

THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, OCT. 29, 1907.

THE JURY WAS WRONG.

The Grand Jury at the Court of General Sessions in Toronto yesterday made a long presentment, in which various recommendations were made. Some of them are useful, and appeal to all who read them. But to two of them exception will probably be taken by many. The jurors referred to the frequent thefts from stores, and recommended that the proprietors take more care to protect their goods. "Some displays were so tempting that it was hard to resist the temptation." They also spoke of stealing by a post office employee, and the language used was, unfortunately, likely to convey the inference that the jurors regard the fact that the offender was paid a small salary as in some measure at least excusing the crime.

Such presentments are not calculated to discourage law-breaking, or to aid in the cultivation of a strong moral fibre in the people who read them. The recommendation as to thefts from stores is that of men who have looked at the question from the wrong point of view. The law of meum et tuum is not one that is difficult to grasp and understand; it is a moral law, as well as a law of the country. The goods displayed in the stores come under it whether chained and padlocked, or lying loose and free to be handled by probable purchasers. The person who will steal a loose bit of ribbon or lace or other article, will not hesitate to untie a knot or open a drawer, if opportunity to pilfer offers. The saying, "Opportunity makes thieves," is untrue. Opportunity only permits the thief to exercise his calling. He was a thief before the opportunity presented itself.

And so with regard to the other case mentioned. We cannot afford to say that because a man's salary is not high, he shall be free to steal and rob; we cannot afford to allow that consideration to make us look with less detestation on the offence, or make us excuse the offender. To do so would be to make honesty and confidence a mere matter of a few dollars or cents more or less in the contract. Who would fix the standard? Would a man getting \$50 a month be held to the moral law, while one getting \$48 would be licensed to be a thief on a small scale, and one getting \$45 would have the privilege of a greater lapse from morality? Should we say in effect, that an employee should be free to underbid his fellows for a job, with the mental reservation that he would get even by pilfering?

No, that jury was wrong. Its recommendation should have been pointed at building up a more vigorous moral stamina—at impressing on parents the duty which nature and society demand of them, that they bring up their children with a proper respect for the moral law and the rights of others. That is a much-neglected duty. Were it well done, there would be no need for hints that merchants should fasten down their goods to prevent their being stolen, nor that theft by a man on a small salary is almost excusable. We need to-day more of the strength of character which comes of wholesome discipline and self-denial. There is need for applying moral checks.

WANTS A DEFINITION.

It was John Locke, we believe, who in his essay "Concerning the Human Understanding," so clearly and convincingly set forth the dangers of the abuse of words, and argued for well settled definitions of terms about which there might be controversy. The Toronto News nearly two hundred and forty years later makes a plea of a similar kind. It is impelled to demand a careful definition of the term "public ownership" in politics, because as it goes it is unable to arrive at an idea of what Mr. Borden means. It says: "Mr. Borden has declared for nationalization of the telephone and telegraph systems. What else does the strict school of public ownership propose to nationalize? What else is there in the Federal field except railroads that the State may purchase and operate? Do the advocates of public ownership propose now to buy out the whole railway system of the country and substitute public for private operation? If so, their policy should be clearly stated and boldly advocated. 'Public ownership' in the discussion of Dominion affairs may be only steaming up, a lamentation and an ancient tale of woe.

Like a tale of little meaning, tho' the words are strong. "The country should not be stamped by a phrase, and, therefore, the advocates of public ownership should come down to particulars in order that the discussion may be practical and useful."

Now if the News had been desirous of going to the fountain-head, it would not have directed its question to Mr. R. L. Borden, but to Mr. W. F. Maclean, who has a cinch on the "principle," all others being cheap imitators, or mere echoes. Mr. Maclean, in the solitude of his chamber, enjoy many hearty laughs at the success he has had in making jolly fools of grave politicians who would like to be considered statesmen, and in dragging in chains Toronto editors who might have been expected to be guided by native common sense. There is an old saying that any man who wishes to see how little it takes to draw a crowd has only to step off the curb into the street and gaze steadily at a point in the sky. He does not even need to speak. In a short time the police will be needed to clear the thoroughfare. Mr. Maclean improved on that. He understood the effect of noise, and he appealed to ignor-

ance in big promises and black type. Further, he appealed to jealousy and envy by hitting at those who had accumulated money. He idealized his hobby and named it "public ownership." He succeeded better than his expectations. Toronto is not strong on political or social economy, but his appeals to envy and jealousy and enmity took. He became the idol of the mob, and soon he took to talking of the ownership "principle." That sounded well, and ere long to Mr. Maclean's own surprise—and doubtless to his very great amusement—he had rival Toronto papers tagging along at his heels whooping for the "principle."

But there comes a time for casting up theoretical accounts and beginning action; the debauch over, sober sense returns. Already some of his convert followers are wondering what folly possessed them, and are trying to regain common sense footing. The News wants a bill of particulars as to the "principle," and it ought to be furnished. Mr. Maclean won't do it. Will Borden? What has all the fuss been about? How are men who are worthless and evil as individuals to be made almighty, omniscient and infallible as members of municipal councils, or of legislatures and parliaments?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Toronto pays its Mayor \$5,000 a year. And \$5,000 five-dollar man are out for the job.

At Winnipeg Mr. Borden squarely assumed all responsibility for Foster and Fowler and defended their course!

Toronto has now a municipal graft scandal. But how much of graft never reaches the ears of Toronto citizens?

The Philadelphia fire chief has been provided with a runabout automobile to carry him to fires as well as for other purposes. Some day Chief Ten Eyck may discard his red buggy in favor of one.

The Russian Terrorists are seeking revenge for the ruthless policy that has been pursued against them. General Maximoffsky's assassination by a young woman is believed to be the prelude to another campaign of murder of officials.

Winnipeg will probably delay its big municipal power scheme till money is easier. Other money by-laws for \$840,000 are in course of preparation, and the city urgently needs improved water supply and a sewerage system.

The Toronto Star asserts that the Toronto Electric Light Company is making 700 per cent. profit out of Toronto. Billy Maclean will have to step up lively or he will lose to the Star by 600 per cent. or so the championship of the Hydro-electric defence.

Dr. Gillette, the former Vice-President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, convicted of perjury in denying attempts to influence insurance legislation with money, has been sentenced to six months in prison. This is one result of the recent investigation.

Chief Justice Meredith does not appear to be an admirer of our former citizen and language dispenser Roadhouse. His course in declining to commit the violators of the injunction because that worthy has left the country is, however, one that Roadhouse may accept as a compliment.

It is said that a conspiracy is on foot to oppose Mr. Balfour as leader of the Unionist party in Great Britain, in favor of Austen Chamberlain, who is anxious to forest his father's protectionist policy on the Unionists. Joe never was strong on fealty to leaders. Is his son to inherit his weakness?

Over two thousand lives were lost in coal mining in the States last year, according to the Geological Survey, and nearly five thousand persons received greater or less injuries. Noting this the Philadelphia Record says that it could be mined in England at a cost of one life per thousand, the rate ought not to be 3.4 per 1,000 in the States.

The increase of British imports under the preferential tariff is very noticeable. In 1897 the amount was \$29,412,188, they having declined over twelve and a half millions in fourteen years of the N. P. In 1906 they were \$69,194,388, and in nine months of the year 1907 they were \$64,381,373. The preference has fully justified itself.

Here is a paragraph from one of the tariff speeches of W. F. Cockshutt, M. P., as it appears in Hansard, and which he has not delighted to quote to the farmers of the West in his tour with Borden:

I look upon a 20 per cent. tariff as a very moderate tariff. I think that should have been increased on the bulk of agricultural implements, and not diminished.

Tally one for the Fourth Estate. The United States penitentiary report for the year shows that there are 992 inmates in that institution. There are fifteen bankers, one preacher, three druggists, one grocer, one hotel-keeper, five lawyers, four merchants, five doctors, and twelve politicians, but not one editor. But we think we know one or two newspaper chaps who ought to be.

If the foreigners amongst us need Canadianizing, there is no better means at hand than the schoolmaster. Teach them to speak English, and to think and act like Canadians. These people are apparently here to stay, and it is to our interest that they should be made good Canadians. Their children will soon be

assimilated and Canadianized at the day schools. But the older people will be better able to appreciate their privileges and to know their duty if they get a course of training at night school.

Wall street is once more quiet and business is going on as usual, but the effect of the recent disturbance has been widely felt throughout the United States and there have been heavy losses.

There has been some talk in Toronto and this city of manufacturers laying off hands owing to the stringency in the money market and the partial failure of the Northwest crop. A few hands have been discharged, we believe, both here and in Toronto, but the number is scarcely worth mentioning. From other places come reports of briskness in business, with no intention of letting up during the winter months. Brantford, according to the Expositor, has over five thousand workmen employed in thirty-five factories, all of which are busy.

The Hydro-Electric Commission's estimate for the distribution of power in Stratford is \$337 per horse-power, and \$5.88 in Galt. Just how any accurate estimate can be made without a certain knowledge of whether the power is to be distributed in lots of 2, 3, 10, 50 or 100 horse-power is not explained. The municipalities can settle that later, when paying the bills, of course.

There is a young man in the last stages of consumption in Victoria Hospital, London. He is both poor and friendly, and is too sick to be moved, yet, according to the rules of the hospital, he must be removed. No wonder the doctor in charge says he is in a dilemma and that it is a disgrace to the country and to the Government that there is no place for a dying man in this wealthy country. He might have also added that it is a disgrace to London, which is well able to provide an isolation hospital for such unfortunates.

Mr. Myles' suggestion to have a road from the foot of the Jolley Cut to the head of Victoria avenue opened up is such a good one that it is a wonder the matter has not been brought up before. We do not know yet what the City Engineer will say about it. But there is no doubt it would be a great convenience to the citizens. At present there is no way of driving up or down the mountain in all that district lying between Wentworth and John streets. If this road were opened it would save many a long drive either east or west. It is to be hoped that the Board of Works will give the subject its early attention.

Speaking at Woodstock Dr. Colquhoun (Dr. are as thick as flies in July now) told the Teachers' Association that the measure to increase teachers' salaries by proportioning grants from school sections was found to create dissatisfaction and was generally withdrawn. It was, it is said, one of the most unscientific and blundering bills ever introduced into the Ontario Legislature. Common sense should have taught that all Whites had to do to increase the teachers' salaries was to let the Ross legislation raising the standards and the natural conditions leading to higher wages exert their influence. Had he not said that, teachers' salaries would have risen without any such foolish meddling. But just when natural laws under the Ross regulations were having their effect, Whitney intervenes and knocks a hole in them by permitting teachers with lower qualifications to teach. What is the use of looking for improvement while making regulations to prevent it?

In the course of an article in the Labor Leader, Keir Hardie, the labor leader, who passed through Canada on a trip round the world, recently says: "I was not long in the country before I ran up against a fact which surprised and startled me; the English emigrant is not popular in Canada. This remark applies in a special degree to the Londoner." The reason for this, he said, was "the Englishman's inveterate habit of grumbling and his unwillingness to adapt himself to new conditions." Give a dog a bad name and hang him. We have heard of this complaint before. In fact, a few months ago the subject was discussed in the Toronto newspapers at considerable length, but with little profit. Our opinion is that the average Englishman is very much like other white people. He has his idiosyncrasies, so have they. In his favor, however, it may be said that the writer of this paragraph was told by a builder who had a number of such working for him, that he would not wish a better lot of young fellows to work for him.

HERE AND THERE. THANKSGIVING. Ottawa Free Press: The current prices, I have found, Some differences make— WITH TURKEY 40c. A POUND, Please pass the steak! London Advertiser: The new Canadian mint has rolled its first coin, but there is no expectation that it will relieve the money stringency. Montreal Star: When a young girl begins to boss a young man he might as well begin to save money to buy the furniture. Toronto News: Toronto is to be enlarged. Even though the city will not need seven Mayors, but humanity is always hopeful. Brantford Expositor: With immense expenditures in perfecting water and other transportation facilities, and generally improving the position of the city, the Liberals have practically not added a dollar to the public debt of Canada. The sole credit of that great enterprise belongs to the Conservatives. Montreal Star: Don't be downcast because you didn't see any of those halcyon days. The country is full of people who were too busy chasing the dollar even to look up. Belleville Intelligencer: Major Beattie, who has been chosen as candidate for the Commons by London, Ont., Conservatives, was formerly a dry goods merchant, whereas the Liberals in London could easily have told him that the kind of candidate London takes to best is a wet goods specialist. Toronto Star: Dr. Beattie Nesbitt for Mayor! Why not? Who can name a position he is not big enough to fill? He may certainly be described as an all-round man.

Our Exchanges. Toros and the Post Office. Ten years ago there was a deficit of over \$700,000 on a revenue of \$1,500,000, and now the revenue was \$2,500,000, and the deficit was a surplus of over a million dollars. This is what Toros have got out of the tariff. The responsible officials of the department. The Bills Will Tell. The town of Berlin, Ont., has three municipal councilors. A motion was made to reduce the number to two, on the ground that the council is unable to manage the town's affairs. The motion was carried by a majority of two to one. The councilors were told that they must resign or be removed. They have resigned.

Real Lace Goods. A splendid display of real lace goods, this year, and will be pleased to have the opportunity of showing them to you. Among some are real Brussels and Irish Point Lace Collars, all new patterns, at each \$2.50, \$3.00 to \$8.00. Princess Lace Bonnets at each \$3.50, \$4.00 to \$10.00. Real Irish Point and Brussels Lace Trimmings, Handkerchiefs, a very large and handsome display, at each \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 to \$3.50. Real Battenburg and Capri Lace Bonnets, extra new patterns, all very fashionable, at each \$6.00, \$7.50 to \$12.00. Real Spanish Lace Scarfs, in black and cream only, 18 inches wide, new designs in long length, at \$3.50, \$4.00 to \$8.00. Real Brussels Net Scarfs, in white only, in long lengths, very fashionable for evening wear, at \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.50.

Thanksgiving Table Linens. Pure Linen Irish and Scotch Cream Damask, 58 to 72 inches wide, in all the latest patterns, at per yard 30, 35, 40c to \$1.00. Bleached Irish Table Damask, 72 inches wide, in all the newest designs and soft satin finish, at per yard 70c, \$1.00 to \$1.50. Bleached Pure Irish Linen Table Cloth, with border all round, 2 1/2 yds. long, in all the newest patterns and spots, at each \$2.10, \$2.30, \$3.00, \$6.00 to \$9.00. Napkins to match at per dozen, \$2.00, \$2.50 to \$7.00. A large assortment of Doilies, Centre Pieces, Tray Cloths, Tea Cloths, etc., in plain linen or damask with drawn or embroidered work, at each 15c to \$7.00. \$2.00 Cable Net Curtains \$1.95. New and handsome styles in White Cable Net Curtains in assorted patterns, new style borders, 3 1/2 yds. long. A grand buying chance in these new and fashionable Curtains, regular \$2.50, on sale per pair \$1.95.

Thanksgiving Gloves. THE BEST ARE HERE. Finch Bros. is your best Glove Store. You make no mistake in buying your kid gloves for Thanksgiving wear here, only one make kept and they are the best. Perrin's Gloves are known the world over for good wear and perfect fit, and are the best appearing gloves and every pair guaranteed and tried on at counter in wrist length at \$1.125 and \$1.50 in fan Walking Gloves at \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2. In elbow Kid Gloves in all the fashionable autumn and winter colors at \$1.95 to \$3.50. Special counter for Gloves only. Women's Umbrellas. NEW STYLES SHOWING. Showing where it is most convenient right at the entrance to the store. Women's Umbrellas in new English handle styles, guaranteed for wear and color keeping, a large display of new styles, at \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 to \$7. Also see our large display of Men's Umbrellas.

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We close at 6 p. m. Wednesday as usual. FINCH BROS. 29 and 31 King Street West

The Last Day of Our Great Month End Sale

Better values than ever for the last day of our October Month End Sale. Every section has instructions to do the very best they can to make Wednesday a very big day.

6 Cases and Bales of Manufacturers' Prints Will Go On Sale Wednesday Morning at Just About Half the Ordinary Retail Price

12 1/2c to 17 1/2c White Canton Flannel 7 1/2c. One bale Bleached Canton Flannel. Not a yard worth less than 12 1/2c up to 17 1/2c, on sale Wednesday at 7 1/2c yd. 35 to 45c White Sheeting 25c. The best qualities of White Sheeting in remnants at less price than the lowest grades, 72 to 90 inch Sheeting, 35 to 45c, Wednesday 25c

10 and 12 1/2c Grey Cotton 7 1/2c. 5 and 10-yard lengths of Heavy Grey Cotton, 36 to 40 inches wide and value for 10 and 12 1/2c, Wednesday's price 7 1/2c

25c Pillow Cotton 15c. 200 yards of 44 inch Circular Pillow Cotton, value for 25c, Wednesday's special sale price 15c

10c Glass Towelling 5c. 16-inch Glass Towelling, pure linen, red or blue checks, regular 10c, for 5c

\$1.50 White Sheets 99c Each. English-made White Cotton Sheets, furnished ready to put on the bed, regular \$1.50, sale price 99c

\$1.75 White Quilts \$1.19. Slightly Imperfect White Quilts, no damage that can impair the wearing qualities, value \$1.75, Wednesday \$1.19

15c Turkish Towels 7c. Just about 3 dozen in all, Unbleached Turkish Towels, regular 15c value, for 7c

25c Unbleached Sheeting 15c. 2 pieces kept back for Wednesday's selling of a 72-inch Unbleached Sheeting, value 25c, for 15c

15c English Flannelette 10c. Pretty designs in a heavy English Flannelette, ordinary 15c value, on sale Wednesday 10c

\$15.00 Jackets \$7.50. Ladies' Plain Cloth Jackets, value for \$15.00, special, \$7.50. Ladies' Tweed Jackets, worth \$15.00, for \$7.50

\$10.00 Jackets \$5.00. Ladies' Tweed Jackets, good style, warm and comfortable, \$10.00, for \$5.00

\$5.00 to \$7.50 Child's Jacket \$3.49. Children's Tweed Ulsters, pretty tweed designs, value \$5.00 to \$7.50, for \$3.49

\$1.50 to \$2.00 Hats 49c. 20 dozen Ladies' Hats, value in the ordinary way for \$1.50 to \$2.00, Month End Sale price 49c

40c Dress Goods 19c. Tweeds in grey mixtures, Tartans, Nuns' Veilings, value up to 40c for 19c

59c Dress Goods 33c. Fancy Serges, Shepherds' Checks, Fancy Brown Lustres and Serges good ranges of colors and designs, value 59c, for 33c

75c Dress Goods 49c. Fancy Stripe Chevots, Serges, Panamas, Voilles, Shepherds' Check, Cashmere, Tartan Plaids and value up to 75c, for 49c

\$1.25 Dress Goods 69c. 50 inch Tweeds, plain Venetians, all wool Panama and Satin Panne, clan Plaids and Crepe de Chine, regular \$1.25, for 69c

\$1.35 Dress Goods 98c. All Wool Venetians, Melrose Cloth, Panama, Shepherds' Check, Chevots, evening shades, Crepe de Chine and Voilles, value \$1.35, for 98c

50c Underwear 39c. Ladies' Underwear, good warm and heavy, regular 50c, good sale price 39c

75c Underwear 50c. Seconds of the largest mill in Canada, no damage that would impair the wearing qualities, regular 75c, for 50c

39c Stockings 19c. Size 9 1/2, in a heavy worsted stocking, pure wool, value for 39c, special sale price 19c

Great 2 1/2c Lace. 10,000 yards of Lace, Torchon, Valenciennes and Fancy Cotton, not one yard value for less than 10c, Month End Price 2 1/2c

75c and \$1.00 Men's Top Shirts 49c. Samples of Men's Working Shirts, the heavy warm kind that you are in the habit of paying 75c and \$1.00 for, on sale Wednesday 49c

50c Children's Bonnets 25c. Infants' Embroidered Silk Bonnets, value 50c, for 25c

\$1.00 Bonnets 50c. Handsomely Embroidered Silk Bonnets and White Bear Hats, value \$1.00, for 50c

59c Silks 33c. Still a good assortment of colorings in plain Colored Silks, value 59c, for 33c

69c Black Silk 39c. Black Peau de Soie Silk, good bright finish, will not cut, ordinary value 69c, Month End Sale price 39c

THE T. H. PRATT CO. LIMITED

HELD BY SAVAGES.

FOUR THOUSAND SPANIARDS KEPT IN SLAVERY BY TAGALOS.

Forced to Work in Fields by Whips—Man Who Escaped From Imprisonment on Island Sings Up All Madrid.

Madrid, Oct. 29.—A thrilling story, related by a Spaniard who recently arrived from Manila, is attracting a good deal of attention in the Manila papers. It tells of a man who was captured by Tagalos, and taken to the island of San Juan del Monte, in the Bicolano Province, according to Bulgueria's story there are more than four thousand Spanish prisoners in that island. They are forced, he says, by the natives to dig their potatoes and are whipped and treated like beasts of burden and the only reward they get is scanty rations of green corn.

Bulgueria has related his story to a correspondent of El Pueblo, and he says that in one last month Spanish prisoners tried to escape by swimming. Practically all were drowned, he says, but he succeeded in landing on the opposite bank and was subsequently able to reach Manila. When he went to the American authorities, who provided him with passage on board the steamer Baltimore, bound for Cadiz, he reached that port in September, but was only able to proceed to his native town a few days since, where he had long been given up for dead.

One of Bulgueria's companions has also just reached his home at Valencia, where he found that not only had he been presumed to be dead, but his wife had been married again. This story of four thousand Spaniards being still alive and in the hands of the Tagalos has caused a great sensation and is made the subject of comments by the press of Madrid.

CANADIAN PACIFIC.

Gross Earnings Increased, But Net Profits Declined.

Montreal, Oct. 28.—Although the gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the month of September showing a gain of well over a quarter of a million dollars as compared with the earnings for the same month last year, the net profits showed a decline of nearly \$250,000. As compared with September of last, the operating expenses showed an increase of well over half a million, or almost double the increase in gross earnings, with the result that the profits as indicated in the monthly approximate figures showed a very appreciable decrease. While the figures for September were much more marked than in any other month this year, they have borne out the experience of the C.P.R. since the commencement of the present fiscal year, of growing earnings but an increase

RESCUES GIRL.

LAD SAVES MISS CRAZED BY TYPHOID INTO ATTEMPTING SUICIDE.

Water Only Six Feet Deep—Many Cheer Young Man, Who Holds Injured Victim Until Help Arrives.

Richmond, Va., Oct. 29.—Reba Haley, fifteen years of age, of No. 13 Deacatur street, Manchester, jumped from a bridge into the James River this afternoon in an attempt to commit suicide. She was rescued by Carl Blackwell, nineteen years old, who dived forty feet from the bridge and held her above the water until assistance could reach him. Benjamin F. Varner, a teamster, an eyewitness to the affair, jumped into a boat and arrived just in time to save the couple.

GRAND TRUNK'S APPEAL.

Two-Cent Rate Before the Supreme Court.

Ottawa, Oct. 28.—In the Supreme Court to-day argument was heard on the appeal of the Grand Trunk Railway v. Robertson from an order of the Railway Commissioners, limited to the question whether or not the portion of the Act, 16 Vic., ch. 37, which provides that the fare of a third-class passenger on the Grand Trunk Railway shall not exceed one penny currency per mile, and that at least one train with third-class carriages shall run every day over the line, is in force. The appellants claimed it was repealed by Dominion Act 45 Vic., ch. 24, sec. 12, allowing a variation of tolls. The board's order was that the appellant company should comply with the provisions of 16 Vic., ch. 37, above mentioned. Holding that the amending Acts did not apply to the Grand Trunk Railway, Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, K.C., appeared for the appellants, and Mr. J. W. Curry, K.C., for the respondent. Their argument took up the whole of the day until the close of the court. To-morrow morning Mr. Bailey, K.C., of the Ontario Attorney-General's Department, will be heard on behalf of the Province, in support of the decision of the Railway Board, that a two-cent fare must be given for third-class passage.

WINNIPEG WILL WAIT.

Mayor Recommends Delay in Municipal Programme.

Winnipeg, Oct. 28.—As a result of his trip to London, Mayor Ashdown will recommend to the City Council that work on the city power scheme be delayed until such time as the securities have been sold to cover the present indebtedness of the city. The Mayor will also advocate delay in submitting the money by-laws to the people.

WHO SENT IT?

Despatch Sent to London Saying Hamilton Was Going Down Hill.

London, Oct. 28.—The campaign of the Labor party closed to-night. Allan Studholme, M.P.P., discussed a remarkable article which had appeared in to-night's Free Press, purporting to be a special despatch from Hamilton. This article stated that Hamilton had been going down hill ever since the election of Studholme to the legislature; that London was not growing much faster than Hamilton, and that the Boston Cordage Co. and other manufacturers had stated that they would never invest a dollar in any city that returned a laboring man to the legislature.

Mr. Studholme said that this was an ill bird that fouled its own nest. He doubted if any man in Hamilton had sent that despatch. The fact was that Hamilton was growing rapidly. But suppose it were true (and it was not) that Hamilton was going down hill, was the Labor member to blame? What were Barker and Hendrie (Con.), and Zimmerman (Lib.) about?

WANTS A DEFINITION.

It was John Locke, we believe, who in his essay "Concerning the Human Understanding," so clearly and convincingly set forth the dangers of the abuse of words, and argued for well settled definitions of terms about which there might be controversy. The Toronto News nearly two hundred and forty years later makes a plea of a similar kind. It is impelled to demand a careful definition of the term "public ownership" in politics, because as it goes it is unable to arrive at an idea of what Mr. Borden means. It says: "Mr. Borden has declared for nationalization of the telephone and telegraph systems. What else does the strict school of public ownership propose to nationalize? What else is there in the Federal field except railroads that the State may purchase and operate? Do the advocates of public ownership propose now to buy out the whole railway system of the country and substitute public for private operation? If so, their policy should be clearly stated and boldly advocated. 'Public ownership' in the discussion of Dominion affairs may be only steaming up, a lamentation and an ancient tale of woe.

Like a tale of little meaning, tho' the words are strong. "The country should not be stamped by a phrase, and, therefore, the advocates of public ownership should come down to particulars in order that the discussion may be practical and useful."

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ance in big promises and black type. Further, he appealed to jealousy and envy by hitting at those who had accumulated money. He idealized his hobby and named it "public ownership." He succeeded better than his expectations. Toronto is not strong on political or social economy, but his appeals to envy and jealousy and enmity took. He became the idol of the mob, and soon he took to talking of the ownership "principle." That sounded well, and ere long to Mr. Maclean's own surprise—and doubtless to his very great amusement—he had rival Toronto papers tagging along at his heels whooping for the "principle."

But there comes a time for casting up theoretical accounts and beginning action; the debauch over, sober sense returns. Already some of his convert followers are wondering what folly possessed them, and are trying to regain common sense footing. The News wants a bill of particulars as to the "principle," and it ought to be furnished. Mr. Maclean won't do it. Will Borden? What has all the fuss been about? How are men who are worthless and evil as individuals to be made almighty, omniscient and infallible as members of municipal councils, or of legislatures and parliaments?

EDITORIAL NOTES. Toronto pays its Mayor \$5,000 a year. And \$5,000 five-dollar man are out for the job. At Winnipeg Mr. Borden squarely assumed all responsibility for Foster and Fowler and defended their course! Toronto has now a municipal graft scandal. But how much of graft never reaches the ears of Toronto citizens? The Philadelphia fire chief has been provided with a runabout automobile to carry him to fires as well as for other purposes. Some day Chief Ten Eyck may discard his red buggy in favor of one.

The Russian Terrorists are seeking revenge for the ruthless policy that has been pursued against them. General Maximoffsky's assassination by a young woman is believed to be the prelude to another campaign of murder of officials. Winnipeg will probably delay its big municipal power scheme till money is easier. Other money by-laws for \$840,000 are in course of preparation, and the city urgently needs improved water supply and a sewerage system.

The Toronto Star asserts that the Toronto Electric Light Company is making 700 per cent. profit out of Toronto. Billy Maclean will have to step up lively or he will lose to the Star by 600 per cent. or so the championship of the Hydro-electric defence. Dr. Gillette, the former Vice-President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, convicted of perjury in denying attempts to influence insurance legislation with money, has been sentenced to six months in prison. This is one result of the recent investigation.

Chief Justice Meredith does not appear to be an admirer of our former citizen and language dispenser Roadhouse. His course in declining to commit the violators of the injunction because that worthy has left the country is, however, one that Roadhouse may accept as a compliment. It is said that a conspiracy is on foot to oppose Mr. Balfour as leader of the Unionist party in Great Britain, in favor of Austen Chamberlain, who is anxious to forest his father's protectionist policy on the Unionists. Joe never was strong on fealty to leaders. Is his son to inherit his weakness?