

Fish Time

The Lenten season is especially the time of fish. At no time of the year, perhaps, is there such a demand for fish, good fish, as now.

In buying salt fish we are very particular to buy the best. It's important to be particular about fish.

MACKEREL.

Our fine "Bloaters" mackerel, weigh from 1 1/2 lbs. to 1 3/4 lbs. each, and are very fine flavor, 15c a pound.

TROUT.

Nice firm Lake Huron Fish, 7c a pound.

SEA SALMON.

In small pieces—about 2 pounds—10c a pound.

Hugh Malcolmson

Grocer

Grand OPERA House

ONE SOLID WEEK MARCH 8th
THE KING OF REPERTOIRE

W.H. Langdon

AND HIS CO. OF PLAYERS OPENING
MONDAY EVENING
In an entirely new Repertoire—Specialties Introduced
POPULAR PRICES—10, 20, 30c
Matinee Saturday.

Seals on sale at Central Drug Store—Plan opens Thursday morning.

Grand Opera House

ONE NIGHT ONLY March 17th
Wednesday

...BIG 40...
MINISTRELS

The Texas Medley Quartette

Tom White, Challenge Buck and Wing Dancer.
Robert Gorman, Dancer and Comedian.
Tom Briggs, Sweet Tones.
Grand Kicker, Chinese Impersonator and Comedian.
Joe Bessie, Irish King.
Robert Brown, Fire King.
Prof. Anderson, Cornetist.

See the BIG CAKE WALK—open to all—First prize Fifty Dollars.
Watch for the Big Parade at 12 o'clock noon.

Admission, 15c 25c, 35c, 50c.

KANT MINER, Stage Manager. H. WEAVER, General Mgr.

THAMESVILLE.

March 10.—The roads are now in the worst possible condition.

The store windows are presenting a very spring-like appearance being filled with prints, laces and other light material.

Mrs. G. F. Scott, who has been absent for a fortnight's visit east, returned home to-day.

Quite a number of oil speculators are in town.

The W. C. T. U. meets at the residence of Mrs. Munroe to-morrow evening.

Geo. Taylor, of Chatham, was in town yesterday.

The Columbia Handle Co. are shipping two car loads of manufactured material to Liverpool this week.

G. J. Watts was in Chatham yesterday.

A musical and literary concert will be held at the residence of William Jackson on the evening of Friday, 19th of March, as they have had an evening with Shakespeare and an evening with Burns, they are now entitled, they say, to an evening with Jackson, and a great effort is being made to provide a good evening's entertainment.

It is not to be wondered at that Ayer's Pills are in such universal demand. For the cure of constipation, biliousness or any other complaint needing a laxative, these pills are unsurpassed. (They are sugar-coated, easy to take, and every dose is effective.)

BLENHEIM.

Mar. 10.—Fishery Inspector James K. Laird, has advertised his farm stock and implements for sale by auction on Wednesday next week. Mr. Laird has leased his farm and will remove into town.

A meeting of the public library board was called for Monday evening, but only two of the six members of the board found it convenient to attend. For want of a quorum therefore, no meeting was held.

At a temperance meeting held in the Presbyterian church on Monday night Mayor Ferguson and Geo. M. Baird were appointed a committee to wait upon the Provincial government to suggest certain amendments to the liquor license act.

The township council held a regular meeting yesterday, and disposed of considerable business of general interest to the ratepayers of Harwich.

While no physician or pharmacist can conscientiously warrant a cure, the J. C. Ayer Co. guarantee the purity, strength, and medicinal virtues of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It was the only blood-purifier admitted at the great World's Fair in Chicago, 1893.

THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT.

Many thousands of unsolicited letters have reached the manufacturer of Scott's Emulsion from those cured through its use, of Consumption and Scrofulous diseases! None can speak so confidently of its merits as those who have tested it.

ONTARIO ASSEMBLY.

Premier Hardy Denies Charges of Nepotism.

Woman's Property Emancipation Bill—Introducing Discussion on Municipal Government New Act Respecting Town Councils—Have We Too Many Rulers?—Duties of Provincial Auditors—Discussion of the Estimates—The Forestry Department.

Toronto, March 10.

Upon the opening of the Legislature yesterday the Attorney-General asked the privilege of the House to make some remarks about an article which had appeared in The Toronto Mail and Empire in reference to his appointment of relatives to office under the Government.

The Premier stated that this was the same old story which had been told in the past.

It had been refuted once before and therefore The Mail was not speaking in ignorance.

In the first place, he had no father in the London Asylum; his father had been dead 17 years.

He had no son in the Crown Lands Department and no niece in the Orillia Asylum.

He had a sister in the Hamilton Asylum, nor a cousin in the license branch.

It was true he had a cousin, but not a nephew in the Education Department, but the latter had been in the employ of the Government before he (the speaker) had entered Parliament.

He was a son of Rev. Thomas Jeffers and a nephew of Dr. Jeffers.

Miss Hardy, a matron of the Orillia Asylum, had been employed there for over 15 years, and now received a salary of \$50 per year.

Miss Parker, of the Hamilton Asylum, spoken of as his sister, was a sister of one of Sir Oliver Mowat's oldest and most staunch supporters.

True, he was not certain which of the two names, Reeves or Hardy, had had the most influence in putting him there (Laughter). He thought it might be the first name. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Hardy concluded, amid applause from Liberal and Patron benches.

The Attorney-General then moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Married Women's Property Act.

Explaining its provisions, he stated that he considered it the last step in woman's property emancipation.

The bill provided that contracts entered into by married women should not all their separate estates, and that the will of a married woman should take effect at her own death and not after her husband's.

Mr. Whitney assented and the bill went through.

The act respecting town councils, also read a second time, provided for the election of a mayor and two councillors, elected by general vote, and two councillors elected for each ward.

For towns of over 4000 population, and for all towns under that, a mayor and six councillors to be elected by a general vote.

For villages and townships, which are to be governed by a reeve and four councillors, Reeves and deputy reeves in towns are done away with.

The Attorney-General stated that he had not been asked to come to a conclusion in reference to the voting by a ward system.

It was urged by the labor and Roman Catholic elements that the election of one councillor by the ward and the other by the city would do them an injustice in cases where they were in a minority.

He had also been asked to limit the number of wards, but as each town had always mapped out its own wards, this course would be impracticable.

Mr. Whitney thought that the bill, with some exceptions, was apparently a desirable one.

Mr. Haycock was fully in accord with the idea of the reduction of the number of rulers.

Canals were to be governed, and therefore, such reductions were in the right direction.

Mr. Matheson thought that a large number of the members of the council would be more inclined to have everything cut and dried before they sat at the board, while a larger one would be more likely to try to get the ear of the people.

A council of 9 or 10 in most cases was not too large.

The result of reduction of the City Council of Toronto had not been to improve its quality.

Mr. Howland considered the first clause very beneficial, but the second gave opportunity to a minority clique to pump and elect their man.

Mr. Crawford was in full accord with the spirit of the bill. He did not agree with Mr. Haycock, that a longer term than one year for councillors was unsatisfactory.

He agreed with Mr. Matheson that the personnel of the Toronto City Council had not improved by reduction of its numbers.

Mr. Meacham characterized the election of two councillors by a general vote as a fraud.

Mr. Magwood did not agree with the spirit of the act at all. He had heard of no complaints regarding the old system.

Mr. Kerns was of the opinion that the bill was in the right direction.

The bill was then read a second time.

The House then went into committee to discuss the estimates.

Mr. Chariton presiding.

Mr. Matheson objected to the salary list in the Bureau of Mines appearing under the heading of Crown Lands, and not under that of Civil Service.

Hon. J. M. Gibson considered the unusual activity in mining developments, justified the expenditure under the Crown Lands Department.

Mr. Matheson did not object to the expenditure, but thought that the offices would likely be made permanent, the officers should come under the head of Civil Service.

He objected to the increasing expenditure in the Crown Lands, occasioned partly by the Road Commissioner and partly by the Forestry Clerk.

Hon. Mr. Gibson commended the report of the latter official.

Mr. Whitney asked what his duties were, and the Commissioner replied that he earned his salary and in the province of interest.

Asked by Mr. Meacham as to this clerk's previous experience, Mr. Gibson was silent.

Mr. Howland commended the forest policy of Germany to the Government.

Mr. Whitney was not satisfied with the qualifications of the Forestry Clerk.

Mr. Haycock agreed that the forestry report was interesting. He also agreed that the matter should stand as it was.

The members a chance to read the forestry report.

The Attorney-General explained the Forestry Clerk's duties as to visit the various parts of the province and to report on the adaptability of the soil for pine growth and in portions where the growth was exuberant, as to how it could be utilized.

Mr. Whitney was then satisfied that there was more than enough for the gentleman to do.

Mr. Matheson registered that the work may have been done, but he had calculated some items of the expenses.

The item passed.

Mr. Matheson called attention to the very large sum required for seasonal writers and messengers compared with the expenditure for the same services at Ottawa.

He had found some of these officials even stowed away in the cellar, and some down at the old Parliament buildings.

The Attorney-General intimated amid laughter that the House would probably know what errand had taken the honorable member for South Lanark to the cellar upon the occasion on which he made the discovery.

Mr. Whitney exhibited some concern as to the fate of these gentlemen when the old Parliament buildings are sold, but the Attorney-General did not enlighten him upon the subject.

Upon the items for maintenance of public institutions, Mr. Haycock called attention to the large sum required for fodder at the various institutions where farming operations are carried on.

Mr. Little followed up the line taken by Mr. Haycock, pointing out that at the Mimico Asylum 5 horses and 20 head of cattle were kept.

The value of crops raised on the farm was \$2000 and \$2000 was asked for in addition for fodder.

He doubted whether any 25 head of stock could be found that would eat that amount of feed.

PUBLIC BILLS.

Mr. Auld—To amend the Municipal Act. This bill is intended to provide for the equitable settling of the respective interests of separated towns and cities situated within the county in the court house and registry office, to improve a mass from time to time therein; as to the method of ascertaining the contribution to be levied on each town or city or town in the improvement or repairs.

Mr. St. John—To amend judgment summons procedure in Division Courts.

Mr. Macleod—To amend the Public Libraries Act. The object of this act is to enable the municipality to take over certain existing established before the act respecting mechanics' institutes was passed.

Mr. Currier—To amend the law respecting the registration of deaths.

The object of this bill is to provide that where a death takes place in a house, registration may be made with the nearest registrar, and not with the registrar of the district.

Mr. Flett—To amend the law of land to the extent of four acres in towns and villages to be assessed as farm lands, and to provide for the giving notice of claiming exemption from taxation for certain municipal services.

After recess the House again went into Committee of Supply. The following votes were passed with very lively interest: License and administration of justice accounts, \$9400. On the item Provincial Board of Health, \$7500. Mr. Matheson inquired whether Dr. Bryce was in receipt of any other salary than the \$2000 under the heading, and the Provincial Treasurer answered in the negative.

Mr. Matheson a few minutes afterwards noted out that Dr. Bryce had received \$500 as Deputy Registrar last year, and urged that the system practiced at Ottawa be adopted in this House and that a list be furnished with the estimates showing the exact amount of salary received from all sources by each official.

Upon the item of \$6750 for the insurance branch, Mr. Matheson enquired whether there would be any loss of revenue owing to the abolition of the fees to insurance officers.

Mr. Gibson replied that the change would cause a reduction in revenue of between \$1000 and \$1500.

Hon. Mr. Gibson explained that the work had been doubled since the inspection of benefit societies had been undertaken.

A slight increase in the Department of Agriculture caused Mr. Whitney to remark that he supposed it was useless to expect a reduction in any of the items.

Mr. Matheson inquired what the immigration secretary was doing. It appeared to him that the gentleman was a purely mechanical officer.

The Attorney-General stated that this officer is the only one left of a large staff, and that the only Government official available to look after immigrants coming into the province. He does not say he is a very good one, but he is a very honest one.

The item passed.

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