

## THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, NOV. 2, 1909.

## SAFEGUARD THE CITY.

The little conspiracy to entrap Hamilton into a 30-years' contract for power with the Hydro-Electric Commission, without making it clear that the city was to be exempted from the monopoly provisions which the Commission has insisted upon, and without giving Hamilton credit for its advantageous position nearer the source of supply than the other municipalities of the power union, has again been frustrated. In spite of the arguments of the aldermen, who have gone into the service of the Hydro-Electric ring, the majority of the Council last night while declaring a desire to enter into a contract for 1,000 h. p. thus carrying out the direction of the ratepayers, refused to do so unless reasonable and proper safeguards to protect the city's interests, as recommended by the City Solicitor, are inserted in the contract.

There is nothing mysterious or abstruse about the situation. The members of the Council who are serving the Hydro-Electric ring are ready to swallow any contract, no matter how it may restrict the city's right and privileges and burden the ratepayers, that the Hydro-Electric Commission may present. The question disposed of last night was not: "Shall we, or shall we not, enter into a contract for 1,000 h. p. of electricity for 30 years?" There was no disagreement on that point.

The question was: "Shall we insist upon the insertion, in the contract, of clauses exempting Hamilton from being bound to a power monopoly for 30 years, and making careful provision that in the price to be charged Hamilton for power, allowance shall be made for the smaller cost of transmission as compared with the other municipalities?"

Hamilton, 40 miles from the Falls, should not be charged as much for transmission as places three or four times the distance.

Hamilton Council owes it to the ratepayers to see that such precautions as the City Solicitor advises should be taken to prevent her from being trapped into an injurious electric monopoly for 30 years, which would prevent her from obtaining a kilowatt of power from any other source. That was the issue discussed last night.

Eleven members of the Council voted for the insertion of these safeguarding and protecting clauses in the interest of the ratepayers. Ten aldermen voted to sign the contract with all its ambiguities, and ask no safeguard for the ratepayer.

The contract will now go to the Hydro-Electric Commission with a request for the insertion of the protecting clauses decided upon by the Council. Some of the local conspirators, who are suspected of having induced the Commission to remove the protecting clauses from the contract, boastfully assert that the Commission will not agree to the insertion of the very reasonable conditions asked for by the city.

What would be the inference from such a course?

It will be this: It will indicate very clearly that we are not being dealt with honorably and above board. The legitimate inference will be that the Commission, or those who purport to be serving, expect, by getting us to accept the contract in its ambiguous shape, to bind us hard and fast in electric monopoly fetters for 30 years to come, and that, in such bargain, Hamilton will not be entitled to profit by the natural advantages which her situation and nearness to the point of supply should give her.

Every alderman should be able to see this clearly. If he does not see it, he is not fit to be in the Council. If he does see it, and will not stand up for the city's rights and interests, he is equally unfit for the position.

## BORDEN ON DEFENCE.

"The men with the knives" within the Tory party who have been thirsting for Mr. R. L. Borden's leadership blood, and crying out for McBride, Roblin or Foster to supplant him and declare for a policy of defence opposed to that adopted unanimously by Parliament in March last, and approved by the Imperial Defence Conference, must now come out in the open and make war upon Mr. Borden, or find some way of reconciling their position with the official attitude of their party. In Toronto last night Mr. Borden delivered an address in which he reaffirmed, with emphasis, his adherence to the policy declared for by the House of Commons last session, and asserted that the people of the country were behind that policy. The only crumb of comfort which he gave to the "rebels" was his suggestion that in event of sudden emergency, Canada should be prepared to assist the mother country financially if required. That, of course, is not out of harmony with the resolution adopted by Parliament and the declared policy of the Government, as Mr. Borden took occasion to mention.

The matter of building in Canada the Canadian naval unit against which certain Conservative organs have levelled their attacks meets with Mr. Borden's entire approval. It should be the product, as much as possible, of Canadian natural resources, Canadian industry and Canadian men. Our work should have the approval of the British Admiralty, but it should be a Canadian work. And our action should be inspired by a due sense of our responsibility and by neither hysteria nor indifference.

Mr. Borden's speech, as far as the de-

fence matter is concerned, might have been made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier or Hon. Mr. Brodeur. He will probably be bitterly attacked therefor by the less honorable organs of his party. We may be sure that the Toronto Telegram, the Winnipeg Tribune and the Hamilton Herald will regard his speech as conclusive evidence that he should be deposed from the party leadership. It is safe to say, however, that adherence to the policy for which he declared in March last in a non-party resolution of a unanimous Commons, and re-affirmed last night, is the only course open to a public man of honor occupying his position. Nay, it is even certain that recency to that policy would redound to his discredit and injury while it could not possibly hurt the Government.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Austria's Supreme Court has forbidden cremation within the empire as "opposed to the idea of Christian burial."

The New York city elections take place today, and each of the three mayoralty candidates profess to be confident of success.

Keep a firm grip on the charity purse. Let there be no encouragement for the undeserving, and no invitation to make Hamilton a city of refuge for the lazy and undesirable element.

Bandmaster Robinson is probably the doyen of the profession. It falls to few men to lead such a musical organization as the 13th Band for 40 years. May he lead it to win more laurels.

Of course, that Isip criminal may not be the mysterious "Barton murderer." But what a shock it would give some people if he were to walk up and produce the proofs that he was!

If our old friend Andrew Ross cannot convince the city solicitor that policemen are employees of the city, we'll be ready to hear that he doesn't know a rat-tail ferrier from a jack rabbit.

Toronto bakers are back to 10-cents-a-dozen cakes. When the Legislature meets it is probable that the pound "bun" of bread will be got rid of too, and that the public will get a standard two-pound loaf.

Uncle Sam is building a 14-inch gun to throw a projectile of 1,400 pounds, with a powder charge of 365 pounds. It is expected to have a range of 25 miles. It may never be used—may never be fit for use—but it will take a lot of money out of the people's pocket.

The Herald says that "from the moment the existing Hydro-Electric project was ushered into being" it has supported it. Some people who have "bug memories" could come nearer the truth, and fix a date when the influence began to show its effect.

But why should the taxpayers worry about finding that they are \$22,000 short of what they expected in the sinking fund? A mere trifle like that won't trouble aldermen who are eager to spend thousands yearly to buy power at a higher price than we can get it at home.

The city is short \$22,000 because of the decline in interest rates, is it? The city appears to get hit on the sore spot pretty regularly. But fortunately the ratepayer has a long purse and doesn't care a hoot how often he's hit. That's why some aldermen are so eager to hit him again with the Hydro monopoly club.

The Board of Trade of the city of Guelph has passed a resolution in favor of the early enlargement of the Welland Canal so as to preserve the supremacy of the Canadian waterways and facilitate the transportation of products from the West. There is no doubt that this work has already been decided upon as a part of the Government policy.

Not one of the aldermen who voted against stipulating in the power contract for clauses protecting the city's rights, and securing for her the advantages which are naturally hers, would for a single moment think of taking such a course in the case of a private contract of their own. Why, then, should they be so careless of the city's interests?

The Herald's Hallowe'en pumpkin with a candle in it doesn't scare Mayor or McLaren worth a cent. If it wants that 1,000 h. p. contract signed, let it advise the conspirators for whom it speaks, to put in the contract the protective clauses recommended by the City Solicitor. Why should any Hamiltonian wish to deprive the city of the protection of those clauses?

The 25 per cent. dividend which the York County Loan Company shareholders get represents just about four years' dividends on their capital. If the union with the company it was proposed to join had been carried out, the York County people would have had their 6 per cent. per annum, and no law costs, and would have still had 100 cents on the dollar of their capital. They had some very bad advisers.

The action of the Southern Cotton Combine in restricting the output by closing down a lot of its mills is being initiated in Canada. The president of the Dominion Textile Company intimates that the Canadian companies are "taking precautionary measures to protect their interests." In other words, the mills will restrict their output while raw cotton prices remain high by putting their men on short hours. This

will be a little rough on the men, but will enable the Cotton Combine to safeguard, if not to increase, its profits.

Speaking of the speculations as to the probability of the woman murdered in Marshall's bush on the mountain being one of the Isip murderer's victims, the Herald says: "The prisoner has been identified as a man who was released from prison on August 15, 1905, and according to the condition of the Barton victim she must have met her murderer prior to then. Why 'must' she? Is that not jumping at conclusions with a vengeance?"

Astronomers are now beginning to compare observations of Halley's comet, which is now visible to telescopes as a star of the 13th magnitude without any elongation. It is said to be about 220,000 miles from the earth and approaching us at the rate of 1,293,000 miles a day. Its perihelion passage will be on or about April 20. It may be seen as a telescopic object nearly all winter, but toward spring it will be visible to all star gazers.

The esteemed Toronto Telegram learns that Mr. R. L. Borden "is still prepared to support the Government nay scheme as much as he ever was." He wants people to wait till they get the report of the proceedings and conclusions of the Imperial Defence Conference before they pronounce upon the matter. Well, that would seem to be a not unreasonable request. But the Telegram and its few sympathizers are not a snap for the wisdom or efficiency of any defence policy decided upon: they are concerned only in what party capital can be extracted from it.

Engineer Macfarlane was guilty of some plain speaking in defence of the city which he has so faithfully served for 50 years. His words did not advance the schemes of those who sought to "do" the city, and their organ has pursued him maliciously because of his course. Even in referring to his long and honorable record of service the Herald cannot refrain from asserting that he has been "at times a rather indiscreet and insubordinate servant." That is not intended as a compliment, but coming from that source, honest ratepayers will recognize it as one.

Perhaps the most farcical exhibition of last night's Council meeting was Ald. Morris' declaration that he would not be in favor of "riveting the shackles of monopoly on the people." Rightly or wrongly, Ald. Morris has won the distinction of being one of the strongest advocates of "riveting the shackles" of the Hydro-Electric monopoly upon Hamilton. And he assumes that position with a full knowledge that by doing so he would be causing a large and constant loss to the ratepayers of Hamilton for 30 years to come. It is hard to be patient with such hypocrisy.

Some time ago the Times, replying to a correspondent, said that a person born in the United States, although he might have lived abroad for some years, remained "a native-born citizen" of the republic. An exchange informed our correspondent that we were in error. The New York Journal of Commerce, being asked a similar question with reference to a boy born in Paterson, N. J., who was taken to Scotland while an infant, remained there until he was of age and then returned to the United States to take up his permanent residence, declares that the child is entitled to register and vote as a native-born citizen. It points out, however, that the mere fact of his living abroad did not deprive him of his American citizenship, unless he forfeited it by some act of his own. This is exactly the view the Times took of the matter.

## Our Exchanges

100 SWEET.  
(Galt Reformer.)

Chatham is flirting with a sugar factory proposition. Galt's courtship days with sugar beet factories are long since past.

LAND-HUNGRY BRITONS.  
(London Advertiser.)

How long will the landless people of England and Scotland consent to be divorced from their native soil, with the spectacle before them of an Ireland liberated from land monopoly?

NOT SO SLOW.  
(Galt Reporter.)

Hamiltonians are not so easy as they look. The farmer from Regina who tried to get \$6,000 from a banker of the Ambitious City on forged letters of credit was really caught in the act.

BETTER SPORTS.  
(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

The Suffragettes make politics hideous in England, but with all their hysterics and stone-throwing, they are better "sports" than the "men" who disgrace Toronto University by their so-called frolics.

NEWSPAPER SPACE.  
(Kingston Whig.)

Every line in a newspaper costs its publisher something. If it is to benefit some individual, he may fairly expect to pay something. You do not go into a grocery and ask the proprietor to hand you out ten pounds of sugar for nothing, even though the grocer may be a personal friend and even though the gift might not be a large one.

ABATTOIRS NEEDED.  
(Woodstock Sentinel-Review.)

A Dominion Government meat inspector told the Hamilton Board of Health the other day that he found meat offered for sale on the Hamilton market that was utterly unfit for food, some

of it reeking with tuberculous germs. The report has set some of the Hamilton people talking about better inspection. The best time to inspect meat is said by the authorities on such subjects to be at the time of killing, when the organs are all available for examination. And to make such inspection possible municipal abattoirs would be necessary.

MR. FOSTER HEDGES.  
(Winnipeg Free Press.)

Mr. Foster might easily have made his speech one of moment. There is a question which really takes precedence of every other present issue—what is Canada to do in the matter of naval defence? Mr. Foster discussed this matter in the House of Commons on March 29 last in the wisest and best speech of his whole career. Had he repeated that speech in part at the banquet he would have done himself credit and the state some service. But Banquo's ghost at Macbeth's banquet was not less welcome than such a speech by Mr. Foster would have been at the gathering of the Roblin hosts; for Mr. Foster therein committed himself irrevocably to the policy of a Canadian-owned and Canadian-controlled navy, supporting the contention with arguments, as conclusive as they were patriotic. Doubtless warned not to repeat his heresies under the watchful eye of Mr. Roblin, to whom this policy is anathema, the only course left open to Mr. Foster was to dig up an old campaigning speech from the bottom of the barrel.

## Amusements

The visit of Mme. Blanche Marchesi to the city last evening, though long delayed, was none the less welcome. The distinguished French interpreter of song stands in a special niche in the temple of art; and, although there are not a few who decry her vocal offerings as not singing, it should be remembered there are other qualifications besides a beautiful voice that count in seeking to win fame as a vocalist. A relatively poor voice artistically used is generally much to be preferred to a splendid voice artistically controlled. Mme. Marchesi displayed her particular talents in the Grand Opera House before a fair-sized audience, being assisted by a pianist of great ability, Brahm Van Den Berg.

Probably the most noticeable feature of the Marchesi portion of the programme was its catholicity, quite a number of countries being put under tribute. By this means, at least, the audience was introduced to composers whose works they had not before even heard of. The pianist also presented some new works, namely:

Capriccio ..... Brahms  
Fireside (Scherzo) ..... Liszt  
Fairy Tale ..... Raff  
Brahm Van Den Berg  
Air from Il Trovatore, D'Amor sull' all ..... Verdi  
Pur dieci ..... Schumann  
Arietta from the opera, Phoebe ..... Lotti  
And Pan ..... Bach  
Phyllis Has Such Charming Graces (old English) ..... Young  
Old French dancing song (eighteenth century) ..... Mm. Blanche Marchesi.  
Barcarolle ..... Rubinstein  
Fledermaus Walzer (The Bat) ..... Moszkowski

A Midsummer Night's Dream (paraphrase) ..... Mendelssohn-Liszt  
Brahm Van Den Berg  
Morning Hymn ..... Henschel  
Soft-footed Snow ..... Sigurd Leif  
The Erl-King ..... Schumann  
La Procession ..... Scherbi  
Les Pied nus ..... Bruneau  
Revolutionary song of a peasant of the Fifteenth Century ..... Debussy  
The Blackbird's Song ..... Scott  
Children's Songs

The Little Tin Soldier ..... Hollander  
Sun Sum (cradle song) ..... Taubert  
The Land of Nod ..... Liza Lehmann  
The Guardian Angel ..... Liza Lehmann  
The Cuckoo ..... Liza Lehmann

Mme. Blanche Marchesi. Of Mme. Marchesi it can be said the quite enthusiastic audience, for the most part, was not troubled over her lack of quality of tone that was evident in the more virile passages. It did realize that in the sotto voce and softer passages her singing, so far as tone was concerned, was as sweet and delicious as could be desired. It was, however, in interpretation that Mme. Marchesi shone. She entered with wholeheartedness into the reading of each number, and showed how much she accomplished by an artistic presentation of the composer's intent. Among the more successful numbers were Bach's aria, "Old French Lancing Song," "Soft Footed Snow," "Mazodling," and the children's songs. Facile in all the languages of the songs she gave, the enunciation was particularly effective. From the first she was showered with applause, and had to sing several encores to please her insistent hearers. Two pretty bouquets were also handed to her.

Brahm Van Den Berg shared honors with the singer. He is a masterly exponent of the piano and delighted the audience. There was a clarity and consistency about his playing that gave full value to the varied compositions he presented. He has the greatest impression in Moszkowski's powerful number, and Liszt's massive paraphrase of Mendelssohn's well-known Wedding March, for which he received tremendous applause, and was obliged to play an encore. His accompaniments to Mme. Marchesi's songs were in the highest degree artistic.

Miss Jeannette Lewis, who promoted the concert, again showed her admirable taste in the pretty home-like stage setting she had prepared; it was awarded a round of applause, when the curtain went up. A mistake was made (the singer, it is said, being responsible), in darkening the auditorium so that the somewhat involved programme was followed with difficulty. In these things the audience should have first consideration.

AT BENNETT'S THIS WEEK.

Although better acts have been seen at the Bennett Theatre than those on the programme this week, the show on the whole is a pleasing one, and well worth seeing. While none of the numbers are particularly brilliant, all are good, and last night's audience secured some very good things. The musical numbers were generously applauded, and their performance was but little behind anything seen here in the musical line this year. Their selections are cleverly composed, and as cleverly executed. Almost every variety of musical instrument is used. John Neat, the

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J. C. SIEMON.

when it is known that Leslie Stuart, composer of "Florodora," wrote the music for "Havana." He has given the piece something like eighteen gems, among them being "Hello, People; People, Hello," "My Husband," "I'm a Cuban Girl," "My Dearest Girl," "On the Shores of Sheephead Bay," "Cupid's Telephone," "Way Down in Pensacola," and "How Did the Bird Know That?" In sending the production to this city, the Shuberts assure a competent cast, strong not only in the individual selection of the singers, comedians and dancers, but in the aggregate, the cast in this respect being one of the largest in a musical comedy.

"BEVERLY."

Scenically perfect, brimming over with love, laughter and excitement is the dramatization of George Barr McCutcheon's "Beverly," which will be the attraction at the Grand on Thursday evening.

Although "Beverly" is the sequel to "Gruesome," it should in no way be confused with that book, as it tells a complete, vivid, absorbing story of its own. The only likeness between the two books and the two plays is the setting. The story and the action is entirely different. It has been elaborately staged and a cast of players of reputation selected to interpret the various difficult roles.

"Beverly" is a fine production, which was amply testified to by the enthusiastic reception which it received here last season.

"THE BARRIER."

The vivid out-of-doors, the picturesque new country and the clashing characteristics of men fighting for bread or playing for fortune, permeates every scene of Rex Beach's thrilling Alaskan romantic drama, "The Barrier," which will be presented for the first time next Friday and Saturday evenings, with a special Saturday matinee, at the Grand. Theodore Roberts, so well remembered here by his many past fine performances— who can forget his Jo Portugal in "The Right of Way"—will be starred by the management in the character of the Alaskan trader, John Gale. He will be supported by Miss Florence Rockwell, of "The Round Up"; Mr. W. S. Hart, last seen here as "The Virginian"; Mr. Alphonse Ethier, the recognized "Ben Hur," and Mr. James Durkin. The sale of seats begins to-morrow morning.

MISS WEBB'S RAPID RISE.

Speaking of Miss Laura A. Webb, of Canastota place, now in Toronto, a critic says: "Ontario is to have a real eleventh hour, finally. No less a young lady is she than Miss Laura A. Webb, just now putting the finish to a career of hard work in repertoire at the Toronto Conservatory School of Expression. Magnetic in her platform appearance, she has always that modest and delightful appeal that works such marvelous ways with an audience and all hearts are at once opened to her charms. Miss Webb is gaining weight in the most in different parts of Southwest Ontario."

A Sensational Clamor.

The boot and shoe bankrupt stock of James McPhail, formerly of 185 King street east, was placed under the hammer by Thos. Burrows at his auction rooms on Friday and it was an exciting auction sale, to be sure, which seemed to interest the bidders about the same as the spectators and betters at a great handicap or Derby horse race.

The fortunate buyer was Chas. D. Jones, 119 King street east, who, on being interviewed after the sale, said he had decided to place the large stock before the public, starting Friday, Nov. 5, when no doubt the people of Hamilton will reap the benefit of sensational low prices of 50 cents on the dollar, which will be placed thereon. It behooves everybody to follow the crowd, beginning that day, where the searchlight will direct to Jones' carnival of bargains.

"The result of the war in South Africa can be summed up in two words, viz., 'mutual respect.'" With these words Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, member for South Pretoria, summed up his address on conditions in South Africa, delivered yesterday before the Montreal Canadian Club. "Since the war ended the Dutch were happier than they had ever been because it is the first time they have ever had self-government."

Municipal elections were held throughout the United Kingdom on Monday. They were fought on local issues, but the results are considered indicative of the political feeling in the country. The returns are incomplete, but up to a late hour they show that the party strength had been little changed.

YOUNG CANADA WAS THERE.

(Republished by request.)

When Freedom's bus called "To Arms,"

From far South Africa's shore,

The British lion roared from sleep.

Sent up his Britton's roar,

His cub, responsive to his call,

Sprang up to do and dare,

Went round the world, and jerked they stood

Young Canada was there.

Hurrah! Hurrah! The Maple Leaf,

We'll round the world, and jerk they stood

Young Canada was there.

Up! Up the people's flaming height

With fearless heart they go,

Through hissing shot and bursting shell

To charge the hidden foe.

With bayonets fixed—A British cheer

That sends the enemy to rout.

The charge is made, the victory won,

Young Canada was there.

Stand by the Mother's bloodstained banner

With reverential zeal.

There fell the bravest of the brave

Men's soldiers of the Queen:

Oh! to their memory drop a tear

With bowed heads and lowly prayer.

Among Britannia's hero-dead,

Young Canada was there.

Go ask the hard won battlefield,

Where heroes fought and fell,

When Cronle's flag by British pluck

Were backed by bayonet drill,

Whose valiant deeds and iron nerve

Deserved the palm to bear.

The answer comes with ringing cheer,

Young Canada was there.

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