

THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, JAN. 26, 1909.

THE LIQUOR INTERESTS WIN.

There will be no reduction of licenses in Hamilton this year. In the Council's decision to this effect the strength of the liquor element to control it is amply shown.

There will be some surprises for the electors in the report of the Council proceedings last night, none greater, we venture to say, than the finding of Ald. Allan posing as the champion of anti-reduction, and taking the ground that the Council should never order a reduction in the number of licenses, but merely fix the limit at whatever the License Commission issues.

ROOSEVELT'S LIBEL SUIT.

It is very probably true that the charges made in certain United States papers regarding the distribution of the money paid by the Government for the rights and property of the French Canal Company on the Isthmus of Panama had any justification, and no reason for regarding them as anything but a reprehensible "sensation."

The public is rightly zealous of the freedom of the press, though it may be sometimes abused, and will be suspicious of any attempt to suppress free discussion and criticism of whatever is done in the name of the Government or under its authority or at the expense of the public treasury.

It does not befit the government of a free country to seek to suppress free discussion of any question which concerns the relationship of the government to the people. Even if some ancient law be discovered which enables such a suit to be brought little good is likely to result from the prosecution.

REDUCED INSURANCE RATES.

Our neighbor the Herald remarks that Toronto home owners have been granted a reduction of 10 per cent. in the fire insurance rates, but adds that "there is no relief in sight for local householders."

THE "HIRED VOTE" QUESTION

The thinkers among the "ownership" men in England are beginning to awaken to the grave problem set before them by the corrupting effect of the large number of municipal employees whose votes are of course influenced by their employment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Children's Aid cause is one that deserves well of the city. It is cheaper to save the children than to punish criminals.

The majority in the Council has a great sympathy with those who suffer from thirst. It refuses to cut off a single one of our sixty-eight drinking places.

"Subscriber,"—No, the management of the police is a matter entirely removed from the Council, save in so far as the Mayor for the time is one of the three members of the Police Commission.

British officials administering the old-age pension act have discovered that about 70 per cent. of the applicants are women, and that 4-5 of those are widows. Is this to be explained by the greater longevity of the widows, or have they merely been the first to make application?

We have an idea that Mayor McLaren and his colleagues are as well informed in regard to the power contract and their duty under it as they are likely to be after paying out \$500 or \$1,000 more of the ratepayers' money to law experts.

It is hard to believe that the John Ross Robertson who does so much for the Children's Hospital has anything to do with the morals or policy of the Toronto Telegram, which takes such delight in reflecting that Toronto may be able by the waste of a lot of the ratepayers' money to cause great hardship and loss to the people whom the city induced to invest their hard-earned money in the Electric Light Company.

A. H. Mackay, LL. D., Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia, is not one who sympathizes with the action of the Ontario Government in its retrogressive order that the superfluous "u" be inserted in such words as "ardor," "favor," "honor," etc.

Elliot C. McDougall, President of the Bank of Buffalo, declares that the tendency to maintain the present high range of prices of commodities, and even to increase them, is a menace to the prosperity of the country.

It is not easy to find a man who would be made a cheap country in which to live. We are at present far from Mackenzie's idea. But not a few of the great thinkers among the economists are to-day ready to accept it.

Of course a policeman is not required to obey the personal order of the Mayor to appear before him for trial. Equally, of course, Magistrate Jellis is right in saying that the proper method of procedure when an officer is to be proceeded against is by formal charge.

Bowser, the mouthy British Columbia politician who cut such a sorry figure when brought to Ontario by the Tory managers in the late general election campaign, is suffering the penalty of failure. Had this peanut politician succeeded, his "emptiness" and lack of ability and administrative capacity would have been forgotten—or at least forgiven—by his party.

The most hopeful thing about Judge Cassels' report in regard to the Marine Department is that there is such a report. No government would have provided for such a report that had not already determined on some plan of radical reform.

Not Gentlemenly.

Is profanity on the increase in Ontario? There are some who believe that it is, and are organizing societies for its suppression. Be there more or less swearing to-day than has prevailed in the past, there is certainly too much of it, and anything which can be devised to stamp it out ought to be welcomed.

Licenses.

It is reported that the Ontario Government will centralize the license commission system. In Toronto, where most trouble arises, the difference between the value and the cost of licenses is about \$250,000 a year, and some hint that it does not all remain with the license-holders.

Making the Ocean Safe.

The value of Marconi's gift to mankind was amply demonstrated in connection with the loss of the Republic. Wireless messages despatched from the deck of the sinking vessel brought several crew and passengers were safely transferred to a sister ship, and then the big liner sank beneath the waves.

A KICKER KICKING.

Mr. Editor,—Why don't you open up a kickers' column, where people could make a kick when they wanted to? How long is that wooden fence to remain at the northwest corner of the Gore?

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1909 SHEA'S Our Winter Clearing Sale. This great sale is still setting the pace. Never have such bargains been offered to Hamilton people. You will find no lot up in the supply of bargains, for as one lot is cleared up something else is put in its place. It pays to buy at the Shea sales.

OUR EXCHANGES

Not Cause and Effect. (Toronto Telegram.) Days growing longer; ditto, speeches at Ottawa.

The Rich North. (Toronto News.) If Horace Greeley were alive to-day he would say "Go north, young man."

Needs Fumigating. (London Advertiser.) The smallpox hospital appears to have been as dangerous to patients as the smallpox.

The Busy Doctor. (Berlin Telegraph.) April weather in January may not be good for the coal man, but it makes the doctor busy.

Horse Sense. (Toronto Star.) Veterinary students are to have the privileges of the university. This means the introduction of some horse sense into a college education.

Produce the Original. (Kingston Whig.) Perhaps Mr. Borden will produce the original telegram and show just what he said to the British Columbia on the eve of an election.

A Doomed Palace. (Brantford Expositor.) If they are having the kind of weather in Montreal just now that we are having in Western Ontario the ice palace in progress of erection in that city will soon be dissolved in tears.

A Woman at the Bottom of It. (Guelph Herald.) The Republic has been rammed, and like most other troublesome incidents there has been a woman in the case, seeing that mention is made that Nanucket.

Cassels' Report. (Woodstock Sentinel Review.) The most hopeful thing about Judge Cassels' report in regard to the Marine Department is that there is such a report.

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A GREATER HAMILTON.

(T. W. Sheffield.) From the general expression of opinions and recent press comments, it is clear to the most apathetic citizen, the time is opportune, for the powers that be, to direct the forces available into one homogeneous class for bringing out and publishing to the world the natural and unlimited advantages of Hamilton as an industrial center.

SAN JOTTINGS.

A decided change has taken place in the aspect of nature at the San. Last week everything was covered with snow. Now no snow is seen. Some of the patients are wishing for colder weather.

The evenings have been pleasantly passed at the hall, playing different games sent up at Christmas. A grand piano concert was given to those who are confined to the infirmary, where there is quite a row of beds occupied.

Vapo-Cresolena

Established 1879 Whooping Cough, Croup, Bronchitis Cough, Grip, Asthma, Diphtheria Cresolena is a boon to Asthmatics. Does it not seem more effective to breathe in a remedy to cure disease of the breathing organs than to take the remedy into the stomach?

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