

THE HAMILTON TIMES

MONDAY, FEB. 1, 1909.

THE LYNDEN TRAGEDY.

The inquest into the tragedy near Lynden whereby four of a family perished in a burning house, while a very proper procedure, does not seem likely to shed much light upon the cause of the unfortunate occurrence. The facts now clear are that the house was burned down, and the four inmates perished in the fire. All else seems to be mostly theory and conjecture. From the information obtainable, it seems quite probable that the theory that the fire proceeded from the hall stove is correct. It is easy to understand that the sleeping inmates might have been suffocated by smoke before they were awakened to a sense of their danger. Albert VanSickle's story as to the finding of his father bears out this theory. Perhaps the inquest to be held may bring out some additional facts, but it seems hardly likely to do more than give assurance that the quadruple fatality was entirely accidental. The sympathy of the public will go out to the stricken friends of the victims.

COMMON SENSE PREVAILS.

Socialism has been making progress in the West. Its advocates have been using "municipal ownership" and "public ownership" cries to win over the ignorant and unthinking. Their last point of attack was the ownership of the elevators in the three Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. It was sought to get the Governments of these three Provinces to take over the elevators and make of the storage and handling of the grain in them a Government monopoly. The scheme has failed, for the present, at least. The three Premiers appear to have been staggered by the prodigious character which the proposition assumed on being carefully considered, and they have taken refuge in the excuse that there are legal obstacles in the B. N. A. Act, and that the financial questions involved are of a character to call pause.

It is very much to be suspected that the seriousness of the departure involved in the proposed measure led the Premiers to be very glad that a constitutional obstacle was discovered. The work which they were asked to undertake to do was no easy one. It involved the establishment of a Government monopoly of the storage and handling of grain, and all the incidental regulation of the railways, and control of shipping at the terminal points. The undertaking of such a work is one from which the Provincial Premiers might well shrink. The financial problem involved is also an important one. There were in operation last year 1,334 elevators, with a storage capacity of about 40,000,000 bushels. Taking the cost of each elevator at \$5,000, the initial outlay on such a scheme would not be much less than \$10,000,000. To raise this money, bonds would have to be floated. Who would buy them? That question appears to have troubled the Premiers. They realize that Governments are not the best managers of such a system, and they express themselves as doubtful of the coming being acceptable to the world's financiers. Already "ownership" methods have fallen into bad odor with the financiers, and municipalities and Provinces find the raising of money for socialistic schemes is becoming a costly matter. Perhaps, however, the argument which appeared most strongly to the three Premiers was the overwhelming sense of the inequality of the ownership of the grain trade among such a system as was proposed.

In their statement to the grain growers the Premiers called attention to the excellent regulation of the Federal Government, and they point out that further legislation along those lines may be looked for, from time to time, as the situation demands. Thus, they think should assure an amelioration of the conditions which led to the request for a Government monopoly of the elevators. We think that they did not do so. The Federal policy, as clearly indicated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, is not Socialistic; it is the very reverse of it. It is set forth in the organization of the Dominion Railway Commission, which exists to secure justice as between the people and those who render them services. It would leave the people, in their individual capacity, to do the business of the country, the Government exercising its proper functions of securing equity and enforcing the laws made for the proper government of all the people. And, with such a policy carried out and enforced, there is no need for any Province or municipality to plunge into the vortex of Socialism in the vain hope of improving the position of its people.

THE COUNTRY'S CRIMINALS.

A short time ago, with a view to influencing the voters in the Dominion elections, a Whitney official made an attack on the immigration policy of the Dominion Government, representing it to be filling our prisons and insane asylums with foreigners, to the great expense of the country. The animus of the attack was so evident and the assertions made were so easily capable of disproof that the sycophantic effort failed. The job was overdone, and the work of exposure was easy. The evidence to confound the slanderer was contained in the Whitney Government's own reports.

Recently the volume containing the report of the Minister of Justice for the year ending March 31, 1908, was given to the public, and the figures it sets forth are strongly corroborative of the Provincial figures, and shed additional light on the contemptible official effort to slander the country in the attempt to make a little cheap campaign mud ammunition. The prisoners in our penitentiaries are over 60 per cent. Canadian born. The penitentiary population is 1,476—just 53 more than in 1907. Those born in Great Britain and Ireland number 239, or 16 per cent.; and those from the United States 155, or ten per cent. By religious the convicts were: Roman Catholics 691, Protestants 739, other 48. The temperate number 503, or 34 per cent.; temperate, 718, or 49 per cent., and abstainers 255, or 17 per cent. Abstention from intoxicants can safely be said to lessen crime.

The educational status of the convicts is thus given: Read and write, 82 per cent.; read only, 4 per cent.; absolutely illiterate, 14 per cent.

The parole system seems to work well, and there is no indication of any weakness to be remedied by the dangerous "intermediate sentence" system for which some cranks are making requests. In the year 401 convicts were released from our penitentiaries, reformatories, and prisons, and only 21 licenses were cancelled.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Can Toronto not get up an earthquake, too? Will it allow Montreal to crow over it?

Fielding's Canadian loan, recently placed on the market in London, is now above par. Put away all that "bear" Tory literature of the last election campaign.

This is good, snappy, Canadian winter weather. Pity the poor Londoners who wallow about in murky fog which renders even street lights useless as landmarks.

Deaths from the drinking of wood alcohol are not infrequent. An Orillia man is the latest victim. It is a very strong tippie; not even the most seasoned stomach can bear it.

More of the "bugger-mugger" policy in the getting of the advice from this latest legal expert. Why this secrecy, Mayor McLaren? Are you to adopt the "do-it-in-the-dark" method too?

The County Councillors would like to know by what right the Hydro-Electric Commission presumes to take possession of the county roads as right of way for its electric line towers. It indicates a nerve, they think.

By the Hydro-Electric contract "peak-load" system of measurement we might get a nominal price of even \$10 a horsepower, and still be made to pay a very stiff price for our current—double that of our present contract.

Bishop DuMoulin proposes a great cathedral as a memorial to the late Archbishop Sweetman, the work to be extended over a long period. Toronto might do worse than undertake such a noble work.

The Portsmouth Labor Congress emphatically declares that "tariff reform" which is but a euphemism for protection is merely an effort to put more taxation upon the masses of the people, and can never be a cure for unemployment.

Billy Maclean has the leadership bee in his bonnet, and his ambition soars higher than the leadership of a party of one. His paper is again faking stories of the early retirement of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Billy's self-esteem is an enormous quantity.

Some of the farmers of the county seem to think that a "smart" trick was played on them by the agents of the Hydro-Electric Commission in getting privileges for towers on their land, and they are going to find out if they have no legal redress.

There were 20,000 fewer marriages in New York State last year than in 1907. The new license law is blamed for the decrease. The falling off is principally along the border counties, where it is easy to avoid the new law by going into adjoining States to be married.

The Toronto News declares for the indeterminate sentence system, and for taking from the courts the fixing of the term of imprisonment of offenders and placing it entirely in the hands of prison officials, authorized to keep those in their custody incarcerated for life. It is to be hoped it will never be adopted here.

The question of franchises for international waters seems likely to require settlement ere long. International streams are matters absolutely to be dealt with by the Dominion, so far as Canada is concerned, and it would seem that the final authority to deal with power franchises affecting them lies with the Dominion.

Mr. Borden professes to approve the measure granting an increase of pay to the Ottawa civil service; but at the same time censures the Premier for having approved of it before the elections. As a matter of fact, however, the policy of increase was fully declared during last session of the House. Consideration of the case of the outside service is postponed.

Negotiations are now going on for the taking over of St. Thomas' municipal street railway by the Southwestern Traction Company. The consideration of the matter grows out of a suggestion to the company by the city authorities. A good deal has been heard from the "ownership" about the "success" of

the St. Thomas street railway under municipal operation, but it is now disclosed that it has been running behind all along, and last year the deficit was about \$12,000.

Toronto received \$477,071.67 as her share of street railway earnings last year. The street railway system is a great source of revenue to the city, although the Council does its best to cripple and injure it. Under municipal ownership and operation the probability is that the city would neither get half so much money nor half so good a service. But the grafters would fatten.

The Times is not prepared to take the reckless assertions of the Ottawa Journal as to the capitalization of the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company being four times the amount of the actual money invested in the company, without reserve. The Ottawa Journal's "carefulness" as to getting at the facts when it wishes to malign a private enterprise or to promote a socialistic one does not tend to inspire confidence in its statements.

Whenever a man or a newspaper abuses the Hydro-Electric project, the chances are ten to one that that man or that newspaper is interested directly or indirectly in the cause of electric monopoly.—Hamilton Herald.

Isn't it a great deal easier to imagine that when a man or a newspaper devotes itself to the endeavor to injure a local industry and to sell out the city to an outside interest, that he, or it, has a "grat" in view, or is seeking to earn a cash reward, mayhap, greater than that which fell to Judas?

The Finance Commission reports to the Massachusetts Legislature in scathing terms upon the municipal government of Boston, which it holds to be dominated by spoilsmen, and employees of the corporation. It says that the municipal employees practically control 10,000 votes and are a menace to good government. Boston's experience is not different from that of other places. Wherever municipal ownership has been tried, the influence of the "third vote" has tended to inefficiency and corruption.

The Victoria Colonist essays an explanation of its part in the publication of the forged Borden telegram, and expresses regret that it was made a party to the fraud through neglect to exercise proper precautions to verify its authenticity. No light is thrown upon the question of who committed the forgery. The Vancouver Province, the chief Tory organ of that city, says the forged telegram would have elected any candidate in the Province. The Sunset, also Tory, declares that Barnard has no right to hold the seat.

The Herald is invited to state what would be the cost of a civil plant for the distribution of electric light and power to private consumers. To answer this query would require several weeks' work by an electrical expert. At present the Herald has no electrical expert on its staff.—Hamilton Herald.

More important still than the computing of the enormous cost of such a plant is the hundreds of thousands of dollars of the "taxpayers' money" required to build it. That is a feature of the discussion which the monopoly organ avoids. The last sentence of the extract, however, was quite unnecessary to those who are its readers.

For some time Conservative organs have been anticipating interesting revelations when the trial of the libel case of Laird vs. Premier Scott would take place at Regina. It seems they are not to be disappointed, although the revelations may not suit their taste. One Fry, member of a firm which has had large electric contracts, swears that he had an agreement with Mayor Laird by which, in return for putting through certain extras, his firm agreed to pay \$1,500 to Laird and Akl Cooper. One thousand dollars of the amount was actually paid. The testimony has created a sensation.

The loss of life by railway accidents in Canada is startlingly large, and the number killed and injured was much greater last year than the year before. According to the figures of the Dominion Railway Commission, the casualties were:

	1908.	1907.
Passengers killed	64	42
Passengers injured	26	210
Employees killed	246	212
Employees injured	866	317
Others killed	219	206
Others injured	177	76

Total killed 529
Total injured 1,209
The principal roads last year reported fatalities as follows: G. T. R., 165; C. P. R., 283; C. N. R., 19; M. C. P., 25.

"The city's power contract gives the Cataract no monopoly," is the assertion of one of the local Cataract organs. Ananias could not have improved upon that lie.—Hamilton Herald.

We invite the power monopoly organ to quote the language of the contract which gives the Cataract Company a monopoly. Until it does so, it stands self-condemned of arrant falsehood. Beyond a specified number of horse-power for which the city has contracted for its own use, it may buy from any source it wishes; and anybody who desires to do so may produce, or purchase from the Hydro Commission or any other source of supply, and deal in electric current. Under the Hydro contract the city would not be allowed to buy current from any source save from the commission. It would be subject to a monopoly for 30 years.

The Herald says that the fear stirred up in the minds of the farmers over the Hydro electric line being run, unprotected, through their fields and along

the highways, is "the work of the private electric corporations." How absurd such an assertion is, needs, to refute it, only mention of the fact that when the Electric Development Company sought legislation to authorize its 60,000-volt line to be built, the Legislature, impressed with the danger to life and property of such a line, compelled it to purchase a wide right of way and fence it in. Why should the Legislature not protect its own line, which is to carry nearly double the voltage?

OUR EXCHANGES

Improved Proverb.
(Toronto News.)

The darkest hour is that in which the alarm clock rings.

Our Refuge.
(Toronto Star.)

Wentworth County will not build a house of refuge. When Hamilton people need relief they will just flee as a deer to the mountain.

A Clean Man.
(Kingston Standard, Tory.)

Sir Wilfrid has his faults but whatever they are they do not include dishonesty either in his public or in his private capacity. He is a clean man and a clean public officer.

Cement vs. Brick.
(Toronto Telegram.)

Toronto property owners are entitled to vote their choice of whether brick or cement will be used in the construction of the trunk sewer. A cement sewer is said to be just as serviceable and durable as brick and to cost \$200,000 less.

The Lawyers First.
(London Free Press.)

A mother and her son's widow disputed in a Toronto court over \$900 insurance on the son's life. The court heard the case, but before decision was given the mother and daughter-in-law agreed to divide what was left after the counsel fees had been paid.

Is That So?
(Guelph Herald.)

Some Liberal organs still talk about the closure in Hamilton, but what a suffering public longs for is a closure which will put a stop to the rot which is advanced in support of the demand.

Tory Cries.
(Brookville Recorder.)

The "Duty of the Hour" pamphlet and Borden's cooked telegram, the two great Conservative cries are about on a par with their Conservative prototypes "The Ram Dan" and "The Calf with a Cough," favorites of the stumpers in this Province a few years ago.

To Denisonian Tuft-Hunters.
(Winnipeg Free Press.)

Canada, officially, is minding her own business and keeping out of British party quarrels; and it would be an excellent thing if individual Canadians would follow the example thus set. They may do more harm than good to the cause they have at heart, while their well-meant efforts will develop a certain amount of irritation between the Mother land and Canada. The relations between Canada and the Empire will not be affected to any appreciable extent by the outcome of the next British election. Should the Liberals win, Canada will not begin playing "her own business game" in a sense differing from the way in which she has been playing it for the last forty years. If Great Britain goes back to Protection the trade between Canada and the Motherland may be affected, favorably or the reverse; but this will not affect Canada's position as an integral part of the Empire. That does not rest upon trade or upon commercial considerations, and she should claim that it does misunderstands or misrepresents Canadian sentiment.

JUVENILE TEMPLARS.

The juvenile weekly meeting of International Juvenile Temple, I. O. G. T., was held in the C. O. O. F. Hall on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. D. B. Smith, superintendent, who presided, was supported by Ruby Patterson, C. E., and in the course of business gave an interesting and inspiring address to the children. The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:

Past Chief Templar—Ruby Patterson.
Chief Templar—Vera Patterson.
Vice-Templar—Gladys Munroe.
Secretary—Mabel Austin, Crown Point.

Financial Secretary and Treasurer—Tom Macnaughton, 355 James street north (re-elected).
Chaplain—Mabel Russell.
Marshal—Robert Yull (re-elected).
Guard—Ernie Lyle.
Sentinel—Vern Priestland.
Pianist—Nellie Morrison.

Sick and Visiting Committee—Mrs. D. B. Smith, Mrs. C. A. Hardy, Tom Macnaughton and Robt. Yull, with the following honorary members, Mrs. C. A. Hardy, Mrs. F. E. Ambrose and Mrs. Robt. Morrison, still continuing as assistants to the superintendent. Another prosperous term is looked for. A. H. Lyle, Grand Treasurer, has offered a valuable gift, to be competed for during the new term.

JUGEND VEREIN.

The Jugend Verein of the German Lutheran Church held its annual election last night in the Sunday school room. The following were elected: Mr. H. Rembe, jun., president; Miss A. Stuhne, now, secretary; and Miss M. Gompf, treasurer. Miss Gompf has been treasurer for quite a number of years. Mr. H. Rembe, jun., was secretary last year. Several new members were also enrolled.

CREOSOLE ANTISEPTIC TABLETS
A simple and effective remedy for
SORE THROATS AND COUGHS
They combine the germicidal value of Creosole with the soothing properties of slippery elm and licorice. Your druggist, or from us, 10c in stamps. LAMAZO, MANS CO., Limited, Agents, Montreal, 401

BROKEN RUDDER.

New York, Feb. 1.—The American liner St. Louis, which was due at New York Saturday from Southampton and Cherbourg, but was delayed by a broken rudder, arrived at the Ambrose Channel lightship at 7.10 a. m. to-day, and was met by two tugs.

A boys' month organ band played selections in Berkeley Street Methodist Church, Toronto, on Sunday.



Head Office, Hamilton.

The Opening of a Savings Account, with even as small a sum as one dollar, leads to opportunities available by no other plan

ONCE started, it is remarkable how savings grow. The dollars pile up, slowly at first, then more rapidly as interest is added to principal. Soon the coveted home is a possibility; or the mortgage can be paid; or something desired, but now unattainable, becomes possible.

Apart from this, in sickness or in temporary adversity, the Savings Account—gathered from money scarcely missed, and which otherwise would have been spent in passing fancies—becomes your best and ever available friend.

The Bank of Hamilton enjoys the full confidence of all who exercise care in the selection of a Bank for the safe custody of their savings. With Capital and Reserve of \$5,000,000, Total Assets of over Thirty Million Dollars, and plain, conservative direction by sound business men, it forms the ideal depository for savings.

Combined with this, is a studied absence of display or formality in opening a new Savings Account. A simple inquiry for the Manager brings all requisite explanation and attention to your requirements; and the small savings of workmen, clerk, farmer, or housewife receive courteous attention.

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Saturday
Evenings
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Branches in Hamilton

Deering Branch—N. W. Cor. Sherman Ave. and Barton St.
East End Branch—N. W. Cor. Wellington and King Sts.
North End Branch—S. W. Cor. Barton and James Sts.
West End Branch—S. E. Cor. Queen and York Sts.

Hon. Wm. Gibson,
President
J. Turnbull,
Vice-President and
General Manager.

FOR A GREATER HAMILTON.

To the Editor of the Times:

Sir,—Under the above heading and for the advancement of the surrounding territory an annexation movement is on hand and a number of enthusiastic workers are meeting with great success in petitioning the ratepayers of the district or portion of the township of Barton, bounded on the south by the brow of the mountain, on the east by Ottawa street, on the north and west by the present city limits, upon such terms and conditions as to taxation assessment and improvement or otherwise as shall be determined by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board of the Province of Ontario. Ratepayers of the above mentioned district are cordially invited to join in the movement or annexation; ratepayers of Kenwood and Prospect Place will confer a favor on the workers of that district by corresponding with Mr. George Johnson, Trolley street north; ratepayers of the Crown Point district will be cordially invited to sign petitions held there by Mr. Henderson, Kensington avenue, and Mr. Plunkett, grocer, Crown Point; ratepayers of the "Athlet" district are also cordially invited to sign a petition at McLellan's Grocery, corner Central and Lorne avenue; ratepayers owning property bounded by Barton street on the north, by King east on the south, Trolley street on the east and Sherman avenue on the west, all are invited to join in the movement, and corresponding with J. K. Nixon, Rosemount avenue. This movement should be a success for several reasons: the necessity of water is of the utmost importance for many reasons, such as for fire protection and domestic purposes; then another reason almost above all others, especially from a sanitary point of view, sewers, as under the present system the health of the surrounding

growing communities is endangered. Almost a majority of the ratepayers have signed our petitions for annexation. All others who have not signed but own property in the above mentioned districts and reside in the city are earnestly invited to get in line and correspond with the above mentioned petition hustlers. Please publish the above and confer a favor on the annexation hustlers. George Plunkett, Sec. Beechwood Ave., city.

MAKE HAMILTON MOVE.

To the Editor of the Times:

This morning I received a copy of the San Diego Union, largely devoted to advertising that beautiful little city on the coast. Under a scheme for civic extension and improvement, San Diego has more than doubled its population in four years. It is simply marvelous what a few leading business men may do in pushing forward the interests of a city. The time has come when there must spring up extraordinary competition in trade. Modern conveniences for travel at reasonable rates were never more promising. The centers where men of high intelligence and ambition are established will now form conditions to draw the trade. The ordinary efforts of the past will not suffice. Men capable of originating new and practical plans will require to step to the front and grasp the opportunity. If Hamilton is to hold its lead as a manufacturing center against its strong rivals, there must be organized effort of a high order. It is not prudent to state all that might be expressed on this point. Commerce is a civil warfare now and we need to have generals with diplomatic skill and dauntless. Letters calling public attention to a larger Hamilton are nice to read, but there must be the organization with the right men in power. I am hopeful that our city council has been well chosen. Our mayor has had some training as an army general. I shall be delighted to see Major McLaren, our present mayor, acquit himself in a manner worthy of the position and its opportunities. Let our retail merchants remember that the three fine steamboats on our waters are now in control of a very large Toronto retail concern. Preparation to keep the Hamilton trade at home should be made. This cannot be done unless conditions are formed to meet the exigencies growing out of modern progress. The question under consideration is very important and touches every part of our community. Let party strife and petty jealousies cease to appear and let there be an unincorporated organization of our best men with determination to push our beautiful city to a high position. Let no better things be said against our rivals. Let home duty engage our highest efforts. Does our Board of Trade, 2402 Grand street, mean the situation? Yours truly, WILLIAM STRONG, February 1st, 1909.

Handy Shur-On Eyeglasses

Do not tell with one hand by simply pressing a small spring with the forefinger and thumb, won't come off till you take them off.

Get the GENUINE SHUR-ON and have it made fitted.

I. B. ROUSE
111 King East

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1909

OUR WINTER CLEARING SALE

Thousands of dollars' worth of the very goods you have to buy now being offered every day at less than wholesale prices. No store in Canada, no matter how large, can offer you such values as the Shea store has during this great Winter Sale. Fresh bargains are put out every day. Sometimes they are not advertised, so make it your business to come in every time you are near. Save your premium tickets.

Rousing Bargains in White Wool Blankets

WHITE BLANKETS AT \$2.69—Good large Blankets, not all wool, but nearly so, 64x84 size, 7 pounds weight, well made and good firm quality, worth \$4.00, but a 5th lot sold at fold, so they go for per pair \$2.69
WHITE BLANKETS AT \$2.95—Every thread pure wool, 6 pounds weight, 60x80 size, a beautifully woven Blanket, very lofty finish, fast colored borders, full \$4.50 value, on sale for per pair \$2.95
WHITE BLANKETS AT \$4.50 AND \$5.00—Beautifully fine, pure wool Blankets, 7 and 8 lbs. weight; 64 x 84 and 66 x 86 size; fast colored borders, and beautifully soft and downy finish; on sale as follows:
\$4.50 \$6.50 and \$8.95 Blankets for \$5.00
\$5.50 and \$5.95 Blankets for \$8.00
BEST FLANNELLED BLANKETS—10-1 for 95c; 11-4 for \$1.10; 12-4 for \$1.20
BED COMFORTERS, 95c—60 x 72 size, made of beautifully clear cotton batting, cross lapped, covered with silkline and chintz; worth from \$1.75 to \$2.00, on sale to clear for per pair 99c

Women's Coats at \$8.95

At this price we have picked out a quantity of Coats in loose back, fitted back and semi-fitted, black beavers, kersyes and fancies, and fancy cloths, finished with silk and braid, all the most stylish goods in Canada to-day, worth from \$15.00 to \$18.00, the whole goes on sale to clear for, each \$8.95
Women's Coats, worth from \$10.00 to \$12.00, on sale for, each \$6.75
\$20.00 to \$25.00 Coats for \$15.00
Fur-lined Mantles, \$45.00, for \$27.50

Women's Neck Furs On Sale

Women's Possum Stoles, \$12, on sale for \$7
Women's Possum Stoles, \$15, for \$9
Both Isabella and Blended, for \$8
Black Lynx Stoles, with heads and tails, \$15, for \$5
Marmot Stoles, good heavy fur, good size, \$7.50 for \$5

Silk Underskirts—A Sale

A sale of black and colored Silk Underskirts, worth \$8 to \$10, for \$4.95
Black and Colored Silk Underskirts, worth \$5 to \$7.50, for \$3.95
Moreen and Saten Underskirts, in black and colors, worth \$1.50 to \$1.75, for 98c