

THE HAMILTON TIMES

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1909.

WHY THIS CHANGE?

A few days ago the senior Tory organ had all but chosen local Tory Chairman Sturdy to succeed Mr. Birrell in the license inspectorship. It informed its readers that the Tory machine had met and chosen him as the man to be recommended for the position; and while there were other aspirants, it significantly, almost menacingly, remarked that, "It is reasonable to suppose that the Minister in charge of this department will pay some attention to any recommendation that may be made by the party heads before deciding upon the new official." The organ made it very clear that the machine having issued its ukase, Sturdy was the coming inspector.

But something seems to have happened since to cause it to revise its opinions. We now have it questioning the wisdom of selecting him for the job. Somehow Sturdy does not hold the organ's approval. In some way he lacks "pull." It says: "To be a ward chairman is not an offence against respectability; to be a 'machine' man is heinous only in the eyes of one's political opponent." But that the organ has a more favored candidate in view is made clear by its pointing out that Sturdy's alliance with the liquor interests will make it hard for him to give satisfaction! It says "he has for years been politically active in a ward in which there are more liquor licenses issued than in any other in the city. Already the enemies of the Whitney Government are prophesying that his appointment will mean an alliance between the party machine and the liquor interests." Now, who is the man for whom the organ would have Sturdy given "the double cross?"

A BIRTH-RATE PROTEST.

Vancouver City is credited with only 118 births in 1908, while Victoria is given 205. This makes the Province, edited by Walter Nichol, thoroughly angry, and he proceeds to express himself in this way:

As a productive area Vancouver surpasses Victoria as much as a country garden surpasses a town one. The number of children native children in Vancouver is legion. They are like a swarm of bees, or the blossoms on a crimson Rambler in summer, or a shoal of herring—anything that suggests a myriad can be properly used in describing human fertility in Vancouver. We do not all live in flats. The trade in penicillators in Vancouver is a rushing branch of business. The productivity of the soil and water of British Columbia is not more proverbial than the capacity for producing olive branches in Vancouver. It is said that an Englishman brought over some water-cress plants from England and put them in a creek near New Westminster. They have multiplied so rapidly that he can now walk over his creek. But, that record is matched in Vancouver where, as is well known, couples who have given up hopes of a family come here and raise one. We are in fact a close second to Quebec. Not for us the sterile streets of the cities of Ontario. We can look with derision at Hamilton, and with pity at Toronto. We wonder at Toronto, and try not to be Pharisaic as we do so.

He insists upon knowing how such a libel upon Vancouverites has been placed on the public records. Pursuing it with an almost personal interest, he declares that it is time this matter was looked into and quotes the pastor of one church as saying that in it 100 babies a year are christened. Can it be, Walter, that additions to the family are such frequent incidents in Vancouver that parents become indifferent and neglectful in the matter of registration? And why the neglect to demand a police census of babies under a year old?

PERSONAL TAXATION.

The New York Journal of Commerce illustrates the folly and injustice of the personal property tax by pointing out that the value of the personal property of New York "fully equals, if it does not exceed, that of real estate, while in this State its assessment for purposes of taxation is considerably less than one-tenth." It argues that "the great bulk of what is called personal property is owned and used in connection with the holding of real estate, and the taxable value of the latter is due to such use of personal property in connection with it. But for the capital employed, the business carried on, and the tangible property used and dealt with in connection with real estate, the latter would lose most of its value; and for the most part the beneficial interest in the two kinds of property attaches in fair proportions to the same persons. Taxes upon real estate do not rest as their sole burden upon the holders of the title, but are 'diffused' among those who make use of it either directly or indirectly, that is, among the owners of personal property. The owner of the land, if he has buildings upon it and uses capital in connection with it, is paying a tax upon the value which other property gives it. If he leases the property he passes the tax to the lessee in the rental, and every tenant of real estate is paying his share of the tax. If it is rented for productive purposes, whether in manufacturing or trade or the agencies of distribution, taxes and the rent which contributes to taxes enter into the cost of conducting business and into the charges and prices that it involves, and everybody pays taxes in proportion as he derives benefit from the use of the real estate."

The matter of taxation is one that calls for more study than the average man gives it. To assume that were personal property, or personal property and incomes, exempted from taxation, and only real estate, or land values, levied upon, the taxes would not be diffused, but would be concentrated and borne

entirely by the owners of real estate, would be a very rash conclusion. Naturally a change in that direction would go to relieve to some extent, those who are least able to bear the burden, and upon whom under present systems, the greater part of the burden falls. But the man to whom the collectors' bill is presented might be very far from "bearing" all, or even the greater part, of the burden. As our contemporary points out, "personal property, or the owners and users of personal property, in reality pay the taxes imposed upon real estate and collected from it, approximately in proportion as the use of it redounds to their benefit, whether they are themselves also the owners, or are tenants or merely the customers of owners or tenants. There is no escape from this contribution to the support of government and this interest in the economical administration of government, whether the people realize it or not, and it distributes the burden much more equitably than can be done by any scheme of personal taxation that can be devised. There are lines of special taxation that may be advisable, like that upon franchises, which are akin to real estate in taxable character, and upon the estates of decedents, but what is generally known as personal taxation can only be made equitable by being abolished."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Finance."—The oldest of our chartered banks is the Bank of Montreal, which began business in 1817. The Quebec Bank followed in 1818.

A Toronto baker was fined \$5 for selling bread containing "deleterious material." The unreasonable man thus described one lone cockroach, an addition for which no extra charge had been made!

Toronto kept down its tax rate this year by increasing its assessment, not including the recent annexation, by \$80,614,733, or more than one-third. That is a pretty heavy increase of the burden upon the people.

What I admire most about Sir James Pliny is his suggestive way of speaking right out in meeting, and he doesn't mince his words, either.—Spectator.

But the coarsest of bullies can win such admiration. It is but a poor virtue to admire the wronged from behind the shelter of parliamentary privilege.

But in all that rehash of its Buffalo electrical authority's letter, by which it tries to make it appear that the peak load offers no difficulty, the Herald does not once deal with this significant statement that the peak load "is one of the hardest propositions for the electrical engineer to take care of!"

The Mail and Empire which a short time ago was glorifying Whitney for putting an end forever to the granting of Provincial public lands as railway subsidies, is now praising him for offering the Canadian Northern 2,000,000 acres of our great clay belt! With the organ, it's Whitney, right or wrong.

The British suffragettes are not to have it all their own way. In the House of Commons on Saturday a petition was presented from 243,782 women praying the House to reject any measure enfranchising women. The Adult Suffrage Bill has also been shelved, and this is taken to mean that there will be no legislation this session dealing with the right of women to vote.

British political circles are enjoying more thrills. The terror of German invasion has been repainted and is again displayed for political party purposes. This time it is the navy that is said to be quite insufficient to keep pace with Germany's naval progress. The cry is for more millions to keep ahead of the Kaiser, and of course the British taxpayer will furnish them, and will immediately find that the satisfied demand breeds still further demands.

The Herald really does not consider sec. 6 of the power contract, which provides that if the city uses more power than it has ordered a verified 20-minute measurement (emergent or abnormal demands excepted) may be taken to be the same as an order for that amount of power for the six months as under clause 2, "is a very dangerous one for the city." Let the experts whom the city engaged to protect its interests go out and tickle themselves.

The Toronto Mail and Empire evidently feels the weakness of Whitney's position in that proposed huge land subsidy to the C. N. R. Its pettifogging contention that Mr. Mackay is "fighting the Ross railway policy as amended by the present Government," because he calls attention to Whitney's desertion of his boastfully announced policy of no more land subsidies to railways, is about the poorest effort at defense or excuse that could well be imagined.

The local power monopoly organ makes the guarded admission that the peak load does offer difficulty where there is a large "number of customers taking power at all times of the day and night and in varying quantities." Ah! So, if the city went into the selling of current and lighting it would tackle a problem? And if a number of municipalities take power from the Hydro-Electric Commission the problem will be presented to it, and the price of the power to all will be affected?

France wants to experiment with an income tax. Great Britain, Italy, Prussia, Holland, Austria, Switzerland and Denmark tax private incomes. In none of them is the tax levied on the income, but the taxes would not be diffused, but would be concentrated and borne

well borne. France aims at getting \$138,800,000 by the new income tax. In the United States the Wilson tariff bill of 1894 provided for income taxes, but the Supreme Court held the measure to be unconstitutional. Now it is said the Republicans want to try it again. The hunt for taxes becomes yearly keener.

Mr. Proudfoot, M. P., is about to call the Ontario Government's attention to the necessity for inquiry into insurance matters. There has been much demand for a Provincial inquiry into fraternal societies, their standing and their methods. It is a matter of great importance to the thousands of members who are paying their money into these societies. The Government owes it to them to give them the assurance that these concerns are founded on correct principles, and that they really do protect the members.

Brazil subsidizes wheat growing. Has any Canadian advocate of Government subsidizing ever thought of recommending subsidies to the farmers? The Brazilian decree provides that syndicates organized for growing wheat shall be paid \$4,500 a year for five years, provided not less than 200 hectares (494.2 acres) are planted and cultivated under the direction of a competent wheat-growing expert. When such syndicates establish experimental stations for the study of entomology, etc., they are to become entitled to a large additional subsidy.

The junior local Tory organ remarks that "in view of the ten million loan to the G. T. P. Liberal parties in Ontario will find it rather difficult to say as scathing things as they would like to say about the Whitney Government's proposed land-grant to the C. N. R." But there may be some who think that there is a difference between a loan, properly secured, and therefore costing the country nothing, and a free gift of 2,000,000 acres of the pick of the land of Northern Ontario—not to speak of the violation of Whitney's boasted "principle" involved!

The Hamilton Herald alleges that the Times has not once hinted that the power contract made with the Cataract Company contains a peak load provision, and referring to our remarks on that point on Friday says: "At last the Times admits, for the first time, that the Cataract contract does contain such a provision." It is hardly worth while pointing out that such a statement is as foolish as it is willfully false. Readers have not forgotten that we were constrained to rebuke the falsehood of our contemporary when it tried to make its readers believe that while the Hydro contract provided for monthly peak measurement the Cataract Company insisted on a yearly peak load system. He who tries to triumph by falsehood should have a good memory.

There has been an average increase of \$131 in the salaries of male public school teachers, and one of \$86 in female teachers' stipends! If the Whitney Government had accomplished nothing else in its five years in office the service thus rendered to the educational interests of the Province would entitle it to public gratitude.—Toronto News.

This servile adulator of Whitney evidently has very little respect for the intelligence of its readers. Whitney has had about as much to do with the improvement in teachers' salaries as with causing the Italian earthquake. The increase in salaries and wages has been a general one, in keeping with the increase in the cost of living. One reason why teachers' salaries have increased is the greater demand produced by the rapid settlement of the Northwest, which has drawn off a large number of the Ontario pedagogues. Many of them, too, have entered other and more remunerative walks of life.

A contemporary reports Mr. Geo. Lynch-Staunton as making comparison between the British system of inquiries conducted by authorized officials and in public, as in Canada, with the secret "sweat-box" methods sometimes resorted to in the United States, and quotes him as saying that "the American sweat-box system is one hundred times more humane, decent and just than this system of inquiry, because the sweat-box is conducted in private." We are loath to believe that the gentleman has been correctly reported. We hardly think that there is a single intelligent citizen, far less one intelligent lawyer, who would propose to give up free, open, public examination, by authorized sworn officials, to resort to the secret torture and terrorism of a cell or Police Court room, to which an accused or a suspect is oftentimes submitted, without the supervision of the authorities, or the protection of the public. That would be a return to seventeenth century methods.

OUR EXCHANGES

FIGHTERS.

(Galt Reporter.)
After all, Hamilton is noted for its fighting editors.

BRITAIN OR WASHINGTON.

(Toronto News.)

The new American tariff will provide maximum and minimum schedules. The minimum rates will average 20 per cent. lower than the maximum. It is intended that the minimum tariff shall not be available to countries which discriminate against the United States. For Canada the vital question is whether the Canadian preference in favor of British goods will be regarded at Washington as a discrimination against the Republic.

JOE MARTIN, IMPERIALIST.

(Toronto Globe.)

He repudiated the statements which he had read in the newspapers to the effect that if Canada did not get some tariff concession from the motherland,

or if she entered into closer trade relations with the United States, she would be forced to consider his resignation. Ever since he had been a student of public affairs was that there never was any annexation sentiment in this country except when hard times prevailed.

NO SPONGING FOR JOE.

(Joseph Martin.)
"To think that we in Canada should go to Great Britain to do something for us. Think of her poverty, her submerged tenth. Yet we in Canada, who know nothing of real poverty, would put a tax on the food of these poor people, who will get a meal before night or not. I am ashamed of such Canadians, who would put a tax upon the food of the poverty-stricken in England, in order that a few more dollars would drop into the pockets of the farmers of Canada."

EVERYBODY HAS A SKELETON.

(Brookville Times.)
There is not one man out of a hundred who would care to have his past life held up and dissected piecemeal in an open court with a little army of reporters hurriedly jotting down the examination and making it as readable as possible for the public. In the average human being's record there are plenty of episodes which are innocent enough in themselves but which he does not care to have displayed prominently before the eyes of the world. There are many things which he could not explain without causing suspicion to fall upon himself.

THEY DESERVE SYMPATHY.

(Kingston Whig.)
The Hamilton mystery deepens. There have been new clues, new inferences, new deductions, and an admission from twelve anonymous correspondents that they committed the crime. The family's peace of mind has been forever destroyed. The home has been ruthlessly invaded and ransacked to no purpose. The keys of the house were taken by representatives of the Crown and they tried into every nook and cranny of it. The daily gossip wound around the lacerated feelings of the bereaved ones, and worse than all else, suspicion settled down on the little group and added to their sorrows. Later evidence may relieve the situation and incidentally bring redress to the family. Meanwhile its members are deserving of the public sympathy.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE KINRADE CASE.

(Toronto Star.)
In view of a case at present before the public, one frequently hears the words "the press is not to be trusted." The particular case under consideration is one where a seemingly insoluble mystery baffles the keenest minds. There has not been in fiction nor in the stage anything to surpass it in human interest. It has been the talk of the continent. At Ottawa the members of Parliament have spent their spare time doing little else but speculating on this clueless tragedy. In Montreal the people have shown an lively interest as if the case had occurred at their doors. It is true that the Toronto dailies have devoted a great deal of space to the evidence, but what this is to be described as a grandiose or sensationalism depends entirely on one's point of view. Granting that the publication of it in ample and authentic form was enterprising.

One may say, and Mr. F. F. Bailey, the publisher of the *Star*, said that a newspaper makes a great spread in reporting a crime in order to make money on it through selling a greatly increased number of papers. But, as the London Advertiser says on this point, all the extra copies sold by a newspaper do not begin to recoup it for the extra outlay involved in its heavy telegraphic tolls. A sensation reported at full length does not mean a financial gain but a financial loss to a daily journal. If there be any gain about it, it is to that newspaper only which can permanently hold the readers' interest, owing to one of those passing excitements which the newspapers go to this expense, then? Because, notwithstanding what the critics say, and what the people think they think, the newspapers have overwhelming evidence, based on experience, that the people want such news and will not be denied it.

AT ST. MARY'S.

Men's Mission Closed With a Very Large Meeting.

A congregation composed entirely of men filled St. Mary's Cathedral to overflowing last night at the close of the mission conducted by the Redemptorist fathers. In the afternoon a service for the women was held, when Rev. Father Doyle preached an eloquent sermon. The mission has been a complete success, and His Lordship Bishop Dowling last night expressed his satisfaction at the way the project was attended to.

The sermon last night was preached by Rev. Father O'Reilly, one of the most gifted pulpits orators of the Redemptorist order. For an hour or more he held the congregation spellbound by his earnest and impressive appeal for them to persevere in the good resolutions formed; to fight temptation, realize their responsibilities, and live up to the spirit of their religion. He scored the formalists who come to church for mere mummery and with no thought of Christ in their hearts. "I would rather shake the hand of the bitterest enemy of the church, a man who was earnest in his convictions," he said, "because that man believes he is right and has decision of character, than I would that of a Catholic who is anything but what he professes to be."

Father O'Reilly said that many Catholics could look to those outside the church for an example of the earnestness of which he spoke. His text was, "Be faithful unto death and I will reward you with the eternal crown." The only way to gain this crown, he declared, was by living up to the good resolutions they formed during the mission.

FIRST ELDERS ORDAINED.

The first ordination of elders in the new St. Giles' Church was held yesterday, at the morning service, in the presence of a large congregation. The pastor, Rev. J. B. Paulin, was assisted by Rev. D. H. Fletcher, D. D., who offered the ordination prayer. Rev. Mr. Paulin also acted as officiating minister. The new St. Giles' Church was dedicated by A. G. Cameron, of Ottawa.

St. John's Protestant Church, Brockville, has called Rev. A. G. Cameron, of Ottawa.

TUESDAY,
MARCH 23, 1909

SHEA'S

May Manton Patterns All 10c

Wholesale Bankrupt Stock Sale

Still plenty left of our large purchases from the Burton-Spence & Co. stock. Good seasonal goods at little more than half their real value. Dress Skirts, Underskirts, Blouses, Prints, Muslins, Wrappers, Sateens, Dress Goods, Shirtings, Cottons, Sheetings, Gloves, Hosiery, Linen, Lace Curtains.

Dress Skirts—Hundreds at Cut Prices

Hundreds of the most stylish Dress Skirts that have ever been put on sale in Hamilton at such cut prices; all the good styles in all the good cloths; plenty of blacks.

\$3.50 Skirts at \$1.50	\$4.00 Skirts at \$2.50	\$5.00 Skirts for \$3.50
\$6.50 Skirts for \$4.50	\$7.00 Skirts for \$4.95	\$10.00 and \$12.00 Skirts for \$7.50

Underskirts at 98c—A Sale at a Cut Price

Sateens, Moreens, etc., in blacks, browns, navies, greens, etc., made in all the very newest styles, pleated and ruffled, good generous width; worth from \$1.50 to \$1.95; a sweeping sale at each

98c

Dress Goods Sale

Striped, fancy and plain weaves and a great variety of colors and shades; goods that sell regularly for 75c, 85c and \$1, all go on sale at one sweep-out price, per yard

50c

Dress Serges

Black, navy and colors, pure wool, 40 inch serge that would be good 40c and 50c value, on sale to clear at per yard

29c

Lace Curtains on Sale

Splendidly heavy Scotch Lace Curtains, imported especially for the Spring trade, splendid patterns and designs at these cut prices:

3 1/2 yard Lace Curtains, worth \$1.50, on sale	\$1.00
for, per yard	
2 1/2 yards Lace Curtains, good full width, full 75c value, on sale, per yard	50c
2 1/2 yards Lace Curtains, extra 50c values on sale for, per yard	39c

Women's Lawn Waists at \$1.25

Made of fine white lawn, all-over embroidered fronts, finished with lace insertions, newest style sleeves. You have paid \$1.75 for no better; our price, each

\$1.25

New English Prints 12 1/2c

Another shipment of the celebrated "Hard to Beat" Prints, the best that comes into Canada at the price, you paid 15c for this last year; our price, per yard

12 1/2c

IMPRESSIONS OF BERMUDA.

Interesting Letter From One Who Has Just Been There.

To the Editor of the Times.—What a strange and intense feeling of satisfaction it gives one to be transported from the ice and snow of our northern clime to a sunny land like Bermuda, where frosts and snow are unknown, but where green and luxuriant vegetation the year around.

It must be admitted that a sea tempestuous enough to make a man think twice, unless he be a good sailor, before he goes down to the dinner table, lies between our own coast and this little El Dorado of the Atlantic, but the thrill of pleasure that comes to one from the north to be able to discard his great coat at this time of the year, to feel the air he breathes warm and balmy and laden with the aroma of a thousand growing plants and flowers, by which he is surrounded, stirs the life blood within, and makes him feel that life is really worth living.

It was my good fortune some three weeks ago to drop upon this little sea garden and enjoy this charming experience to the limit. There is not much difference between the names, Hamilton, Canada, and Bermuda, but the difference in geographical location causes an immense difference in the conditions of life. Think for instance of a public park as there is here, dotted with evergreen cedars, oleaners, rubber trees, palm trees of various kinds, palmettos, century plants, flowers in profusion, summer sports in full swing, and of sunshine so bright and warm that people gather on the grass to enjoy it. And to this the fact that Bermudian scenery is panoramic everywhere, that the winding roads over coral rock, smoothed and rounded to perfection, afford the most beautiful and highest type of drive known, lined as they are throughout the greater part of their length by the ever present cedar, whose branches for long distances meet overhead, thus creating a bowler like archway through which it is a rapturous experience to drive.

No wonder many Canadians, as well as people from the great republic south of us are lured to this pleasant spot to spend the winter months. Amongst those from Hamilton we had the pleasure of meeting were Miss Maude Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. William Atkinson, Mr. William Malcolm and Mr. F. F. Bailey, the two last named gentlemen were apparently much enjoying their daily sun bath at Seaward Villa.

Although the number of islands constituting the Bermudian group is something over 300, yet the total area is only about 20 square miles, and is composed wholly of coral rock, built upon the top of a submarine mountain, in an ocean said to be, in this locality, over five miles in depth.

The contour of the islands is very irregular, the general trend being from northeast to southwest, the shore line is indented by numerous deep bays and harbors. To the north and south of the islands for 19 to 21 miles are numerous reefs, rendering navigation near shore extremely hazardous. The port easiest of access is St. George's, at the east end of the islands, but a channel has been staked through the reefs to Hamilton, the principal town and seat of government, 12 miles south of St. George's, through which vessels of moderate draft can enter.

The population of the islands is estimated at 20,000, of which about 15,000 are colored, but a more peaceful, law-abiding, contented and happy lot of people it would be difficult to find. Some of them in the towns hold high and responsible positions, and in the country districts they live in very comfortable stone cottages, supporting themselves and families on small stretches of arable land by the cultivation of the famous Easter lily, for which Bermuda is celebrated, potatoes, cabbages, turnips, carrots, cabbage, peas, beans and other vegetables. As the soil is very rich and productive, two and three crops are generally harvested from the same land every year. Bananas grow in almost every garden, and semi-tropical fruits in their season are abundant. The reason Bermuda has sometimes been called the lazy man's paradise. Imported goods are, however, dear and life in the small hotels and boarding houses is made as expensive as the most high-price loving strangers wish to pay. American tourists have filled up the place, so that room and board are at a premium, the wealthy ones apparently value souvenir goods according to the prices they have to pay, therefore Bermudian dealers try to accommodate them by raising the price of some goods to three or four times their intrinsic worth, and the general public have to suffer as victims of the avarice thus induced.

Bermuda is a naval station of much

consequence to the British Government and War Department. Extensive fortifications, military docks and stores are established on Ireland Island, one of the group, and in addition to the garrison a regiment of British regiments are always stationed here, the one now occupying the position being the 2nd Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, 1,000 strong.

The presence of the military helps to make things lively for Bermudians, the band of this regiment, composed of 40 instruments, giving complimentary concerts in the park every Friday afternoon, to some of which it has been our good fortune to listen.

This little land, as we have intimated, abounds in lovely views, but one that we took in at Gibb's Hill amply repaid the climb we had to obtain it. The hill is situated ten miles from the town of Hamilton. On the summit, which is 212 feet above sea level, is erected Gibb's Hill Lighthouse, built of boiler iron a half inch thick. This rises in circular form 150 feet higher, making 362 feet to where the light is seen revolving at night; visible at sea in clear weather a distance of 40 miles. The construction of this 100,000 candle power light is a marvel in of its kind, having five diameters of brass arranged in the form of a quipu pyramid or cone, each frame holding one central dioptric lens ten inches in diameter, surrounded by 100 segmentary prisms, or 500 in all. One of these disc faces comes into position every eight seconds. The frame work, with its lenses and prisms, weighing two tons, is revolved by clockwork, and floats on a bed of mercury, which of itself weighs 1,200 pounds. The illumination is formed by the combustion of highest grade kerosene oil, 300 test, in a brass lamp running five concentric wicks, the oil being forced up to the lamp by the weight of two cylindrical tanks in which it is contained, seven to eight gallons of oil being consumed every night. With such a signal as this vessels in the darkness are warned against the too near approach to the dangerous coral reefs that skirt the shores of these islands.

From the top of the lighthouse on Gibb's Hill is obtained probably the finest bird's eye view to be found anywhere in Bermuda, the group of islands stretching out like a topographical map away to the northeast, with the towns, villages and country residences made prominent by their characteristic whiteness, but seen in miniature in the distance, while surrounding it all lies the broad Atlantic bounded only by the horizon.

Two newspapers are published semi-weekly in Hamilton, neither of which exceed one and a half sheets in size. If news items are scarce one side of the half sheet is sent out blank, and sometimes there is no half sheet at all. The price is kept well up to the limit by the enterprising proprietors, each copy of the *Colonist* selling for two pence, 4 cents, and a copy of the *Royal Gazette*, the Government organ, for three pence, 6 cents, thus it will be seen that revenue cut off by limited circulation can be made up in another way.

Owing to narrowness of many of the rocky passes, automobiles are barred from these shores, and the foot of the iron horse is never heard echoing among these romantic hills, consequently no accidents ever overtake the inhabitants. The roads are well kept, and the civilization, and they seem happy in the thought that their cabbies can show strangers all the sights at the rate of \$1 per hour, or a compromise may be made at \$6 to \$8 per day.

Bermuda is prolific in places of interest and natural curiosity, a notable feature of this kind being the coral gardens, a few miles out from the north-east. In calm weather only a small steamer goes out to the locality, about ten miles from Hamilton harbor, then the visitor steps in a rowboat that has a glass bottom, through which he can view at leisure the wonderful works of nature going on below the surface of the sea. The water is so transparently clear that coral formations, sea fans, shell-fish of various kinds, fish of beautiful tints of color, and many of the strange varieties of oceanic life can be distinctly seen at a depth of twenty to forty feet. We here wish to acknowledge the kindness of Mr. J. H. Wallington, formerly of Toronto, but now of the firm of Pearson, Wallington & Co., of the Island Steamship Company, who courteously placed the freedom of the steamer *Coma* at our service for one of these most desirable trips, and we must say our anticipations were more than realized by what we saw and enjoyed upon this occasion; an azure sky, the bright warm sunshine, a calm sea, the gleaming opalescent hues of the surrounding waters, and last but not least the reality of looking through the crystal being fluid at what may be termed the bed of the ocean, brought near enough to see not only the rocks themselves, but clear cut shadows of the same, colors of almost every imaginable variety, sea fans waving their beautiful plumes in the ocean currents, sponges and multitudes of strange forms of ocean life, fishes also of rainbow colors were seen darting in and out of sheltering ledges in the rocks; prominent among these of the finny tribe is the angel fish, peculiar



Old Style New Kryptok
Kryptoks are double vision glasses with all the old bifocal objections overcome. No dividing lines. No clouding up of the reading portion or raised edges to become corroded. No cement used in making. They save your sight. They save your money.

GLOBE OPTICAL CO.
111 King Street East.
L. H. ROUSE, Proprietor.

to these waters, a representation of which Bermudians have adopted as emblematic of their island home. The caves and caverns in the vicinity of Bailey's Bay are justly classed among the sights. A number of these caves have been fitted up and are open to the inspection of visitors at 30 cents per head. What is called Crystal Cave appears to have the lead. Although Joyce's Dock Caves are well worth a visit. The interior of each of these subterranean chambers is lighted by means of acetylene gas. From the sloping roof is suspended thousands of large and small stalactites of immaculate whiteness, with corresponding stalagmites rising in many places from the uneven floor. By some means at present unknown, the sea has found access and formed a large and deep pool of water in each of these caverns, so clear that the rock bottom is quite discernible from twenty to thirty feet beneath the surface. Bridges with guard rails have been built over these subterranean lakes, the only in Christal Cave a narrow bridge stretching over the water, a distance of 250 feet. As the visitor stands at the remote end of these plank walks or bridges noting the effect produced by many lights upon the glittering surfaces of these semi-transparent crystalline formations cast about him in such endless profusion and variety, the scene becomes one of enchantment. He is led to view this as a veritable fairyland, that perhaps he has dreamed of but never before seen, and, if a thoughtful man, as he realizes that these objects at which he is looking have taken countless ages to produce, he will doubtless be ready to acknowledge "great and manifold are Thy works, O God, in wisdom hast Thou made them all."

The Brunswick House, Hamilton, Bermuda, March 6, 1909.

GIRL DYING.

Brother Pulls Trigger and Bullet Strikes Sister.

Tillsonburg, March 22.—Twelve-year-old Bessie Ryan is lying at the house of her father, William Ryan, near Courtland, dying from a bullet wound inflicted by her younger brother on Friday.

The children had been out playing and had come into the house for the evening meal.

On the kitchen table a big gun had been left.

Ray did not know the gun was loaded. Just for fun he pulled the trigger, and his sister fell to the floor with a gaping wound in her left side, from which the blood poured freely.

Physicians were immediately called from Tillsonburg and everything was done for the unfortunate girl. The bullet was recovered.

At a late hour to-night slight hopes were entertained for her recovery.

INTERESTING MEN'S MEETING.

Rev. P. W. Philpott was the speaker at the men's meeting at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon. There was a large attendance and all were deeply interested in the earnest words of the speaker, as he emphasized the superiority of God's love over the love of a mother. The speaker illustrated his address largely from his own experiences, and closed the meeting with an appeal to men to surrender themselves to the love of God. Rev. E. J. Etherington will be the speaker next Sunday. The meeting will be under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

CASTRO'S TRAVELS.

Dresden, March 22.—(Gipriano Castro, the former President of Venezuela, left here to-day for Cologne, where he will spend the night. To-morrow he will go to Paris, and after a short stay there he will proceed for Bordeaux, where he will embark on March 26 on the steamer *Guadeloupe* for some Caribbean port.

RAILWAY MERGER.

St. Louis, March 23.—Hearings began this morning in the Federal Court here before a Federal examiner in the Government's suit to declare the merger of the Union and Southern Pacific lines by E. H. Harriman a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.