ONE CENT

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

TEN PAGES -- SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 6 1904-TEN PAGES

WOODS' NAIVE CONFESSION OF FALSIFICATION

DECLARES MINISTER SUGGESTED PLAN OF PADDING ROLL BUT REV. FRANK FORSTER REPUDIATES THE SUGGESTION

TOOK PAINS TO EXONERATE FLEMING FROM BLAME

Ward 5 Alderman Admits He Added 19 Names to Assessment Roll of Markham Place, But Didn't Know It Was Wrong.

Ald. Woods confessed to having padded the voters' list by the addition of 19 names, and implicated Rev. Frank Forster, whose father's property was used for the deception. Forster denies complicity, but did not expose the

Erasures were made in the assessment books, to enable the false entries to be made. Responsibility for these erasures is the point on which the talent of the special investigators will be focused to-day.

Mr. Riddell threatens all witnesses who fail to exhibit frankness with summonses for perjury. Judge Morgan resolved to probe to the very bottom Statement made from the witness box, under oath, by an alderman of Toronto that for years it has been the common practice for candidates to place names of friends on vacant lots as owners of property they had no interest in, for the purpose of fraudulently voting. He followed the announcement with the asertion that these names are still on the rolls and constitute, in part, the voting list of the city to-day.

Desperate effort said to have been made by accused alderman to have witnesses protect him. One man said he would not tell the story Woods desired for the price of the City Hall.

It was an animated story of falsification and fraud that Ald. Woods related during the civic investigation before Judge Morgan. For two hours the Fifth Ward alderman occupied the witness box, confessing that he deliberately padded the list with 19 names of voters, and implicating Rev. Frank Forster, a Presbyterian minister, as his assistant. With apparent composure he declared that he did not know his acts were criminal, and excused the nefarious practice by deliberately alleging that hundreds of persons had been placed on the list by other candidates in a similar manner, and that the evil was quite common thruout Toronto.

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This was the dramatic sequel of the several days' preparation to probe the depth of the municipal scandal. At the close of the exciting developments, Special Prosecutor Riddell declared that he was quite satisfied with the first day's results, and predicted even more startling revelations for to-day. It was the first arraignment of the Assessment Department in the order of the investigation. Commissioner Fleming was not touched by any evidence supplied by the chief witness of his own shameful work, but there was a grim forecast of Saturday's exposures, that promise to uncover even more wholesale corruption.

Spectators Personally Interested. It was a serious-looking crowd of municipal statesmen, ward politicians, lawyers and citizens who confronted Judge Morgan at 10 o'clock Friday when he declared that he was ready to begin the work assigned to him by Judge Winchester, relating to the investigation of the City Assessment Department. The large number of grey heads around the benches indicated the deep interest of the elderly citizens in the situation. Politicians, too, were painfully alert to the possible dangers, and many were present. The city officials wanted to get the results first

Ex-Mayor Howland was sandwiched between Controller Richardson Ex-Mayor Howland was sandwiched between Controller Richardson and J. R. L. Starr. He wore an air of complacency that was in distinct contrast to the melancholy attitude of several aldermen in the immediate rear. Controller Spence was silhouetted in the doorway leading to allege Morgan's private apartments, and maintained his position thruout the hearing. Mayor Urquhart wore an air of expectancy. He was in the secret and knew what was coming, and just how high up the frost line would reach. Every seat was filled and many stood around the wall missioner Fleming. A carnation flam a from beneath his coat lapel. He conversed carnestly with his counsel, E. F. B. Johnston. He was flanked by Ald. Woods, who had by his side his legal advisers, T. C. Robinette and John M. Godfrey. Rev. Frank Forster, now of Morris, Man., late of

and John M. Godfrey. Rev. Frank Forster, now of Morris, Man., late of Toronto, sat with R. G. Smythe, employed to protect the interests of the Forster family, whose property was used by Ald. Woods in padding the assessment roll. At the opposite table were clustered Ald. Dunn and his representative, Mr. DuVernet, while Messrs. Riddell and Lobb, special representatives of the city to conduct the enquiry, completed the coterie of notables. Not since the Stratton-Gamey affair has more interest been manifested in a court proceeding at the City Hall

Threats of Perjury Prosecution. There was an ominous suggestion in the preliminary remarks of Mr. Riddell about witnesses who failed to meet the investigation in a spirit of frankness. It may have sounded a trifle brutal to anyone who entered into an arrangement to keep back facts to hear the threat that any such would be confronted with prosecution for perjury, together with other penaltics, as soon as they stepped from the witness box. Mr. Riddell, however, disavowed any intention to intinfidate anyone.

The investigation, Mr. Riddell said, would for the present be confined to the Assessment Department. His information covered a period of some five years. Scarcely had Assistant City Clerk Sanderson taken the stand to identify a record when the conflicting interests of the vari ous solicitors began to force a definition. Mr. Johnston must cross-examine wherever it touched the interests of his client, Ald. Dunn, and Ald. Woods had interests almost identical that were threatened. So did Rev. Frank Forster, and the representatives of these three gentlemen were on their feet all together. Clearly the witness had to run the gauntlet of half a dozen critical lawyers in each instance. One after another, they dell and Mr. Lobb conducted the examinations of witnesses.

This was the painful ordeal that Ald. Woods had to pass thru In addition, Judge Morgan exhibited a degree of interest in the different phases of the evidence, that brought out conspicuously many fine points that cut both ways. His Honor observed in a very matter-of-fact way that he could neither convict nor acquit, but he could get at the truth, and that was precisely what he proposed to do. Minister Contradicts Alderman.

Ald. Woods and Rev. Frank Forster were the star witnesses. The young minister gave an indignant and pointed denial to the story of the Fifth Ward alderman, which sought to throw upon him part of the responsibility for the padded list, which helped that statesman in the 1901 city campaign. The fact that Ald. Woods had been a member of the Bethany congregation of Clinton-street, over which Mr. Forster presided, made his effort to implicate the minister especially serious. Woods was flatly contradicted. In fact, it was a curious coincidence that brought Mr. Forster suddenly to Toronto from the Northwest at the moment he was needed to contradict the report. He was attending a funeral, and, hearing the story, went to Mr. Riddell and suddenly appeared in court to register a denial. Ald. Woods had previously gone to Mr. Riddell and told him in substance what he testified to on the witness stand.

The story of the day clustered around 19 names of voters being put opposite as many lots in Markham-place, in September, 1900. This is Woods' ward. The property was owned by William Forster, father of the minister. Woods swore he secured the Forster family's consent to putting these names on that property, that would qualify 19 people to wote for him. The preacher denied that he gave the permission. He said Woods asked him if his family were all right toward him, and he said they were. That was the extent of any request Woods had made of him to his knowledge. He admitted, however, that he discovered that these names had been opposite his father's property, and he did nothing to have

Woods Exonerated Fleming.

Ald. Woods said the had the names enrolled, but that Commissioner Fleming knew nothing of it. There was an intimation that Woods prepared the list in Mr. Fleming's presence, but this was denied. He acquitted Mr Fleming of any responsibility. He used this method to increase his vote. It was a common practice among candidates, he swore, but when pinned down for specific instances said he would go over the books later with Mr. Riddell. All those whose names were used testified that they did not own any property there, and did not know how their names got there, unless Ald. Woods put them there. One man said he voted for Woods on the enrolment, and that Woods told him it was all right, tho he personally thought it dangerous.

Ald. Woods deliberately swore that he did not know he was committing a crime when he made this use of a friend's property. The names were not put on until after the tax papers were sent out for the year, so that the deception would not be discovered until after the election of 1901. Later, after some of these bogus voters had voted for Woods, the man said he learned that he had no right to make that use of the rolls, therefore he employed a law firm to notify Mayor Howland of the discrepancy, and the Court of Revision changed the assessment list back to the original condition, showing the property belonged to the Forsters. The evidence showed Ald. Woods had called on the Forsters recently and endeavored to get them to swear he had their consent in the

Who Ordered the Change? Now the examination seeks to ascertain upon whose instructions the elerks in the Assessment Office or the City Clerk's Office, or wherever the erasures were made, did the work. Originally the property was listed as that of William Forster Each lot showed his name. Some clerk erased Forster's name from each lot except one and inserted the 19 names handed in by Woods. Commissioner Fleming denies any guilty know-ledge of the transaction, and City Clerk Littlejohn has not been suspected of connection with the case strong enough to require a denial. investigation to-day will centre interest on placing responsibility for this act. If it is traced to Mr. Fleming, it will establish a knowledge of Woods' Dadding and besmirch the Assessment Commissioner.

WHAT PAGE MAY TELL

The star witness from whom the sensation of the day is expected to-day is Harry Page. He was formerly employed in the Assessment Department. He will be put early on the stand. It is said he will tell the story of just how it was possible for Ald. Woods to put his padded list into operation, and further reveal the mysteries of pulls and pulls. The evidence is expected to implicate Mr. Fleming.

Six witnesses are in readiness to dispute Page's story and establish the innocence of Mr. Fleming. This phase of the case is being narrowly watched. All the incriminating story of Woods failed to show the Assessment Commissioner to have been in any way responsible for the falsifications, tho the crooked work was done by instructions of Woods in the commissioner's office by the commissioner's clerks.

Page is expected to be the first witness to go into the box at 10 o'clock this morning.

CIVIC INVESTIGATION IS BEGUN Into Assessment Department Charges BEFORE COUNTY JUDGE MORGAN

Full Report of Proceedings-Episodes in Court When Ald. Woods Made His Remarkable Confession-Array of Counsel and Witnesses.

The civic investigation into the charges of Ald. Dunn against the Asessment Department was begun yes erday morning at the City Hall with Judge Morgan on the bench. Goes Back Five Years

Mr. Riddell explained that the charges vent back some five years, and that the investigation would be equally broad. Many entries will be looked in-

"So far as they tell the truth," he said, "they will be protected, but if it appears that they are not telling the ruth, information will be laid, and it will be pursued as far as possible, and n so saying, I do not wish to be understood as threatening. Some of us have had experience in investigations not unlike this where witnesses, who would ordinarily tell the truth, would not do so, in order to save others." Thomas Sanderson, Assistant (Ity

Merk for four years, was the first ritness. He produced the assessment roll of Ward 5, Div. 1, folio 15, where the Markham-place property was listed. This is the place Ald. Duna referred to originally in his charges before the Council.

The entries were made by R. P. Beckett. The record showed erasures and these names were placed on the multi-lated page:

ALD. WOODS.

Nineteen separate indictable offences were confessed to by Ald. Francis H. Woods yesterday. His only excuse was that he did not know it was a violation of the law to pad the list, since hundreds of names were on the "that had been added in a similar manner. He has been a member of the City Council eight years, is a business man of prominence and ability. His popularity is undisputed, since he received at the last election in the Fifth Ward 2039 votes, and

the next highest alderman got only 1576. Mr. Riddell said he would not cause to be laid any complaints until the investigation into the Assessment Department is finished. He expects to get thru the work in this branch to-day or Monday. To The World he declared that he had not had time to discuss the criminal prosecution of Ald Woods. He may be imprisoned for a term on each

****************************** WHAT THE CODE SAYS.

Section 503 of the Criminal Code of Canada provides: "Every one is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to seven

years' imprisonment who wilfully destroys, injures or oblterates, or causes to be destroyed, injured or obliterated, or makes or causes to be made any erasure, adultion of names or interlineation of names in or upon any writ of election or any return to a writ of election or any indenture, poll book, voters' list, certificate, affidavit or report, or any document, ballot or paper made, preferred or drawn out according to any law in regard to Dominion, provincial, municipal or civic elections." ************************************

THE ONTARIO ELECTOR'S CRY.

(Uttered After the First Division.) Vituperation is vexation, Division is as bad: The Rule of Three perplexes me,

The practice drives me mad-

BALFOUR HAS SG MAJORITY.

London, Feb. 5.-In the ultimate dirision in the House of Commons to-day on Mr. Robson's amendment to he address the government had a majority of 86, the vote being 192 for and

TO-DAY IN TORONTO. Dominion Swine-Breeders' annual meeting, Palmer House, 0.30 a.m. Dr. Corson's lecture, Conservatory of

Dr. Corson a lusic, 11 a.m. Winter Fair Board, Palmer House, Winter Fair Board, Palmer House, 2 p.m.
Horse parade, Queen's Park, 3 p.m.
Urgan recital, St. James'-square Presbyterian Church, 4.
Willis R. Hotchkiss, at University.
Students' Union, 4 p.m.
Alex. Culverwell on Trent Valley Canal. Canadian Institute, 8.
Dr. Drummond, at Association Hall, 8.
Princess—"Sheriock Holmes, 2-8.
Grand—"Awakening of Mr. Pipp," 2-8.
Majestic—"Deserted at the Altar," THE CIVIC INVESTIGATION



Rev. Frank Forster, Surrounded by Other Witnesses Who Testified Yesterday.

LAURIER'S JEJUNE IDEA BELONG TO THE PROVINCE RIDDLED BY SIR CHARLES AS A RESULT OF COLLISION

Ontario Will Maintain Its Position Against Claims of the Dominion

The final control of the second process of t In answer to Mr. Hendrie, Hon. Mr. Tupper quotes from a despatch of Lord

as Wardner was minus his watch and money when discovered. He came from

St. George-St. Property for \$4800. Apply to J. L. Troy,

Died Aged 86.

Kingston, Feb. 5.-Hon. Mr. Tarte will speak here on March 15 Try the decanter at homas.

> St. Catharines, Feb. 5.-Thomas Blake charged with stealing a money letter was sent up for trial to-day.

Involves Most Effective Means of George Hunter of Toronto, C.P.R. Inducing Hostility Between Fireman, Literally Ground to Canada and Britain.

The Province of Ontario asserts a (Canadian Associated Fress Cable.) London, Feb. 5.—As the result of a government, which has leased a part flore, say that since his letter of Janof the waters to Alexander McNee of Windsor. This announcement was made with H. W. Lucy has qualified his posiUnique of the claims of the Dominion ter liberty to carry on treaty negotiaflore, say that since his letter of Janof the waters to Alexander McNee of Windsor. This announcement was made with H. W. Lucy has qualified his positions, say that since his letter of Janof the waters to Alexander McNee of Windsor. This announcement was made with H. W. Lucy has qualified his posito talk of the country and the same positions of the country and the Windsor. This announcement was made with H. W. Lucy has qualified his posiin the legislature yesterday by Hon.

to agrange preliminaries. Sir Charles into a freight standing on the main dustrial lines in one of

ST. THOMAS MAN KILLED.

Winnipeg. Feb. 5. — Joseph Wardner, C.P.R. fireman, was fatally injured by falling from the third storey of the Union Bank building at Moose Jaw yesterday. Foul play is suspected,

12 PEOPLE BURNED TO DEATH.

\$4800 will buy an elegant 12 roomed governor of the Dutch East Indies re-residence on St. George-street, imme-porting the cruption of the volcano of Thorold, Feb. 5.—William T. Fish jured. The eruption was accompanied jured to-day of paralysis, aged 86. Try the top barrel, 31 Colborne-street violent eruption was in 1849.

SENT UP FOR TRIAL

"Not made by a trust"—Cafe Noir pure folio shortly.

To All Parts of Canada Yes, and the States, foo, the fame of Clubb's Dollar Mixture" is spreading. We are daily receiving orders from satisfied smokers who, one and all sound the praises of this celebrated to sound the praises of this celebrated to bacco. It smokes cool and will positively not burn the tongue; sold at a popular price—I.-ib. tin, \$1; 1-2-ib. tin, 50c; 1-4-ib. package, 25c; sample package, 10c. To be had from up-to-date to-bacconsists, or direct from A. Clubb & Sons. 49 King West.

During the cold weather no drink is more refreshing than "Radnor" with Scotch or Rye.

"Radnor" makes the very best mixer light in New Yer with all kinds of spirits or wines, and as a mixer with milk is unequalled.

Always ask for "Radnor" with your lo Touraine. Havre whiskey.

Pieces at London.

right in the inshore fisheries of James London, Feb. 5.—Sir Charles Tupper, rear-end collision in the C.P.R. yards Ray, and will maintain its position writing to The Times anent Canada and here to-day GEORGE HUNTER of kiss gave The World a variety of very against the claims of the Dominion her liberty to carry on treaty negotia- Toronto is dead, and JOHN ABER-

and said the government had Lansdowne to the British Ambassador not see the freight until they turned

when the burglar broke away.

When pursued, the man drew a revolver and fired three shots at his night.

Amsterdam, Feb. 5.—The Colonial Office received a despatch from the pursuers. He got away.

The police at No. 3 police station were notified.

Edwards, Morgan & Co., 26 Wellington Street Mast. Toronto. Edwards & Ronald, 48 Canada Life building. Winnipeg, Chartered Accountants.

During the Cold Weather. During the cold weather no drink is

NINE YEARS A MISSIONARY

Willis R. Hotchkiss Says Britain Has Acquired All Valuable Parts of Dark Continent.

Toronto has an interesting visitor in own till Monday, in the person of Willis R. Hotchkiss, at present travelng secretary of the Students' Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions. He has been brought to the city under the auspices of the Student Volunteer Union of Toronto, and yesterday afternoon addressed a meeting in the University Y.M.C.A. rooms. To-morrow afternoon he will speak at Victoria University at 3 o'clock, and to this meeting students and the general public will be made welcome

Yesterday The World had an interriew with Mr. Hotchkiss on his arrival



tears of residence in British East Africa, only eight miles from the equator, he is naturally lean and brown, But he has the face of the explorer. and the enthusiast; energy and determi-

sentiatives in the Fan Eastern markets. The company desire to call the attention of the public to the fact that by better satisfaction better further to-day for fur jackets, better satisfaction better further to-day.

sovernor of the Dutch East Indies reporting the eruption of the volcano of Merapi, in the Island of Java, and saying that 12 people were burned to death and that 20 were severely injured. The eruption was accompanied by showers of red hot coals. The last violent eruption was in 1849.

David Hoskins F. C. A. Chartered Accountant, 207 Manning Chambers, City Hall Square. Phone Main 50.68. 246

SENT UP FOR TRIAL

Metal Ceilings, Skylights and Roofing. A B Ormsby & Co., cor. Queen and George Sts. Telephone M. 1725

Lower Lakes—Strong southeasterly, winds; milder, with sleet and rain. Sunday-Becoming colder again. Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Charles S. Hyman Was sworn of the Privy Council to-day. It is expected he will be given a portfolio shortly.

Georgian Bay—Strong winds: a little higher temperature, with snow, urning to sleet or rain; Sunday becoming colder again.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence—Strong casterly and southeasterly winds; snow, turning to sleet.

Geo. O. Mercon, Chartered Accountant Auditor, Assignee. 27 East Wellington Street Toronco, Phone M 4744. 246

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.