but his protests were in vain. He is now on board the French steamship Versailles bound for St. Nazaire.

OUR EXCHANGES. WHERE'S THAT? (London Free Press.) Allan Studholme has concluded his labors and returned to Podunk. CANT DO IT. (Toronto Star.) A man must not suppose that he can buy indulgences by subscribing liberally to the missionary funds. MADE HIM WAIT. (Toronto Telegram.) It was a typical Canadian proceeding for Prof. Orr's predecessors on the programme to occupy all the time in sight, thus crowding into the tag end of the evening the scholar whom sixty per cent. of the audience had come to hear.

Handy Shur-On Eye-glasses. The Newest Style "Shur-On". On and off with one hand without touching the lenses—a most ingenious device. No objectionable coil springs that obstruct the view, no screws to work loose. Like all Shur-Ons they are graceful in appearance and hold firmly without pinching. Get the genuine "Handy" Shur-On. I. B. ROUSE, 111 King East, Hamilton. Globe Optical Company.

List of Agencies where the HAMILTON TIMES may be had: G. J. M'ARTHUR, Stationer, Rebecca St., 4 doors from James. F. W. SCHWARTZ, Royal Hotel News Stand. F. W. SCHWARTZ, Waldorf Hotel. THOS. FRENCH, 80 James Street North. C. WEBBER, Terminal Station. H. T. COWING, 126 James North. G. B. MIDDLEY, Printer, 282 James Street North. A. F. HURST, Tobacconist, 234 James Street North. A. A. THEOBALD, Tobacconist, 358 James Street North. ALEX. M'DOUGALL, Newsdealer, 386 1/2 Barton Street East. D. MONROE, Grocer, James and Simco. JOHN IRISH, 509 James North. A. F. HAMBURG, 276 James North. JOHN HILL, Tobacconist, 171 King Street East. W. R. FLEMING, Barber and Tobacconist, 243 King Street East. H. P. TEETER, Druggist, King and Ashley. T. J. M'BRIDE, 666 King Street East. H. R. WILSON, News Agent, King and Wentworth Streets. JAS. W. HALLORAN, Grocer and Tobacconist, Barton and Cotharrie Streets. H. URSSCHADT, Confectioner and Stationer, 239 Barton East. ALEX. M'DOUGALL, 325 1/2 Barton East. J. WOODS, Barber, 401 Barton East. H. HOWE, 587 Barton East. J. A. ZIMMERMAN, Druggist, Barton and Wentworth, also Victoria Avenue and Cannon. H. E. HAWKINS, Druggist, East Avenue and Barton. A. GREIG, Newsdealer, 10 York Street. JAMES MITCHELL, Confectioner, 97 York Street. MRS. SHOTTER, Confectioner, 244 York Street. NEW TROY LAUNDRY, 357 York Street. S. WOTTON, 378 York Street. T. S. M'DONNELL, 374 King Street West. M. WALSH, 244 King Street West. W. STEWART, Confectioner, 442 King West. D. T. DOW, 172 King Street West. JOHN MORRISON, Druggist, 112 Main Street West. A. F. HOUSEK, Confectioner, 174 James Street South. J. H. SPENCER, 113 John Street North. ROBT. GORDON, Confectioner, 119 John Street South. BURWELL GRIFFIN, Queen and Charlton Avenues. MRS. SECORD, Locke and Canada. CANADA RAILWAY NEWS CO., G. T. R. Station. H. BLACKBURN, News Agent, T. H. & B. Station. J. R. WELLS, Old Country News Stand, 187 King Street East. It will pay you to use the Want Column of the Times. BUSINESS TELEPHONE 303.