

# The Planet

B. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

## VOTING MACHINE A SUCCESS.

The voting machine, which has been legalized by the New York State legislature, weighs five hundred pounds, is about four feet square and ten inches deep, and is lifted from the floor by iron supports so that the top is a little more than six feet from the floor. From the upper corners a semi-circular bar projects, on which is hung a curtain, forming a voting booth. Attached to the curtain is an operating lever extending from the top of the machine to the curtain rod and operated from within.

Before a vote is cast the lever is thrown to the left, exposing the face of the machine, on which is a complete Australian ballot. At the head of each ticket is a party emblem and, as short lever, and before each name, when, on an ordinary ballot, the cross, mark for a candidate would be placed, is a small pointer, which may be moved over the candidate's name to indicate the voter's choice of a particular one.

The voter must first pull down a small lever at the head of a party column either before he goes on making a split or before he can open the booth by turning back the big lever. After pulling this party-ticket lever he may then arrange the pointers in front of the names of particular candidates as he pleases. If the party candidate does not please him, the indicator before his name is moved back into its original place and that in front of the chosen name is pulled out. Only one indicator may be thus moved out in one line except by special arrangement. It is impossible for more than the authorized number of votes to be cast, and entering the machine makes it necessary that some sort of vote be cast.

In actual use the usual time required by a voter to cast his ballot on the machine is about seven seconds. This means that nearly all ballots are straight. The voter who "splits" his ballot will ordinarily come away from the booth in twenty seconds. The New York State Commission on Voting Machines, which examined this one in January, 1898, said in regard to its speed: "The machine is, in their opinion, adapted to register, under reasonable conditions, the votes of 600 voters within the hours allowed by law for holding an election."

The promoters say that the adoption of the machine will result in the saving of election expenses, ballot clerks and printing, so that the cost of the machine, \$500, will be saved in three years. The machines are durable, and it is claimed, will last indefinitely.

## COMING BY-ELECTIONS.

Seven by-elections are to be held on the 25th inst., to fill vacancies at Ottawa of long standing.

The following constituencies are affected:

Winnipeg—Rendered vacant a year ago by the death of Mr. Jamieson (Liberal), who was elected in 1896 by a majority of 1,117—city unrepresented all last session owing to the opposition of the old Liberals to the new Liberal program.

West Ontario—vacant owing to the lamented death of Sir James Edgar, who had been elected by a majority of 739—constituency unrepresented for seven months.

Berthier—vacant owing to the appointment of Mr. Beausoleil to postmaster of Montreal (4,000)—Mr. Beausoleil was elected by acclamation at last election.

Lebanon—vacant by the appointment of Mr. Rinfret (Lib.) to a customs inspectorship (\$3,000)—Mr. Rinfret carried the constituency in 1896 by 406.

Sherbrooke—vacant owing to the death of Hon. W. B. Ives (Cons.)—Mr. Ives majority in 1896 was 257.

Labelle—vacant through resignation of Mr. Bourassa (Lib.) as a protest against action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in sending the first contingent after having said that the law would not allow it—Mr. Bourassa's majority was 469; he is in the field again.

Chambly and Vercheres—vacant through the death of Hon. C. A. Geoffrion, a member of the Laurier government—Mr. Geoffrion's majority was 394.

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## HOW JOE MARTIN BEAT SEMLIN.

Joe Martin is and always was a fighter. Mr. Semlin turned him out of the British Columbia ministry. Joe threatened he would defeat Semlin out of revenge. When the house met at Victoria, three members were absent, being unable to get across from the mainland. One was Joe and the other two were Semlin's supporters. When they say this, the ministerialists breathed easier, for the parties exactly balanced, while the speaker's vote made the position apparently safe. It was the intention of the government to adjourn until Monday, when the remainder of its supporters would arrive. The opposition resolved to improve the opportunity, and while the Premier was speaking to a motion of referring a company of mounted troops to the government for South Africa, Mr. Martin entered the chamber. The steamer Joan had gone over specially for him to the mainland and brought him to Nanaimo, where a special railway train was waiting to convey him to Victoria. Accordingly, when the Premier moved the adjournment of the debate the Opposition had a majority, and the motion was lost by 17 to 18, thus defeating the government.

## PARLIAMENT SHOULD INVESTIGATE THIS CARTWRIGHT POSTAL SCANDAL.

The Post Office Department might well carry free the letters to the boys at the front.—Toronto Mail.

It certainly might do so much better than carry pamphlets gratis containing one of Sir Richard Cartwright's speeches all over the country. The free use of the mails for this purpose was one of the most scandalous abuses of power we have ever heard of. Why should Canada provide free postage for Dick's speeches any more than for Tom's or Harry's, or for anybody else's? Every elector around here received a copy franked by "R. J. C." The postage on these ought to have been a cent apiece. Any of the rest of us would have had to pay that amount, or perhaps two cents. But does Cartwright? Not much! The Canadian postal service is being operated at a loss every year. The people are going down into their pockets for hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep it up, yet Sir Richard Cartwright is allowed to use that service free and utilize the time of thousands of postal clerks to distribute an apologetic address explaining why he had swallowed himself, principles and all. There are in Canada about 1,300,000 electors. At one cent apiece the postage on Cartwright's pamphlets to these should have amounted to \$13,000. Yet not a cent was paid. On a letter to a brave boy at the front, fighting for the empire, the Government insists on collecting its little two-cent tax, but never a word it says about billing Sir Richard for that \$13,000.

We feel to-day as if we could lick the Boers ourselves.—Windsor Record.

That is nothing for a newspaper that has already done up the World.

Ross & Co.'s school book monopolists having now completed their semi-annual haul out of the parents of Ontario, the time is opportune to bring on some more by-elections.

The war in South Africa is costly to the newspapers. The special despatches sent to the British metropolitan press cost, for cabling alone, something like \$925 a column. Sometimes, when a war correspondent has a "scoop," he sends it at "urgency" rates—12 shillings (or \$3) a word! It will be seen that those Toronto papers which purport to give columns of special cables must have wealth to throw away.

There were 107 lynchings in the United States last year. The chief cause is not far to seek; it is the unsatisfactory character of the administration of justice in many of the states. If justice were certain to be meted out to murderers over the border, as is the case in Canada, there would be few, if any, lynchings.—London Advertiser.

Just look at Hardy, Ross & Co.'s failure to prosecute the perjurers, crooks and thieves, who comprised the machine gang, in the same light and tell us if Ontario is any better in reality than the worst states in the Union.

The probabilities are that the Humbler swinefarm will this year yield a profit of about \$1,000, besides furnishing a market for the refuse from a large number of public institutions. Now, what will Mr. Whitney and his followers say?—Ridgeway Standard.

All anyone can say is, that this is due to the exposure of the awful condition the Government swinefarm was in a couple of years ago. It then only yielded cholera-diseased pork and deficits, and would be doing the same still only for the opposition.

David Hurley, a Paris, Ont., boy, 19 years old, died from the effects of cigarette smoking. His father said the boy smoked \$5 worth of cigarettes a week. He had shrivelled up until he looked like an old man. His lungs were in bad shape and his blood very thin. The physician opened the boy's arm and found that the main artery did not contain a drop of blood. It had all dried up. The boy's father requested that the case be made public, so that it would serve as a warning to other boys.



## How to be Healthy In Winter.

Winter is a trying time for most people—especially so for delicate ones. Colds, la grippe and pneumonia find them easy victims.

Do you catch cold easily? It shows that your system is not in a condition to resist disease. You will be fortunate if you escape pneumonia.

Nature is always fighting against disease. The right kind of medicine is the kind that helps Nature by toning up the system and enabling it to resist disease. Such a tonic is only found in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. By building up the blood and strengthening the nerves these pills reach the root of disease, restore health, and make people bright, active and strong.

Mrs. R. Doxsee, Gravenhurst, Ont., writes:—"I believe that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life. When I began their use I was so weak that I was scarcely able to be out of my bed, and showed every symptom of going into a decline. I was pale, emaciated, suffered from headaches and nerve exhaustion. I used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for a couple of months, and they have completely restored me."

Sold by all dealers or post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville.

## TRAGIC DEATHS.

Five People Lose Their Lives in Alaska.

One Man Had \$8,000 in his Belt—D. R. Richter, of San Francisco, was Frozen in His Cabin.

## 'BACCY FOR TOMMY.

Punch.

When you've smoked your choice Havana, your Burmah, or your Bock.

When you've done with knocking ashes out your briar.

Will you fill a box with 'baccy' if you've got a laid-in-stock?

For a smoker who will smoke it under fire?

He's a casual kind of smoker and will smoke "most any brand."

That we or Paul may chance to be inclined to.

As he started in a hurry when he left his native land.

He's afraid he left his 'baccy pipe behind, too.

Clay pipe, briar pipe, pipe with a coloring bowl.

Though you send ten thousand pipes, you won't have sent enough.

Unless you send some "Navy cut" or even some "Irish roll."

To fill the pipes for Tommy's smoke, and he'll puff, puff, puff!

## ALL SORTS.

The Minneapolis mills grind enough wheat to keep 15,000,000 people constantly supplied with bread.

The University of Pennsylvania has many students from South America and has issued a catalogue in Spanish.

There are different degrees of success in life, but no man can achieve any of them, high or low—he may be sure of that—without labor.

The sooner a man discovers that for whatever success he attains he must rely, not upon luck nor upon the help of others, but upon his own labor solely, the better off he will be.

Siamen women entrust their children to the care of elephants, who are careful never to hurt the little creatures, and if danger threatens the sagacious animal will curl the child up gently in his trunk and swing it up out of harm's way upon its own broad back.

Dr. August Rovogoli, the Italian consul at Cincinnati, has been knighted by his sovereign, King Humbert, in recognition of his eminent services in his profession of medicine.

Dr. Rovogoli was graduated in Rome and subsequently received another diploma from the Royal College of Medicine of Vienna.

It is not generally known that the remains of all the Czars of Russia since Peter the Great lie in a memorial chapel built on one of the islands of the Neva. All the cenotaphs are exactly alike, each being a block of white marble without any decoration whatever. The only distinction by which one is marked in the name of the deceased Emperor.

Buddhist priests are very slack now, even playing football sometimes. Siamese football is played with a wicker ball and the players are not allowed to touch it with their hands, being, however, allowed to use their heads, shoulders and knees. The object is not to let the ball touch the ground, and some of them are very skillful at it.

Some men spend their lives sitting on the bank waiting for a tow, while others get out into their boats and pull for themselves. And it may be here remarked that every man has a chance in this race, and no man need fear to enter; for the race is not necessary to the man who feathers his oars the least; the bungler may win by keeping at it.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia.

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Hats, Former Price \$2.50—Slaughter Price.....	\$1.25
Hats, Former Price \$1.50—Slaughter Price.....	.75
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Hats, Former Price 50c—Slaughter Price.....	.25

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