

## The Toronto World.

NO. 3 YONGE-STREET, TORONTO.  
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Daily (Sunday included) by the year, \$3 00  
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The Press and the Agitation.

The most extraordinary feature of this

Sunday agitation in Toronto is the attitude

of the press.

The right to run cars on Sunday is the

specific object that is sought to be gained by

those who are fighting for the innovation.

But beyond this particular object the agitation

involves a great universal principle, the

maintenance of which is at ten times

more important than the right to run the

cars. That principle is the principle of

personal liberty, the principle of liberty of

conscience, the principle which forms the

foundation-stone of all social and political

liberty, and which asserts that all men have

freedom to seek recreation and benefit in

ways that do not obstruct the equal

freedom of others.

That is the principle that is at stake in

this issue.

The opponents who object to Sunday cars,

work excepted, do so not because of

labor, or of noise, or of the fortune that

the railway company will make out of the deal.

None of these are the real reasons of their

opposition.

They imagine they have a divine

commission to look after the life and morals of

their fellow-men. They refuse to recognize this

doctrine of personal liberty.

The World is fighting for Sunday cars.

But Sunday cars is an insignificant matter

compared with the principles that underlie

the movement.

The press of this city is a disgrace to the

age and the country in which we live. The

press is supposed to be, par excellence, the

guardian of the people's liberties, but here in

Toronto the press is permitting a great un-

derly principle to be violated without even

raising its voice.

The Globe denies to the half of the people

of this city who want Sunday cars the right

to have them because of a possibility that a

few men may have to work seven days a

week because of noise or so on. The pro-

tection of labor is a sacred cause, but the

protection of the principle of personal liberty

is much more sacred. The Globe has taken a

narrow view of the issue. It has failed to

grasp the magnitude of the situation. A

speck of dirt has got in the organ's eye. Its

vision is deranged. The Globe sees a few

sects near by, but fails to observe the great

and noble animals further afield.

Again, we repeat, the backbone of our

opposition is a desire to interfere with the

people's personal liberty. Remove from the

opposition that widespread sentiment that

one man has a right to control the actions of

another and you remove the whole opposi-

tion.

This question of labor is merely dust raised

to obscure the real issue. Those who

want Sunday cars do not force

any man to work seven days a

week or to work on Sunday. We leave

labor free to do what it likes. Labor has

been able to take care of itself in the new

paper business, where work goes on every

day in the year, and it is able to take care

of itself in the running of cars seven days in

the week.

The Mail is another paper that is dumb

on an occasion when its voice should be

heard. Roaring above the babel

of bigotry and superstition, the Mail

makes merry over the movement in a few

lines and then lays it on the shelf. The

Mail, like the Globe, fails to size up this

controversy aright. Compared with the

issue now being fought out in Toronto the

Bearing Sea affair occupies quite a secondary

place as far as the people of this city and

the province are concerned. The Mail has

nothing to say in this great issue.

## MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.—NO. 1.

[BY J. ENOCH THOMPSON.]

There never was a time in the municipal

history of Toronto when economy in every

department was so absolutely necessary, or

when the Mayor and aldermen have proce-

ded and promised economy with such unusual

unanimity. They recognized that times

were hard and that successful establish-

ments were reducing salaries and doing

with fewer hands. Let us see how the

council have kept their ante-election pledges.

In every department the expenditure has

gone up by leaps and bounds and 1893

proves no exception to the rule. Aldermen

will tell you that they are fully in

sympathy with your demands for economy;

but they are powerless to carry out their

election promises. The city government is

in the hands of the officials, it runs by them

and in their interests, and the citizens under

the present municipal system are as over-

seen as to rid themselves of this horde of

officials as the Egyptians of old were to

deliver themselves from one plague of

locusts. In round numbers the sum received

from taxes amounts to \$24,000,000. Of this

one million goes for salaries, another million

is required for the city debt. This is the

reason why the city cannot go on with many

necessary public improvements, and work is

refused the laborer to support this plague

of official locusts on the city pay scale.

The Fire Brigade is one of the most pam-

pered of the civic branches. Year after year

their claims are before the council, and with

a voting power of 135 and electrifying

powers of five hundred they generally get

their demands, whether it be for increased

wages, superannuation funds, new fire bells,

or whatever they fancy. Their wages for

1893 have been increased by \$150.

The police is another much-favored branch

of the service. Hard times do not affect

them. They also receive this year an in-

crease of \$1077 in salaries.

The collector's department has kept up with

the procession, and receives this year \$1060

additional pay.

The assessment department not to be

left out, receives \$900 increase. It will spend

\$150,000 to ascertain that the houses and lots

are the same size as when measured before.

Annual assessments have been discarded in

the most progressive cities of the States and

there is no adequate reason for retaining it

here. Two commissioners could do the work

of the 30 or 35 men employed and save the

city \$10,000 per annum. If changes are

necessary they could be made every five

years by a percentage increase over the whole

city.

That very efficient branch of the public

service, the water works, shows an increase

of \$2000 in salaries, notwithstanding the

dismissal of the superintendent. His salary

appears to have been more than swamped

with those having a bigger pull. The net

revenue of this department is about \$400,000,

but to achieve this result the city is charged

\$85,000 for water, for fire, and for watering.

If the maximum rate of taxation were

fixed at 15 mills as it should be, water might

be included in the general taxes, and the

\$200,000 paid for maintaining a separate

department for collecting rates saved.

The Committee on Works shows an in-

crease of \$15,000 in salaries. It is not very

clear to what this refers, but it has doubtless

some connection with the sink-hole known

as the Engineer's Department.

These are a few items picked from the es-

timates, but a careful search has failed to

cover any civic official who receives less

salary than last year. Toronto is going

through hard times, which are most inter-

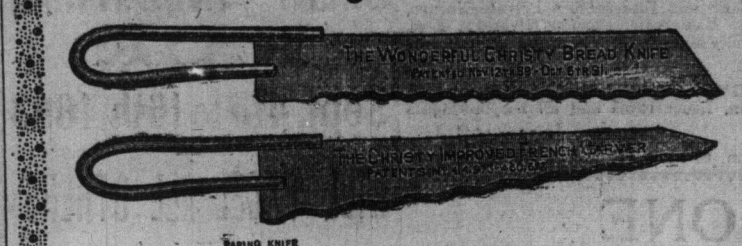
esting to the citizen, but the city is not

abolishing unnecessary officials or the

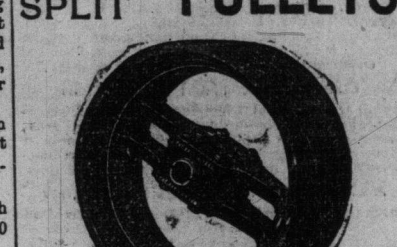
highly paid and unnecessary officials in

the civic pay list. Municipal government in

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