

## The Planet.

A. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

## THE DOWSLEY BY-LAW.

On Thursday, April 4, there will be submitted to the suffrages of the ratepayers of Chatham a civic enactment, which is now generally known as the Dowsley by-law.

This by-law, which can be seen in its full text at the city clerk's office, in brief provides for the civic loan of \$20,000 to the firm of T. B. Dowsley & Sons, now of Owen Sound, for the purpose of assisting in the incorporation of a joint stock company under the name of the Dowsley Spring and Axle Co. Ltd., to be located in this city, and in the building, equipping and operating of the factory, which the company purpose erecting here. This loan is to be made without interest, the city being secured by a first mortgage upon the plant, and to be repaid in twenty annual instalments of \$1,000, payments to fall due at the end of each year after the date of loan.

The by-law is one that commands and should obtain the serious consideration of every ratepayer. It is an enactment which touches the industrial pulse of our city. It is also one that effect the pocket of the tax-contributor. It is one that should have been given every publicity, every opportunity for thorough and complete acquaintance. It is the right of the ratepayers—their duty to themselves—that they should be possessed of the fullest information on the matter and weigh it well.

Let each voter question himself. Will the adoption of this by-law benefit our city? The Planet submits that it will. We have not reached that conclusion without thoughtful consideration and careful calculation. The great need of Chatham is commercial development and the by-law, we believe, is a step in this direction. It will give to our community another thriving industry, insure the employment of from forty to fifty adult hands the year round, and we trust, prove the initial impetus to a permanent commercial revival. For the above returns the city will pay in the neighborhood of \$471 per annum. This will, however, we believe, be more than compensated for by the additional civic revenue adduced by the settlement in our city of the families of the many mechanics to whom this factory will give permanent employment.

In view of these facts, The Planet believes that the passing of the Dowsley by-law would be a good and business-like investment.

## NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER THINGS.

Rev. Dr. Courtice, editor of the Christian Guardian, delivered an address at a minister's meeting the other day on Christianity in the newspaper world, in which the following bit of advice occurs:

"While justified in opposing and seeking the defeat of our enemies, we are never justified in hating our enemies. It is so easy for Frenchmen to hate Germans, for Englishmen to hate the French, and for British to hate Boers, but it is positively and awfully perilous and anti-Christian. Journalism that is hysterical, panicky, sensational, fed with strong passions, and filled with narrow national pride, is an awful menace to the peace of the world and of communities. Let every newspaper and magazine, print frequently in bold headlines the words, 'Love your enemies,' and let every Canadian newspaper and magazine cease charging other journals with stirring up race strife, and take the positive ground of preaching unity, brotherhood, and good will."

No doubt the advice is good, and no doubt the press is in need of it. No doubt the press is responsible for much of the mischief that is wrought in the world to-day through racial hatred; but the whole responsibility must not rest on the press; when the church has cleared her own skirts advice will come from her with better grace. One great difficulty is that the people at large have been taught to associate patriotism with race hatred. Indeed, with many people, patriotism takes no other form than loud-mouthed denunciation of the people of other countries. When a quarrel occurs between the governments of two countries the man who stops to examine whether or not the government of his own country is in the right, is denounced as a traitor and held up to execration. It makes no difference how iniquitous the quarrel may be, the man who would escape execration must shout with the mob. Will the church come to the aid of the man who stands up for justice irrespective of racial or national limitations? Here and there a voice of approval may be heard; but the chorus will be very feeble. It is the mission of the church to teach the people to love their enemies. Does the church do so? Perhaps; but largely in the way that Premier Laurier preaches free trade—as a theory. If the Christian church united in preaching the doctrine as a real, living, saving principle of religion war would become impossible. But the moment the war drum sounds the text, "Love your enemies," is dropped; and patriotism takes its place, patriotism being interpreted by the mob as the very opposite of "Love your enemies." What the church and the press might do if they believed in the text "Love your enemies," and preached it, it

## COLDS

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would be hard to over-estimate; but the trouble is that neither the church nor the press believes in the text in war time. The newspapers must look to their subscription lists and the churches to their collections. This, however, is merely a general statement of the case; it would be very unfair to leave it at that. All editors are not looking all the time for subscriptions, nor all ministers for congregations. Both in the church and on the press are men—plenty of them, indeed—who are not afraid of unpopularity when justice is at stake, and who dare to stand for right, though they stand alone. Perhaps the time is not yet come for newspapers to adopt "Love your enemies" as a motto; the church adopts it, it is true, but occasionally turns it to the wall, as anybody can see who studies the history of sectarianism; but perhaps it would not be too soon for both church and press to adopt the motto, "Do justice, even to your enemies." The adoption of even that motto would be a mighty step in advance.

## JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Japan seems quite ready, in fact eager, to fight Russia. She remembers how she was, as she calls it, defrauded of her fruits of victory in the Chinese war. More than that, she sees in Russian attacks upon Manchuria designs upon Corea, over which she (Japan) has certain rights. And Japan does not hesitate to say just what she thinks and what she proposes to do. This is a peculiarity of her. She has, apparently, thrown to the winds all the owl-like reticence and mystery which have hitherto characterized that greatly over-rated science, diplomacy. For which, by the way, the world owes a deep debt of gratitude to her. Her position is, it seems, that war with Russia must come sooner or later, and that it is just as well that it should come sooner. The only difficulty is that it would check for a time Japan's industrial development. As to the outcome of the struggle, the Japanese are not in doubt. They believe that, if they are left alone, they can conquer the Russians, which by the way, is very likely. For Japan is one the ground, her people are enthusiastic for war, her army is better equipped than is the Russian army, her navy is as good as Russia's, and man for man the Japanese are better fighters. It would rather surprise the world if Japan, after conquering Russia, were to take China in hand and train her for a great Japanese-Chinese alliance against the rest of the world. More unusual things than that have happened.

## IRELAND.

Mr. Redmond evidently thinks, aptly comments the Hamilton Spectator, he makes a point against Queen Victoria, or against Great Britain, by saying that, during the reign of the late Queen, the population of Ireland decreased by one-half.

If there is any force in the argument it tells against Mr. Redmond, and not in his favor. About the time of Queen Victoria's accession measures for the relief of the Irish people, and especially of the Roman Catholics, were considered and gradually carried out. All the disabilities of Roman Catholics were removed; the land laws were made more lenient until, now, the laws respecting tenants in Ireland are more favorable than those of any other country in the world; and other action was taken for the benefit of the country. Mr. Redmond would have us believe that while the harsh and arbitrary laws were in force Ireland prospered, and when they were modified or removed she ceased to prosper. Of course Mr. Redmond did not mean that the decadence was in consequence of the better condition of the

laws; and equally, of course, it would not be true, if he did mean it. As a matter of fact the Irish people are more prosperous to-day than they ever were before. The emigration from Ireland is not due to change in the law, for that tends to decrease emigration; nor to a worse condition of the people, for their condition is vastly improved; but to influences outside of these matters. The forces which determine the migration of peoples are not controlled by statutory laws, nor, save in part, by economic conditions.

## THE PREMIER'S UNPLEASANT POSITION.

On October 19, Sir Wilfrid Laurier published in the columns of a Montreal newspaper, a letter, in which, relative to the charges publicly made by Mr. H. H. Cook, ex-M. P., he wrote:

"I am not prepared to admit a man in public life should be answerable for charges of this character, unless they are supported by some kind of evidence which would give them color at first sight. I, however, waive the right of ignoring such an accusation, and I here and now make the statement for myself and my colleagues, that there is not the shadow of foundation in the charge of Mr. Cook; that I never, directly or indirectly, through an agent or otherwise, made any demand upon him for any sum of money, big or small, or for anything else."

"I give the whole charge the most unqualified and emphatic denial, and I challenge the proof of the same."

"WILFRID LAURIER."

Mr. Cook in return vainly challenged the Premier to produce his proof of innocence, and on October 16 issued another open letter to Sir Wilfrid, in which he reiterated his charges and demanded that they be proved to the bottom.

The probing is now on.

Who would have thought it of Sir Richard?

Somebody's going to be Cook-ed before they get through with this investigation.

It looks as if China might be given a breathing spell while Russia and Japan settle their argument.

We suppose that smallpox may be regarded as another example of the importance of little things in human affairs.

It doesn't seem quite so strange now that the Liberals fought with such energy against the investigation of the Cook charges.

The days are growing longer, another crowning proof that the Growing Time inaugurated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier is still in full swing.

Laughter is akin to tears, saith the poet, warbles the Hamilton Post. He was thinking of the remarks of certain political journals over the Cook evidence.

The Pittsburg Times says if Count Boni went around over here slapping editors he would likely collide with the bottom of an elevator shaft. That would be one way of getting the drop on him.

The Toronto Telegram alleges that the declaration oath is mild compared with the blasphemy which the Liberal party at Ottawa has resorted to in connection with the result in North Bruce.

W. T. R. Preston—he of "Hug-the-Machine" notoriety—is now Immigration Agent for the Dominion Government in Europe. Wouldn't it be well to find a vacancy over there for his colleague, Sir Richard, till the senatorial storm blows over?

A large number of the township correspondents of this great family journal over-look the fact that The Planet's weekly edition goes to press at seven o'clock on Wednesday morning. To ensure insertion, their interesting budgets of news happenings must reach this office by Tuesday noon.

After the Czar has spent a few more weeks skipping from one palace to another dodging bombs and picking pistol bullets out of his whiskers he will be in a frame of mind to call another peace convention. Or, again, he may want to start an international war to distract the attention of his pursuers.

Mrs. M.—How many children have you, Mrs. W.?

Mrs. W.—Three; two living and one in Chatham.—Wallaceburg Herald.

We always knew that the Maple City held a high place in the esteem of all who had ever had the good fortune to visit this metropolis, but we had no idea that they were already beginning to confound us with the pearly-ported celestial city of the unseen. But, of course, after living in the "Burg," such a mistake is easily accountable.

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The Busy Cash Store

The Northway Co., Limited



## Next Week Will be Easter

Next week will be Easter, the one day of the year when every man, woman and child will appear at their best; the festal day when stylish dressers and persons of refined taste vie with one another in portraying the newest fancies and the latest dictate of Dame Fashion.

THIS STORE has fully anticipated every possible demand that man or woman can require for the occasion. Months ago our expert buyers went forth in search of the novelties and needs that the best dressers in Chatham would be asking for. Every effort has been put forth to make this store more useful and indispensable to the shoppers of this city. We have no apologies to offer for what we have accomplished. The Goods are here to speak for themselves. It's the best and finest collection that ever came to Chatham. Our MILLINERY DEPARTMENT is a veritable Wonderland of Style and Beauty. The same way with Dress Goods, Silks, Wash Fabrics, Gloves, Tailored Suits, Jackets and Waists.

No use attempting a description of the different stocks. To form a correct idea of what is Stylish and Up-to-Date you must come and see. We would advise your coming now while stocks are at their best.

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Alabastine and Kalsomine for walls in all shades; Brushes in great variety and for any purpose.

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## GOOD PEOPLE IN NORTH BRUCE.

Ottawa Journal, Independent.

North Bruce is quite a remarkable constituency. It increases in a by-election a majority against the government. These North Bruce people appear to actually see principle in politics. Prince Edward Island voters, who appear to be falling over each other to get on the government side, see the leaves and fishes.

## Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

The Great Peppermint Cure.

Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. Its ingredients guaranteed to cure all forms of Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Eczema, Itch, Scald, Burns, Frostbite, and all other skin diseases. Price, one package 10c, six, 50c. One bottle placed in the mouth, the throat is cooled, the lungs are purified, and the system is invigorated.

Woods' Peppermint Cure is sold in Chatham at the Central Drug Store, C. H. Gunn & Co.