

THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21, 1909.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

Elsewhere in to-day's Times we publish the correspondence of Mr. R. J. Edgar, of Owen Sound, with the Department of Education on the subject of the school book changes. It touches a question of vital interest to the trade and to the public, and is dealt with in a lucid and forceful manner by a gentleman of 20 years experience in the school book trade.

Like many others who had marked the profuse promises of the Department, and looked for announced improvements, Mr. Edgar has been astonished to find more difficulty for parents and school book dealers in the last two years than in all the previous 18 years of his experience.

With reference to the quality of some of the new readers, Mr. Edgar speaks with expert knowledge, and what he has to say of the books and the manner of their publication makes good reading.

THE CRY OF "PECCAVI."

What is to be Mr. Willison's next move? Having completely swallowed his principles and gone to fight the Tory battles in the Toronto News, which has outdone even the Mail and Empire in high tariff advocacy, it is somewhat astonishing to find him advocating in first-page articles over a column long, set in specially large type and double leaded, that the Canadian Tory party "should thoroughly consider its attitude toward the tariff."

The great American watch manufacturers have jumped up the price of watches since the tariff revision was effected. The increase to the wholesaler is from 10 to 15 per cent.

British foreign trade in August increased about seven and a half million pounds. This showing will not be pleasant to the detractors of Britain who are just now putting forth extra efforts.

was not realized, therefore the policy must be jettisoned. The course outlined is simple. All the Tory tariff doctrines are to be admitted to have been false, and are to be abandoned.

Generally the West is opposed to extreme protection, and there is still a certain low-tariff sentiment in the rural constituencies of Ontario and in the Eastern Provinces. These facts Conservatives understand, and they know that if their leaders should secure office at the next general election there would be no general increase of duties.

Alas! for Mr. Borden's Halifax platform, and its tariff interpretation by scores of high Tory authorities, he would have Tories "take the tariff out of politics" by making their meaning so plain that they cannot henceforth be represented as the "hiringlings of the manufacturers."

Mr. Willison's re-ecantation is ample and complete. He does not pretend to moral or economical reasons for his change of heart; it is simply and solely a device adopted because he thinks it will secure votes.

Alas! Mr. Willison, even if we take you at your word, how shall we know in the future when you and your party are sincere and honest? How shall we know whether you are laboring for the good of the country, and not merely "stringing" us for offices?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

If it is bad to gamble on Metropolitan Association race tracks, it is equally wrong to gamble on the Woodbine track, Toronto.

It would certainly be a surprise to the public to wake up some morning and find that the water rates to Hamilton consumers were reduced to a reasonable figure.

The great American watch manufacturers have jumped up the price of watches since the tariff revision was effected. The increase to the wholesaler is from 10 to 15 per cent.

British foreign trade in August increased about seven and a half million pounds. This showing will not be pleasant to the detractors of Britain who are just now putting forth extra efforts.

Lord Rosebery's speech against the Liberal budget, which has aptly been described as "a plea for poor but honest dukes," is now receiving considerable attention in the Canadian organs which advocate more taxes on the British toilers.

The Montreal Gazette is a staunch Tory organ, but does not go into ecstasies over the tariff commission suggestion. It not unnaturally thinks that the customs department officials trained to and constantly engaged in the work should be experts in all that pertains to it. And it is doubtless right.

A fine of \$10 may do for an ordinary drunken row, but we are of opinion that when knives are used and cutting and slashing follows a prison sentence at hard labor would be more appropriate.

By an overwhelming majority the ratepayers of Montreal have decided on a reduction of aldermen and the adoption of the board of control system. The revelations made at the recent inquiry made, of course, much to do with the decision of the electorate. As to the benefit to be derived by the board of control system, it remains a matter of question.

With good men in office the results will be good; and that may be said of any system. With bad men, or incompetent men, the board of control system will probably tend but to aggravate the evils from which Montreal has suffered.

But will not the Beach Sovereigns buy parks for the Beach? And if they do, will visitors from the city be excluded therefrom? If they will not, why should the ratepayers of the city, many of whom would, not once a year pay \$1.25 a family of five to go down to enjoy them, be taxed thousands of dollars to purchase them?

And, if you remember these blood-letting foreigners were the men some of our political friends were so anxious to have naturalized before the Dominion elections.—Spectator.

We recollect hearing that a lot of those fellows were rounded up by the Tory patriots, driven to the polls and handed out \$2 apiece in the rig while en route. The sacred cause had to have them.

The Prohibitionists of the United States will, on Friday and Saturday celebrate at Chicago the 40th anniversary of the founding of the party. The United States Prohibitionists are in great fettle just now because of the success which has recently attended the movement. In the south and west repressive legislation has had great victories over the liquor traffic.

London, Eng., is discussing the smoke nuisance. According to Dr. Shaw, of the Meteorological Office, owing to its smoke, London loses half its sunshine in winter and one-sixth in summer. About one-half of its smoke is believed to come from private houses, largely owing to the fact that open grates are mainly used for warming buildings.

Now is the time for the Council to speak out plainly about city help for indigents this winter. There has been a great demand for labor this year. The railways are even now crying out for workmen. Let it be made very clear that Hamilton is not inviting the unfit and incapable here to be supported, and that no loafers will be fed at the public expense.

According to the argument of the Toronto Globe, the Secretary of State is to be made absolute arbiter as to who shall, and who shall not, be allowed to obtain a charter for any business in the Dominion of Canada; and it ridicules the idea that the courts might intervene in the matter.

According to a story published in the Spectator the Whitney Government has made a sorry mess of its dealings with the rich mining claims of Cobalt which it has recently disposed of. After much boasting of what it was going to gain for the people of the Province by working the properties, it changed its mind and concluded to sell them. A few days after selling them for a trifle they were found to be of wonderful richness.

Recently a man named King wrote a letter to the Toronto Star in which was told the story of a young woman who was saved from being put off a train only by the generosity of a passenger, who advanced the amount of her fare, her ticket having expired the day before. A good deal was made of the story, and the Grand Trunk people undertook to investigate it. They found that the incident occurred fifteen years ago, and that the conductor concerned died eight years ago! Whatever merit the story might have had for those people who are always eager to create prejudice against the railway, the lapse of time ought to be considered in estimating it.

Speaking of Sir Charles Rivers Wilton's regretful reference to the fact that the National Transcontinental Railway from Fort William to Winnipeg was not ready for this season's Northwest grain shipment, the Montreal Witness very pertinently says: "No word of blame fell from the lips of the Grand Trunk President because of this, but the whole tenor of his remarks seems to infer that somebody ought to be called over the coals for it. On the one hand, he knows, as well as anybody, that of the whole line from the Great Lakes to Edmonton, this section between Superior Junction and Winnipeg has been by far the most difficult to construct. Muskeg and rock-work of the most formidable character have been encountered almost every mile of the way. Moreover, even the Canadian Pacific Railway, in doubling-tracking its line through the same country, has only just been able to complete that work, although according to the estimates, it ought to have been completed three years ago. If such a delay can take place in connection with duplicating a line already in existence, one might very naturally think it a matter of congratulation that this new line should only fall short of completion by a few months."

Our Exchanges

ESPECIALLY BILLS. (St. Thomas Times.)

In common with business, gas meters and coal bills, Vesuvius is also getting active.

CHRIS WAS SLOW. (Winnipeg Free Press.)

Christopher Columbus was pretty slow. It never occurred to him to copyright his discovery of America.

HAS NO USE FOR BATHS. (Toronto Star.)

The Telegram opposed the sea-wall, it condemns the bath house, and it looks coldly on filtration of city water. This fear and dislike of water creates a suspicion that the town's cross dog has contracted hydrophobia.

A WOFUL WASTE. (Monetary Times.)

A Winnipeg paper advertises a fire alarm repeater for sale. It is doubtful whether such an instrument can keep abreast of Canada's fire waste, which already this year amounts to nearly thirteen million dollars.

DO YOU WANT A JOB? (Montreal Herald's Slave Man.)

Did you ever have a combination of hay fever, cold, pneumonia, and neuralgia, a boil just under your collar and fifty-seven variety of things to worry about and then try to be humorous? Well, we wish you had this job, that's all.

THE CATTLE EMBARGO. (London, Eng. Canadian Gazette.)

Mr. Asquith and Lord Carrington have put forward their best case for the retention of the embargo on Canadian cattle, and the world sees what a flimsy, paltry thing it is. It is really no case at all so far as it rests upon the fear of disease from the introduction of Canadian steers to British pastures.

NOBODY INDISPENSIBLE. (Woodstock Sentinel-Review.)

The late E. H. Harriman is credited with having said before his death something to this effect: "My opinion is absolutely necessary or even important, if I did quit nothing would happen. This world is full of people ready to take the place of anyone."

NOT A GOOD INFLUENCE. (Pittsburg Gazette Times.)

In the present excited condition of a large number of both the British and German people a few more words of the Northcliffe and Bessford pattern might have a serious effect. Certainly such utterances as those at Winnipeg and New York cannot be expected to exert a pacificatory influence.

LABOR'S INALIENABLE RIGHT. (President Taft at Chicago.)

Their right to labor for such wages as they choose to accept is sacred, and any lawless invasion of that right cannot be too severely condemned. All advantages of trade unionism, great as they are, cannot weigh a feather in the scale against the right of any man lawfully seeking employment to work for whom and at what price he will.

IT SHOULD BE CHECKED. (W. R. Lawson in London Economist.)

It is well known that the Dominion Government strongly disapprove of the Whitney policy, and are fully conscious of the damage it is doing to the financial interests of Canada at large. They are anxious to check it if a means of doing so can be found, which will not stultify their favorite doctrine of Provincial independence.

"THE COLONEL AND THE FLAG." (Chesley Enterprise.)

Frankly, we are sorry Col. Denison could not find the principle of British fair play strong enough to protect our American friends from the dastardly deed of the year of '98, which, in similar incidents, have taken place on the other side. Of course they have. But it is British to play the game fair, no matter who cheats.

THE DUTIES ARE LOWER. (Toronto Globe.)

The average rate of duty on dutiable goods admitted to the Dominion for consumption in 1908 was 26.58; on goods dutiable and non-dutiable, 18. In 1909, the next year of Conservative government, the rates were, respectively, 29.97 and 19.10. Those who declare that the Liberals have not reduced the tariff will find these comparisons disturbing.

LIBERAL TACTICS COMPLIMENTED. (Toronto Mail and Empire.)

This called for strategy, and it must be admitted that the strategy on the Government side has been good. The new budget, the result of long and patient work, was fashioned as a wedge to be used in separating the House of Lords from the large voting force it had won to its side, and to split the Unionist party along the line of cleavage between free traders and tariff reformers.

TWO OBJECTIONS. (Brantford Expositor.)

The members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association have placed themselves on record as favoring the appointment of a Dominion Tariff Commission, although it is said they are not entirely unanimous about it. There are certainly two serious objections to the proposal. One of these is that the expense of such an organization would be calculated to keep the country in a state of unsettlement relative to the tariff, and the other is that tariff schedules are quite as much a matter of public policy as trade and commerce, and cannot easily be determined on a purely commercial basis.

DID TAFT BLUNDER? (Baltimore Sun.)

Mr. Taft has made an egregious mistake in certifying Senator Aldrich's character as a friend to the people. He has fallen into a palpable error of judgment in associating himself with Mr. Aldrich's aspirations to "aid the people." Recognition and laudation of Mr. Aldrich's work as a tariff expert may go in certain circles in New England, where many of the beneficiaries of Senator Aldrich's labors live and prosper exceedingly on the schedules made under his direction. But in the west, where the Republicans are protesting against the tariff act in favor of New England, the president's endorsement of Mr. Aldrich as a statesman with an "earnest desire to aid the people" in any way will arouse more resentment than enthusiasm.

Stylish Suits for Women At \$15.98 and \$18.49. W picked up these sample Tailored Suits after the Exhibition from one of the manufacturers—and they are all right. They are this Fall season's new styles and cloths and only 20 remain and we have divided them into lots and to-morrow's prices mean early shopping. At \$15.98, regular values to \$22.50. At \$18.49, regular values to \$28.50. They are in novelty stripe cloths and plain and self stripe Venetians and Satin Cloths in Autumn shades. Coats are in 42 inch length semi-fitted, novelty strappings, jet buttons and silk trimmings. Skirts are side pleated and gored. Others at \$16.00, \$18.50, \$20.00 to \$30.00. The New Autumn Dress Skirts. The opening of the new Skirts has been characterized by their immense chic and smartness of the new season. They are in plain cloths and stripe worsteds in Fall colors. Plain gored, side pleated and group pleated below the hip. See them to-morrow. Prices range \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50 to \$18.00. Our Made-to-Order Departments Are Open. Miss Caulfield and Miss Brown, our head dress and mantle makers, have returned from one of the American fashion centres where they have been viewing and studying the styles for the new season. All the new Dress Goods, Silks and fabrics are in and now is time to plan the Autumn garments. Consult our dressmakers AT ONCE. Of course styles, fit are guaranteed and prices moderate. "Reynier Gloves" FINCH BROS. New Neckwear

GREAT WRONG TO DEALERS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

stated in our previous letter, the trouble is not alone with the bookseller. During these 20 years, 14 under the former Government and the balance under the present Government, we have had more complaint from parents and pupils regarding the sudden changes in school books in the last two years than in the eighteen years previous. In the United States when a change is made in the readers the Government furnish a copy of the old book, the same applying to the bookseller. We wish to repeat, sir, for the benefit of the department, that a much more practical way, a fairer and more honest way, would be to give the publisher, the pupil and the bookseller an eight to twelve-month notice of any change of text book. All confusion with the publisher would be avoided, and his text books would be ready at the time required, while the bookseller could have disposed of his stock and the pupil avoided purchasing unnecessarily. In your letter you state the circular containing the changes for this year was issued in July, 1909. But, sir, what use to us is this announcement in July or June, for that matter? Of what use is it to the pupil desiring to prepare the work for the coming term? We have to carry for the convenience of the pupil these books throughout the term, and naturally have them in stock for the opening of the following session. To protect the pupil, publisher and dealer, the announcement should at least precede the opening of the term by eight months. As you were good enough to state the date of the issue of your circular for 1909, will you kindly give us the date of its issue in 1908? Was it not late in September when all the schools were in full swing, doing business with scribbles and lead pencils before the announcement of what books they would require was forthcoming? We note the Minister of Education, Hon. Dr. Pyne, sojourning in Europe at this time, while the pupils and teachers were anxiously waiting his return. And also let me state here that this honorable gentleman states in the Globe of the 17th inst. that the school boards were notified in July of authority to pass a resolution to retain the old text books for another year. The school board of Owen Sound did not receive any notification to this effect from this honorable gentleman or his department, nor have you notified them to this day. Furthermore, this resolution is void unless passed before the first day of September. What is the Hon. Dr. Pyne's object in stating what is absolutely false? Is he doing so to try to protect his department from discovery in its rotten state of legislation? Did your department notify a single school board in this Province? We have written to different towns and cities in hope of disposing of the dead text books your department has loaded our shelves with, and we find without exception their position similar to our own. You state the department is not responsible for the dealings between bookseller and publisher. Certainly not under proper conditions; but, sir, if the department have acted unwisely, if not so unfairly, with the bookseller, then should not he be entitled to some compensation from you? Will you furnish us with the new text books in exchange for the old?

Again, you state the object of the department is to supply the people with better readers at lower prices. The readers are large, but how about their contents. Do the contents count for nothing? Is this the reason they are "cheap"? Do you compare your primer and first book with the discarded McGraw's part I and part 2? If so, you should learn the opinion of "the people" you are so anxious to please. As for the prices being lower, did not the old fourth reader sell at 15c and is now 10c, and does not the same apply to the second reader and the third reader? Sir, we are in a position to receive a great variety of opinions regarding the changing of the readers and there is more fact in finding than heretofore principally because the pupils have to discontinue recently purchased books to buy your so-called "cheap readers."

And lastly, sir, you state you will make inquiries from the publishers of these readers, (The T. Eaton Co. forsooth), why it is they cannot supply the demand. We will await your inquiry with expectancy. And while you are about it, will you please ask the same gentlemen if the reason why is that they desire to advance their huge advertising scheme by selling the pupil direct instead of the bookseller with the hope of having added to the order a spool of cotton thread and half a dozen pant buttons. Sir, your policy on the school

P. S. A.

Meeting of the Brotherhood to be Held Here.

Rev. F. B. Meyer, the well-known London minister, who was recently in Canada on his way around the world, said: "I regard the P. S. A. Brotherhood movement as the best link between the present day human movement and the churches, but must not be divorced from the churches. It can teach the churches to minister to the poor. The churches have in some cases sought to win the people by dramatic entertainment and similar means. They have piped but the people have not heard. The working classes will not thus be wooed. There are multitudes of people who love Christ and His Gospel, but who are tired of starch and stiffness, and to these the Brotherhoods appeal. The movement teaches the churches that religion is for earth as well as for heaven. But we cannot dispense with the churches. The Socialists who deride religion cut down the boughs of the tree on which they rest. Only from Christ's Gospel can the power come which an altruistic system of life requires. To stop a man from swearing, in order that young minds may not be corrupted, to protect a workman's daughter from the bully who would rob her of her virtue—that is religion, indeed, the truest religion. That is the spirit of the Brotherhoods to which the most sacred crusade ever inaugurated has been entrusted."

The Hamilton P. S. A. Brotherhood will hold its first meeting in the First Congregational Church on Sunday afternoon, October 3rd.

Lieut. Ernest H. Shackleton's ship, the Nimrod, is moored in the Thames. Visitors will be conducted around the ship by members of the original crew on payment of a small fee.

A Texas physician says: "A motor car is the safest place during a thunderstorm." Of course, this may be all true enough, says The Washington Herald, but it is rather hard to borrow a motor car every time it thunders.

Wednesday Sept. 22, '09 SHEA'S MAY MANTON Patterns All 10c

Shea's \$5 Millinery Worth More, You'll Think \$10 When You See It

The millinery question now. Up to every woman's head fly the eyes of every other woman, to see if the answer is yet there. Where the millinery question and the economy question must travel, hand in hand, the best answer we know of is the

Shea's Five Dollar Hat. Everywhere these clever hats are exciting enthusiasm and praise; exciting surprise, too, that such desirable shapes, such correct, quiet and tasteful trimmings can be compassed within the modest price, as we said before you'll think \$10; we only ask. Other grand values and styles at \$3.95, \$7.50 \$10, \$12.50 and \$15.00.

New Long Golf Coats—Very Swell. New 3/4 length Coats, classy and stylish garments, coming below the knee, knitted of fine Australian wool in a firm, lofty stitch; perfectly cut; bound to keep their shape; more reasonably priced here than elsewhere, each \$4.00, \$7.00, \$7.95 and \$8.50. Pony Golf Coats and Norfolk Coats, white, grey, navy, cardinal; special values each \$1.75, \$2.00 and \$2.50.

New Fall Hosiery and School Hose. Shea Hosiery often less than other stores, but always right in quality. Women's Black Cashmere Hose, fashioned and seamless, the most perfect hose shown by any Canadian store; per pair 25c, 35c, 50c, 65c. Boys' School Hose (do for girls, too), heavy ribbed, fast black cotton with pure wool cashmere feet, a most satisfactory and reliable hose; worth 29c to 35c; 20 dozen to clear this week per pair 19c.

Boys' Worst School Hose, heavy ribbed, per pair 25c, 35c. Heavy Worst Cashmere 4-1 Ribbed Hose, our celebrated diamond knee quality for people who know, per pair 40c, 45c, 50c, 60c and 75c.

Dress Goods Sale—A Clear-Out. Every yard of Dress Goods, every yard of Cloth, every yard of Silk in our stock, on sale at wholesale price, near wholesale and less than wholesale. Black goods and colored goods, in all the good weaves, just when you want them. \$1.25 goods for 89c. \$1.00 goods for 69c. 75c goods for 49c. 65c goods for 39c. Corset Sale Still On—Half Price and Less Than Half Price.