

# The Toronto World

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## THE LICENSE REDUCTION BYLAW.

Three years ago the citizens of Toronto by a large majority pronounced against a proposal to reduce the number of liquor licenses. It was not a snap verdict, but the deliberately expressed will of the people.

Last year a city council, elected while the attention of the people was directed to other issues, undertook to override the popular decision, their only excuse being that a majority of members favorable to license reduction had happened to be elected without intention on the part of the people. The effect of the intervention of this question without a mandate from the people was to, in a very great measure, destroy the usefulness of the council and prevent the transaction of nearly all practical public business.

The World suspected, and still believes, that the dragging in of this question was a part of the campaign of the corporate interests that are striving to obtain and retain control of the great public utilities, particularly of electric light and energy. That the movement was generated by an employee of Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann—if he really is an ex-employee—strengthens the suspicion and confirms this belief.

Now, by the action of the city council, the question of license reduction is again before the citizens; this time openly and frankly, not as a part of a secret, underground campaign. This is as it should be. The question is one for the citizens to decide upon its merits. They can afford to decide upon it without regard to the qualifications of candidates for civic offices. With the exception, we think, of Messrs. Spence and Keeler, all the candidates so far have pledged themselves to abide by the popular verdict. It therefore becomes the duty of the people to decide whether or not they should vote for the bylaw reducing the number of liquor licenses which the commissioners may grant in our city.

Three years ago the people voted no. What has occurred since then which ought to cause them to change the opinion they then expressed?

Does the city need less hotel accommodation now than it did then?

Is it claimed that the liquor traffic is less efficiently regulated and controlled now than three years ago?

Has there been an increase in the number of interferences as compared with three years since, due to the number of licensed houses?

Surely these questions must all be answered in the affirmative before a case for license reduction can be made out, and, besides, it devolves upon the advocates of license reduction to make it clear:

First—That the proposed reduction will involve no injustice to the men who were formerly by the commissioners (acting within the law and in conformity with the expressed desire of the people as to the number of licenses) to expend money in improving their premises.

Second—The advocates of license reduction must be prepared to show that the one hundred and fifty licenses which the people decided were not too many for the Toronto of 1905, will be too many for the Toronto of 1909, with its greatly increased population and territory.

Third—The supporters of license reduction must be prepared to show that it is in the interest of public policy to still further increase the monopoly of the sale of liquor in our city.

Fourth—They must be prepared to show, not by excited statements and fervid oratory, but by tangible evidence, that the cause of true temperance and sobriety will be advanced by concentrating and congesting the bar-room trade of the city.

Fifth—They are bound to show from the official returns of the police court that previous reductions of the number of licenses resulted in diminishing drunkenness.

Sixth—They are fairly called upon to produce statistical evidence that will prove that inebriety and excessive drinking is greater when and where the number of licenses are many, and that sobriety and temperance has followed the lessening of the number of licenses when the experiment has been tried.

The burden of proof lies with the advocates of license reduction. It is not sufficient that ardent advocates of temperance shall hope or believe, or confidently expect, that good results would follow. It is proposed to drastically interfere with businesses in which

men have invested their means, and to absolutely destroy, without compensation, many thousands of dollars' worth of property. Surely the men who propose this must be prepared to prove that some great public good will result.

**PROHIBIT THE TRADING.**  
With the foot and mouth disease infecting the cattle of several of the states of the United States, it behooves the department of agriculture at Ottawa to leave no regulation unenforced that will tend not only to prevent contagion reaching Canada, but also to forestall any possible attempt on the part of our neighbors to the south to blame Canada for the outbreak. Some small trading in cattle and sheep is done with Buffalo. This should be prohibited in spite of the fact that Buffalo has raised its quarantine. Cars carrying Canadian cattle and sheep into the Buffalo yards may become infected and carry back the contagion to our own herds. It were better to forego any immediate pecuniary profit arising from this trade than to subject ourselves to even the semblance of a suspicion that our herds have been contaminated by possible proximity to cars that have been side-tracked in the Buffalo yards. Eternal and severe vigilance is the price of safety and the Dominion Government will do well to prohibit cattle trading with Buffalo until all chance of contagion is past.

**YOU CAN'T FOOL SIR JAMES.**  
Public opinion naturally regards the attorney-general as the protector of public rights in the administrative as well as the legislative execution of public policy. The crown by the reservation of its prerogative in preventing legal action being taken against it without its consent by fiat issued, clearly recognizes its own responsibility to the people who trust it in the causes in which they are interested.

In the application for a fiat to make the Hydro-Electric Power Commission a joint defendant in the action brought to set aside the cheap power contract an instance occurs in which the double function of the attorney-general is evident. It is not denied by the applicants for a fiat that the intention of the legislature was contrary to their aims. There has been no change in that intention. There has been no popular feeling shown in any direction but that of carrying out that purpose. That the crown should lend itself to obstruct and delay its own purpose and thwart the popular will is not to be imagined as the object for which the fiat right was reserved.

Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, K.C., in arguing for the application, disclaimed any desire to go into the merits of the case, relying on the legal rights of his clients. Had there been any merits in the case doubtless Mr. Johnston would have made the most of them, but the very fact that a fiat is required indicates that legal technicalities in themselves do not constitute obstacles to the due execution of public policy. Were legal technicalities alone to rule in such circumstances the courts would have been empowered, to act directly.

The people of Ontario who have so often and so clearly expressed their wishes about cheap Niagara power look confidently to the attorney-general in both his capacities to defend and further their interests. The intention of the people and the government has been clear. If the legislation already passed does not conform wholly to the intention, that can easily be remedied. It would not be assisted by dragging the case into court.

Sir James P. Whitney, who is acting attorney-general in the absence of Hon. J. J. Foy, is not the man to be hoodwinked by legal finesse or diverted from his frequently expressed policy by the plea that 20 people are being oppressed by two millions and the attorney-general is in his semi-judicial functions guided as much by public policy as by legal argument.

**THE DUPLEX STAR.**  
The Toronto Star, without prejudging the merits of the case, it appears extremely likely that Walter D. Beardmore will next Tuesday secure a fiat from Acting-Attorney-General Whitney permitting the addition of the Hydro-Electric Commission as a defendant in his suit against the commission for power.

The above extract is the introduction to a big-headed, featured news article in last Saturday's Star. It is written in the well-known "double-sided" or duplex style.

Now what ground has The Star for that surmise, that "it appears extremely likely"? And wasn't it prejudging the case when it said it?

Does it wish to see the fiat granted? The electric interests are anxious to have the fiat issued. If The Star also is let it say so; if not let it say so. Is it with the people and public power or is it with the electric ring and dear power?

Is the editor of The Star a Mind-Reader or a Healer or does he lay on hands?

**AN INDIGNATION MEETING.**  
The people of Brampton are astonished at the findings of fact made by Chief Commissioner Mabey in dismissing their application to the railway commission for suburban service and fares between Brampton and Toronto. They do not like the notion of Brampton being stigmatized as unimportant and unprogressive. They should hold an indignation meeting to voice their protest and set themselves right with the world.

# SELLERS-GOUGH

THE LARGEST EXCLUSIVE FUR HOUSE IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

## YOUR XMAS GIFT WILL BE APPRECIATED

### If it is a Sellers-Gough Fur



The high quality and exclusive style that has made this store the largest exclusive fur establishment in the British Empire is more in evidence this season than ever before. We know we are giving the greatest fur value it is possible for money to buy. We make everything we sell, and, as a consequence, save you all the middleman's profit. We employ the highest-class help that money can secure. We know the workmanship of every garment and piece of fur in our store is correct. We have only one price, and that price is based on a small profit, but everyone who enters this store receives the same treatment and is quoted the same price. You know that you are getting the best price without bargaining.



### PERSIAN LAMB JACKETS

Regal style, double-breasted jacket, buttoned close to throat, revers can be turned back, lined with heavy black Zurich satin, chamois pocket; 26 inches in length, high storm collar, trimmed with heavy tubular silk, with fancy metal buttons. **PRICED, \$125, \$150, \$165.**

### ALASKA SEAL JACKETS

30 inches long, semi-loose fitting back, box front, buttoned close to throat, high storm collar and cuffs, lined with heavy brown satin, chamois pockets. A written guarantee goes with every garment that the fur is genuine Alaska seal. **PRICED, \$375, \$400, \$425.**

### MINK TIES

With divided ends, beautiful Canadian mink, finished with tails and paws, heavy long fur. **PRICED, \$35, \$40, and \$45.**

### MINK MUFFS

New animal shape, four stripes, trimmed with heads and tails, silk wrist cord, lined with brown broadcated satin. **PRICED, \$45, \$50, and \$55.**

### PERSIAN LAMB TIES

Made of best quality Leipzig dyed skins, round even coffee bean curl, 55 inches long, pointed end style, lined with heavy black satin. Prices—**\$12, \$13.50, \$15.**

### PERSIAN LAMB MUFFS

Imperial style, coffee bean curl, made of best Leipzig dyed skins, eiderdown lined, satin lined, silk wrist cord. **\$13.50, \$15, \$18, \$20.**

**THE SELLERS-GOUGH FUR CO., Limited**  
"FURS EXCLUSIVELY"  
244-246-248-250 YONGE STREET--CORNER LOUISA.

### BUILDING ON INCREASE.

Permits for November Double Those for Same Month Last Year.

	1907.	1908.
The number of building permits issued during November was more than double that for the same month last year, while the value is also more than double. The record is:		
Approximate value of buildings, Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 1908, \$3,818,785	\$1,740,062	
Approximate value of buildings for the month of Nov. 1908	638,150	1,370,649
No. of building permits issued, Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 1908	2,450	2,680
No. of buildings erected for month of Nov. 1908	201	412
No. of new buildings erected from Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 1908	4,898	4,950

### STIFF BATTLE WITH WAVES.

Steamer Davidson Conted With Ice After Lake Trip.

ST. CATHARINES, Dec. 2.—The steamer A. D. Davidson, Capt. Sloan, of the Wolvin Line, arrived at Port Dalhousie about 7.30 o'clock this morning, after a hard battle with the elements. A tremendous sea was running, and the trip up occupied about 33 hours, while it is usually made under ordinary circumstances in about 12 hours. The ship was completely covered with six inches of ice up as high as the pilot-house, and, owing to the heavy coat of ice, was drawing over 15 feet of water forward, and the hot water hose had to be used in order to get rid of it before she could enter the lock.

### Schoolboy Killed.

GLENCOE, Ont., Dec. 2.—Harley Taylor, 11-year-old son of Mrs. E. Taylor, was instantly killed by a shunting freight train this morning. Harley and his brother Cecil were taking a short cut to school by crossing the railway tracks between North and South Victoria-streets. A freight train stood in their way, and the boy, to save time, boarded an oil tank car to pass to the other side and was a moment later jolted off by a coupling being made.

### Tuberculosis Campaign.

GALT, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—The first meeting in a campaign conducted by Dr. George W. Pugh, under the auspices of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, was held this afternoon at the city hall. A provisional committee was formed, consisting of the mayor, Judge Black, the medical men and ministers present. Mr. Goldie and Messrs. Shurly, Cherry and Lutz, to commence the work of educating and agitating for the proposed consumptive hospital.

### OTTAWA, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Hon. George P. Graham has fixed Dec. 17 for the hearing of the application of approval of his plan of entrance to

### PRISON AND FINE.

Amherstburg Man Sentenced in Detroit for Counterfeiting.

WINDSOR, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Fred Paquette of Amherstburg was today sentenced in Detroit to five years in the house of correction, and to pay a fine of \$1000 for counterfeiting, to which he pleaded guilty. Paquette begged for a light sentence, saying he was led into the crime after being released from prison, being advised by Fred Dumouchelle of Walkerville and others, to return to his old tricks. The prisoner is over 50 years of age and has spent nearly half his life in prison. Dumouchelle will be sentenced next Tuesday. Fred Monneau of Windsor withdrew his plea of not guilty as an accomplice and pleaded guilty. Sentence was deferred.

### A CORRECTION.

Editor World: Two slight mistakes of the types occur in your excellent report to-day of President Falconer's address to the presbytery. A correction of one of them will probably head off many columns of rambling letters. What was said was that "Men who did believe were listened to to-day as never before." One Who Does Believe. Wednesday, Dec. 2.

### WHY AM I ILL?

### HOW TO TELL.

Does every cold affect your back, and cause a feeling of chilliness, followed by disturbance of the kidney action? Does the use of spirits, tea or beer excite the kidneys? Are you easily worried and annoyed over trifles? Are the feet and hands cold? Circulation bad? Do the feet and legs swell? Is there puffiness under the eyes? Do you have rheumatism, poor eyesight, headaches and backaches? Is there gravel or any unnatural action of the kidneys?

If you have any of the above symptoms your kidneys are either weak or diseased, and these symptoms are warnings of more serious troubles to follow: Bright's Disease, Diabetes or Dropsy.

Whatever you do, whatever you think your disease is, look well to your kidneys at the first sign of anything wrong. Give them just the aid they require in Doan's Kidney Pills, the Great Quaker Kidney Medicine, and see how well and fit you feel after even a few doses.

Mrs. O. Warren, Radisson, Sask., writes: "I was troubled with very severe pains in my back for years. I tried everything I could think of, but they did me no good. A friend told me about Doan's Kidney Pills and after taking two boxes, I have not been troubled since."

Price 50 cents per box, or 2 boxes for \$1.25, at all dealers or The T. Milburn Co. Limited, Toronto.

In ordering specify "Doan's"

### WATERWORKS WILL SHOW

\$70,000 DEFICIT IN 1908

Civic Committee Considers Finances of Department—Heavy Cost of Filtration.

The civic committee delegated to wrestle with the problem of how to adjust water rates so as to give a square deal all round, received some information bearing on the subject at a meeting yesterday, but it was decided to defer making recommendations until a future meeting.

It transpired that there is a difference of opinion between City Treasurer Condy and Waterworks Engineer Fellows as to the state of waterworks finances for the current year. Mr. Condy figured that there would be a deficit of \$17,000, while Mr. Fellows thought the department would be \$10,000 ahead, and he admitted that the surplus would not be represented by cash, but by coal in storage.

Chairman Controller Spence said that a deficit of \$70,572 was to be expected next year taking Mr. Condy's figures as a basis, although the controller believed that Mr. Condy was estimating too high regarding cost of maintenance and too low as to increase in revenue. Mr. Fellows gave the unwelcome news that the yearly cost of maintaining the filtration plant would be \$34,375, or \$10,000 more than had been expected. As to the estimated revenue the increase of \$17,000 being too modest Mr. Condy explained that when outlying territory was annexed the water revenue from such territory would be four times the gross rate.

Controller Spence said the figures supplied showed the fallacy of the popular theory that meter users have a much greater burden than flat rate users. There were 10 billion gallons of water pumped last year and of this six billion went to waste, while the meter users and flat rate users each consumed about two billion gallons, the meter users contributing about 43 per cent. of the cost and the flat rate users 57 per cent. Twenty per cent. of the water pumped was lost thru leaks in mains and 40 per cent. thru leaking taps.

It was stated that there are 1,500,000 feet of water mains so that should Aldrich's idea of assessing property frontages to pay for the mains be adopted on a basis of five cents per foot, there would be a revenue of \$350,000, since both sides of the street would be assessed.

It was decided to get reports showing how the revenue would be affected by making a flat rate of 50 cents a room instead of 25 cents per room and 25 cents for each inmate as at present and whether there are legal difficulties in the way of the frontage tax.

### The Success of the Christmas Pudding depends upon what goes into the bowl.

Only the Best is good enough, and the Best is at Michie's.

Currents, Raisins, Candied, Peel Flavorings, Almonds, Spices, Etc.

Michie's Cooking Sherry 65c. a Bottle

**MICHIE & CO., 7 KING STREET WEST.**

LIMITED

while Mr. Fellows will report on the cost of repairing all breakages.

### CHARRED BONES FOUND.

Thought to Be Remains of Woman Who Disappeared Years Ago.

BROCKVILLE, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Crown Attorney Brown was communicated with to-day by the reeve of the Township of Augusta as to the advisability of holding an inquest on a charred skeleton found in the woods by James Vout, near Algonquin.

A coroner of the vicinity was called, and an inquest was not thought to be necessary, in which the crown attorney concurred.

Many years ago Mrs. C. Bolton, an elderly resident of North Augusta, mysteriously disappeared from her home, and, the diligent search was made, no trace of her could be found. The story goes that she was last seen in the vicinity of Vout's woods, which she is supposed to have entered and died from exhaustion, having then traversed many miles. The portions of the skeleton found have been accepted by the relatives as those of Mrs. Bolton, and they were buried to-day in the family plot at North Augusta.

Mandamus proceedings will be commenced to force Brampton Council to submit a local option bylaw.

### First Illness Fatal at 102.

UTICA, N.Y., Dec. 2.—Mrs. Catherine Van Allen is dead at the age of 102 years after three days' illness, the first she has ever known.

Her uncle lived to be 115 years old.

### A Tonic or a Stimulant?

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a tonic. It does not stimulate. It does not make you feel better one day, then as bad as ever the next. There is not a drop of alcohol in it. You have the steady, even gain that comes from a strong tonic. Ask your doctor all about this. Trust him fully, and always do as he says.

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