

THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17, 1907.

MUST PHYSICIANS REPORT?

The course decided upon by Dr. Gray, of Peterboro, in making conformity to the law conditional on being paid, so much per case for reporting contagious diseases, will probably tend to a better understanding of the rights and duties of a profession favored in many ways by the law, and of the public to which it gives much valuable service. That Dr. Gray sees one side of the case with great perspicacity, but that he has no very high estimate of the privileges and protection which the public grants the medical profession is made evident in his public statement of his views, from which we quote:

The medical profession owes nothing and is under no obligation to any government, city or municipality under the sun, but, on the contrary, it is persecuted and taxed by all these bodies to the last farthing for being in a position to give the information demanded of them.

The ability to give this information, the medical profession, acquired by incessant night and day toil, and in acquiring this information some of us have spent a life time, and not at the expense of any government, city or municipality, but at our own, and as we have to bear our share of all other expenses in connection with the government of the city or municipality we are quite willing to bear our share of the expense of obtaining what the city has demanded and what it must pay for.

Dr. Gray's proposed scale of charges for reporting cases as required by the health authorities calls for these fees per case: Typhoid fever, \$10, and attendance and medicine, \$4 per day; diphtheria, \$30, and daily attendance and medicine \$12; scarlatina and measles \$10, and attendance and medicine \$12 per day; smallpox, \$100, attendance \$100 per day, and medicine \$5. Night tariff very much higher.

This scale of charges for filling in the necessary blanks may fairly be said to be a generous one, from the physician's point of view. The proposed fees for "attendance" does not concern the immediate question of reporting. The statute, it is plain, does not contemplate remunerating the physician for the performance of the duty thus laid upon him by the Public Health Act, treating it as a trivial matter and one for the public benefit, as is the registration of births, marriages and deaths. Sec. 89 of the Public Health Act imposes on physicians the duty of reporting all cases of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever, and cholera within twenty-four hours of their coming to his notice, under a penalty for neglect or refusal to do so of \$20. Evidently there was no intention on the part of the Legislature to pay a fee in each case in which the Board of Health is notified.

But we do not think Dr. Gray will succeed in his campaign against reporting contagious diseases unless paid for it. Moreover, we do not think that in this matter he has the sympathy of the profession with him. No body of men is given greater powers and protection under the law than the physicians, and none is called upon to do so much for the public in a variety of ways. Seldom do we hear of a physician refusing his services to the poorest, even when to hope for reward would be folly, and when the greatest of skill and care have to be exercised. They render valuable services to the community in the protection of the public health. The sacrifices made by the profession have resulted in advances in knowledge which save thousands of lives annually, and the secrets which cost millions and years of toil are freely given up to the benefit of mankind. The poor are treated freely in our public institutions, and in many ways the battle against disease is waged at the physician's expense. There has been no general disposition shown to ignore or defy the law as to reporting diseases as provided by the Public Health Act; and we do not believe that the men who give so freely of skill and time and material in the public interest will seek a reputation for ungenerousness over the trivial matter of the mere reporting of cases to the Board of Health. To do so would be the rankest folly.

SIR HIBBERT, THE PROPHET.

Sir Hibbert Tupper's incautious utterances in the line of prophecy in Nova Scotia, where he boasted that the Tories would carry a majority of the seats in that Province at the next election, reminds us of the elder Tupper's boasts at the Dominion election of 1900, when he led the Tory party to their second defeat. He proclaimed just prior to the election:

We are on the eve of a great battle, and the rising morn will witness one of the most tremendous victories that the Conservatives ever had in the Dominion.

The "morn rose," but on a different scene—a triumphant Liberal party and Sir Charles Tupper himself was among the slain politicians.

On October 30th (the elections took place on November 7th) Sir Charles said at London, Ont.:

Here to tell you I entertain no doubt that on the 7th of November (deafening cheers) the party that I have the honor to lead—that party whose constructive statesmanship has made Canada what it is to-day, the banner will be borne to victory, as it was in 1878. Just as in 1878, we have the support of the most able of thousands and tens of thousands of independent Liberals to be found in Canada.

We all know how the election resulted. But a little thing like that does not worry Sir Hibbert. Talk is cheap, and talking oracularly is his natural occupation. But how unfortunate it is for the tribe of false prophets that their former efforts are on record and rise against them whenever they think they have a moment of inspiration!

"THE TRAGEDY OF QUEBEC."

In this book of a hundred and twenty pages published by Mr. Robert Sellar, editor and publisher of "The Gleaner," Huntingdon, Que., the story of what the author is pleased to call "the expulsion of the Protestant farmers" from the Province of Quebec is told. "The Gleaner" has been oft quoted in recent years by the Tory press as evidence against the Laurier Government, because, although ostensibly a Liberal paper, it has seen fit, whenever it thought opportunity offered, to attack the Government from time to time, supplying much-prized ammunition for the Opposition organs. In the preface of this work, he says, "When I came to Huntingdon forty-four years ago the county, leaving out one of its municipalities, St. Anne's, was as solidly Protestant as any in Ontario. I have witnessed the decline of its Protestant population to the point of being in the minority. The same changes, only in a more marked degree, has taken place in all the counties east of the Richelieu. Drummond, Wolfe, Shefford may be said to be Catholic. The transformation has been going on with startling rapidity during the past fifteen years. Often when friends deplored the departure of Protestant farmers, I heard them ask, 'Did the electors of the other Provinces know what is happening to us of Quebec, would they not intervene?'" The volume is somewhat pretentious in that it gives an historical sketch of Quebec from before the conquest of the French, quoting Governors' reports and other public documents to substantiate the views enunciated, one of which is that the victory of the Plains of Abraham was the worst calamity that could have befallen Canada, as it indirectly caused the American war of the rebellion, and made the French-Canadians the enemies of the British. Whereas, had that battle never been fought, the French would in the course of time have peacefully thrown in their lot with the English. Mr. Sellar endeavors to show that the laws of Quebec, and of the Roman Catholic Church, working together for the expulsion of the English-speaking farmers from the Province. A gradual elimination is constantly going on, he says, one of the chief factors being the inability of Protestants in sparsely settled parts to maintain Protestant schools. For every Protestant that sells out a French-speaking Catholic takes his place. But the author takes pains to place a share of the blame for this unhappy state of affairs upon the shoulders of the Protestants themselves. He says: "Had they realized the grandeur of their opportunity, had they been faithful to their duty, would they have been abandoned to those who, from their first coming, plotted against them? The Protestants of Quebec had presented to them an opening to do a grand work. They threw it away, and as a people they have been thrown away." What ever good or evil the volume may do, the author is terribly in earnest. He says himself that agitation on their behalf may fail to help them, but cannot make their situation worse. The policy of fawning, of silence, of loud talk about tolerance, broad-mindedness, living in peace and harmony, he declares, has failed. But the remedy, if a remedy is required, is not forthcoming. The picture he paints may not be a pleasant one, from a Protestant point of view, to dwell upon, but there is a possibility that this "expulsion" is neither a calamity for Quebec nor for the Protestant farmers, who, in more congenial environment, may find themselves better off elsewhere. It is worthy of note that Mr. Sellar does not mention the process of assimilation that is supposed to be going on there through intermarriage.

The book (copies of which may be had from the author) is worthy of being read from a historical point of view if nothing else. One can sympathize with Mr. Sellar (without sympathizing with "the object of the book") when he declares that its publication means to him a loss of friends and loss of business. We hope he will find himself mistaken in this, and that his French-speaking neighbors, whose many virtues he eloquently pictures, will give him credit for his fearless expression of views and manliness of statement, though they may agree with neither.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

One year more to think over the basis of church union. It is a matter that should be well considered.

The average price of passenger transportation per mile by the C. P. R. in 1907 was 1.79 cents. Carry the news to Billy Maclean.

In the last six years \$600,000,000 has been spent on the United States navy, more than the total naval expenditures of the preceding twenty years. The pace is a rapid one.

Judge Longley has found against the Coal Company in the celebrated Nova Scotia Steel-Coal litigation. Of course there will be an appeal and further stagnation while it is pending.

Those people who are "quite confident" that Hamilton has 5,000 more population than the assessors discovered ought to open a guessing school. It is a harmless amusement.

No, an all-round increase of so much per cent. in assessment is not likely to tend to greater equity. The increase should be large, but it should be arrived at on a fair valuation basis.

A number of the Hindus arriving at Vancouver are said to be incapable and undesirable because of trachoma and other physical defects. If that is found

to be the case they will be deported under the immigration laws and regulations, without any regard to where they came from or under what conditions.

If a French treaty is concluded and goes into force it will probably require ratification by the Imperial Government; if it is a mere trade convention such ratification may be unnecessary.

This is Sept. 17, the anniversary of the evil day 29 years ago when the Canadian electorate deposed Hon. Alex. MacKenzie and put on the N. P. yoke. It is an ugly spot on the page of Canadian political history.

The socialistic organs are boasting much about the alleged success of an antipendular railway under state operation. But the fact that its freight rates are almost three times those of American roads is not made prominent in the statements.

Australia is one of the most highly taxed countries in the world. The per capita rate, commonwealth and state, is £3 6s. 2d. The worst of it is that the rate is steadily rising, and large additions in the taxes levied by the commonwealth Government are already in view.

The alderman who is aching to put on the minutes a motion of censure of the city newspapers for the offence of lese majeste against the aldermen has a clean page, a ready clerk and all the resources of the English language to draw upon. Of course the newspapers would feel duly squelched.

Toronto's street railway is a veritable gold mine for the city. The receipts for August were \$327,353.53, and the city's percentage was \$65,470.72. In addition to this 20 per cent. of the receipts which come to the city, there is \$6,750 in mileage, or a total of over \$72,000 for August.

It is to be feared that the heavy frosts in Saskatchewan have done serious damage to the wheat crop. From 10 to 13 degrees was experienced and in some places and in the newer localities it is probable that a considerable proportion of the crop is injured. The letter in this issue from a former Ancestor man tells a discouraging story.

Dr. Coughlin, superintendent of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Belleville, is said to have occupied a prominent place on the platform at Mr. Borden's meeting at Peterboro. Let's see, were not some Liberal office-holders decapitated because it was said that they had not lost interest in politics? Didn't Whitney promise dismissal to any officials found meddling in politics? Was the rule to apply to Liberals only?

Copper prices dropped lately about 1½c. a pound, and immediately steps are taken to decrease the output. Under natural conditions the price should fall about 50 per cent. About 18,000 men are employed in the Lake Superior copper district alone, and the Michigan Smelting Company, near Houghton, last week broke all records for a single smelter by pouring 375,000 pounds of refined copper in a single charge. The restriction on output is a combine device to bleed the public.

Speaking of Mr. Borden's "platform" the Canadian Courier apprehends that it is not the platform of his party. Of his civil service plank it says "The Opposition Leader will have to do some strong arguing within his party and among his supporters. He will find it necessary to explain to the Conservative members his reasons for adopting this particular plank." He will. Civil service reform is the very last thing that Conservatives would wish to see enforced, if there were the slightest hope for them attaining power.

The people of Hamilton will be asked to vote for or against the ward system of electing aldermen. If the purely political votes prevail they will keep things as they are. They favor the triumph of the machine.—Kingston Whig.

The people of Hamilton understand that. Those of them who favor the present system cannot be blind to the fact that it favors "machine" methods and foists upon the city a class of men whose grand ambition is not the good of the city, but the interests of a political clique which is anxious to turn the city's interests to political account. In fact, the organ of these people publicly boasts that the at-large system must be maintained so that the Council shall remain in the hands of the Tory machine. And some who pretend to be independent of that party are also active in their efforts to retain that system. This state of affairs should appeal to all honest men, who want the city's affairs to be the first and last consideration of the Council, to work for the return of the ward system.

A woman who has taken up her residence in Woodstock writes to the Sentinel-Review complaining of the "cold disposition" which exists in some of the churches there. She says:

For a year my husband and I have attended one of the prominent churches here, going in and out Sunday after Sunday, and during that time not one soul has extended a hand or even bowed, with the exception of a few whom we have met outside of the church. How often I have wished, as I rose to leave the service, that the young couple behind us would just smile and shake hands, or that the middle-aged couple ahead would turn, if only to bow.

The question arises here, why does she not turn and bow or smile. Perhaps the young couple wonder why she is so cold and distant. Of course, she being the stranger may think that the old-timers should break the ice. But why stand upon etiquette? Give the glad hand, and see how readily these "cold" people will respond. We are free, however, to confess that there is too much

"stand-offishness" in our churches, whatever the reason may be. The Christian religion is essentially one of love—"Love the brethren," "salute them with a holy kiss." But these injunctions seem to be forgotten.

Our Exchanges

Not to Blame.

In these days of bad water, why blame Hamilton aldermen for taking to whiskey?

Quality, Not Quantity.

(Toronto Telegram.)

When the Ontario Opposition, 22 strong, gets together to choose a new leader it will look as numerous as a Saturday night crowd on the streets of Hamilton.

So Sarcastic, You Know.

(London Advertiser.)

No doubt Mr. Borden was cheered last night by five members of the school board, who are pure civic patriots, and don't believe in pull or favoritism or nepotism.

The Prophet at Large.

(Henry Clews.)

The world's peace in the future is more likely to be secured on the Pacific Ocean side rather than the Mediterranean. I predict that within the next few years all the great European nations will combine in friendly relations, offensive and defensive, against the balance of the world, which means against China, Japan and India. The population of the United States is about two-thirds of the world's population. If the United States wants to stand alone and avoid being drawn in on one side or the other, the Philippines must be parted with. The contest of the European nations and Germany, especially Russia and Germany, will do all they can to breed trouble between the United States and Japan and would be glad to have both nations crippled through a war. So long as we hang on to the Philippines we will have a war cloud hanging over us. England, owing to her alliance with Japan, is in a better position to stand alone and avoid being drawn in, and if we could make a deal with England to exchange them for her South American possessions it would be a good thing for us, as, when the Panama Canal is built, those islands will be of much more value to us than the Philippines. The Philippines will be a great source of expense to us without any possibility of obtaining corresponding advantages, therefore, why retain what will keep a sore spot open as long as we hold out?

The Cow.

(Toronto Star.)

It is with great reluctance that we venture upon any adverse criticism of the harmless necessary cow, or to lay upon her any share of the blame for the scarcity of milk. In the midst of a frivolous and impatient world, the cow holds up the standards of an earlier day, patient, unerring, toiling, and a thoughtful disposition which is satisfied with reflection, and is in no haste to express itself. But the cow has the defects of its good qualities. It is a quietest. Who necessity arises for prompt and energetic action the cow is not equal to the occasion. When there is a drought when water is scarce and grass poor, the cow raises no clamorous complaint, but it diminishes the supply of milk. It lacks enterprise and initiative. It must have some thoughts about artificial irrigation or moisture-producing foods; the age-long experience and reflection of the bovine race must have borne some fruit; yet the cow does not speak. It has nothing to propose. It writes no letters to the newspapers; it forms no deputations to wait upon Mr. Fisher at Ottawa, or Mr. Monteith at Toronto. In its silent protest against the garrulity and impatience of the human race the few words of wisdom that would set it right.

LOCAL CASES.

Another Appeal in Hamilton vs. H. G. & B. Dismissed.

Hamilton vs. Hamilton, Grimshy & Beaville Electric Railway Co.—J. G. Gaud, for defendants, appealed from order of Falconbridge, C. J. 19 O. W. R. 197, dismissing defendants' appeal from certificate of senior taxing officer as to allowance of a counsel fee of \$125 as fee with brief at trial. Defendants contended that there was no trial, but only an assessment of damages, and that not more than \$10 could be allowed under item 152 of the tariff. No one contra. Held, that there having been no interlocutory judgment, but merely a noting of the pleadings as closed, the proceedings were not to be regarded as an assessment of damages. Held, also per Meredith, C. J. that the note to item 152 of the tariff applies to item 152 as well, and thus counsel fee of \$10 on assessment of damages is liable to be increased. Appeal dismissed without costs.

McCullough estate.—W. A. Logie, for executor, moved for order of sequestration of construction of will under rule 938. G. Lynch-Staunton, K. C., for McLeveney, F. W. Harcourt for Mrs. Rosenbruch, beneficiary. Order to go directing that the estate be divided into nine equal parts and be distributed as provided by the will, and that McLeveney take the share of costs of estate.

Town of Thorold vs. Niagara, Ss. Catharines & Toronto Railway Co.—E. D. Armour, K. C., for plaintiff. R. B. Henderson for defendant. Motion to continue injunction stands sine die. Injunction continued meantime.

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ess for so hospitably opening her beautiful home for the occasion, the company departed, well satisfied with the work accomplished during the afternoon.

Miss McAdam extends a very cordial invitation to all to be present at the October meeting, which will be held in her home on the 9th at 2.30 sharp.

FOUND A WILD WOMAN.

The Strange Experience of Harvard Professor.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—Prof. Macaulay, of Harvard, who has come here after having spent a few weeks in the country surrounding Blue Sea Lake and Manitowish, up the Gatineau River, not many miles from Ottawa, on the Quebec side, brings a strange story of a woman roaming wild in the forests of that district.

Prof. Macaulay says that while hunting in the woods a rush and scurry in the undergrowth caused him to quickly turn, and to his surprise the face of a woman, tanned to a dark brown by exposure and framed by masses of dark, curly hair, peered at him from the shadows. The hunter quickly approached her, but before he could speak she turned and fled.

BEATEN BY A BURGLAR.

St. Catharines, Sept. 16.—Early on Sunday morning Mrs. Kirkpatrick, widow, residing on Court street, was awakened by some one in her room. Striking a match, she saw it was a negro, but before she could do anything the man blew out the light and struck her several fierce blows in the face with the butt of a revolver, and escaped through the window. The neighbor hood was aroused, and search was made, but the intruder could not be found. Examination of the house revealed the fact that nothing had been stolen, though robbery is supposed to have been the motive for the crime.

His reverence—Hollo, Pat, riding on horseback and carrying a heavy pack on your back. How's that? Pat—Ave! you see, sor, the poor beast is tired, and I didn't want to overburden him.

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Shorter Hours Better Work

Our Early Closing Movement

In future we intend closing our place of business at 5.30 every evening, except Saturday. We ask you to make your purchases before that hour. Remember our doors will be closed prompt at 5.30.

Great Sale of Linens

Thousands of dollars' worth of Linens, slightly damaged, now being offered at just about half price.

200 Dozen Table Napkins at Half

\$3.50 Table Napkins \$1.75	\$4.00 Table Napkins \$2.00
\$2.50 Table Napkins \$1.25	\$3.00 Table Napkins \$1.50
\$4.50 Table Napkins \$2.25	\$5.00 Table Napkins \$2.50
\$4.00 Table Napkins \$2.00	\$3.50 Table Napkins \$1.75
\$3.00 Table Napkins \$1.50	\$2.75 Table Napkins \$1.38
\$2.25 Table Napkins \$1.12½	\$1.75 Table Napkins \$0.87½
\$1.50 Table Napkins 75c	\$1.25 Table Napkins 62½c

Bleached Damask Table Linens Half Price

500 yards of Bleached Damask and double Damask Table Linen, slightly imperfect, but not enough to damage the wear, this lot goes on sale at just Half Price.

Big Show of Winter Jackets

Now is the time to select your winter Jacket. Big assortment of styles, full range of sizes.

\$15 Jackets \$7.50

50 Ladies' Fall and Winter Jackets, mostly light and dark Tweeds, ordinary \$15 value for \$7.50

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Ladies' Plain Cloth and Tweed Jackets, about 75 in this lot, ordinary \$15 value, special price \$7.50

Skirts Worth up to \$6.50 for \$2.98 | Ladies' Dress Skirts, tweeds and plain cloths, ordinary value up to \$6.50, on sale Wednesday \$2.98

\$1.50 White Shirt Waists for 98c

100 in all this season's White Lawn Shirtwaists, nicely trimmed with Val. lace, others with embroidered front, ordinary \$1.50 value for . . . 98c

Ladies' Ribbed Underwear 50c

The best value from the best manufacturer in Canada is all we have to say about our ladies' heavy ribbed Underwear at 50c. We placed these goods nine months ago, taking advantage of the old price in yarns, that is the reason you will find the same qualities as last year.

Our Millinery department now in full blast; let us have your orders.

THE T. H. PRATT CO. LIMITED

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

September Meeting of Blackheath Branch at Mrs. Beattie's.

The September meeting of the Blackheath branch of the Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Wm. Beattie, on Wednesday, the 11th. About thirty ladies were present. All business matters being disposed of and the minutes of the last meeting read and adopted, the programme was opened in the usual manner by singing by the members. The question drawn was in charge of Mrs. John Degrow and Mrs. Proctor, the questions being varied and on subjects of general interest, and were satisfactorily answered.

Miss Hannah played a piano solo, which was highly appreciated. The next number was a paper by Mrs. F. F. F. on "Household Economics," in which she pointed out the great difference between stinginess and real economy, also recommending the purchase and use of the labor-saving appliances now on the market, as a wise economy in both time and strength.

The Misses Beattie sang a beautiful duet in which their voices blended very sweetly.

Mrs. John Degrow read an excellent paper on "The Influence of our surroundings on our lives, spiritual, mental and physical." Mrs. Degrow gave many helpful suggestions as to how to make surroundings and influence for good only, and advised that especial care be used in choosing literature for the home.

Miss F. Hanson in another paper on the same subject, dwelt on the influence the making and maintaining of one's surroundings is likely to have on the individual, the family and community.

Mrs. Hannah again played some of her favorite selections which brought to a close a very interesting programme, the company then singing "God be With You."

All the books of the small library being on hand, a general exchange was effected. Miss Blain acting as librarian.

Mrs. Beattie, assisted by the Misses Beattie, served a delicious luncheon, which was disposed of to an accompaniment of merry talk.

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ess for so hospitably opening her beautiful home for the occasion, the company departed, well satisfied with the work accomplished during the afternoon.

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