

The Toronto World.

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A One Cent Morning Paper.

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His Record & Future.

The assessed value of property in the city is in some cases 50 or 60 per cent. higher than its real value, and I have no hesitation in saying that there are cases in which property is assessed for 70 per cent. more than it would sell for to-day. No matter who is mayor, no matter who your aldermen are, a change must be made. The present assessment staff must be wiped out and you must have a board of three, first class men to re-assess the whole city. The people are paying upon a false assessment; they are living in a fool's paradise, imagining they are taxed 17 mills on the dollar while they are in some cases paying as high as 30 mills on the dollar of true valuation. You must get men into that department who have new ideas, who are out and know something of the value of property.—Mayor Fleming at the Annual Meeting.

Mayor Fleming here admits, what The World pointed out a few days ago, that the property-owners of Toronto are paying two and three per cent. of the value of their property for city taxes, and that the city is a slave of the tax-payers. We cannot stand such extortion much longer. Three per cent. in England is accounted a fair rental for property. Here in Toronto it is a very sticky state and night unto death.

Now, it is a fair question to ask what ought to be done in a case of this kind. Mayor Fleming has had this condition of affairs before him for a couple of years. The high rate of taxes, the inflated assessment, our empty houses, our low rentals from those that are occupied—these have been the characteristics of Toronto for a couple of years back. And as yet there is nothing in sight to cause us to change for the better in any way. Mayor Fleming has certainly originated no projects for bettering the condition of the city. It is not even hinted at that he possesses an ability of this order. The newspapers and private citizens have from time to time suggested projects that would have increased the prosperity and population of the city, but Mayor Fleming has never shown any disposition to take them up. While we admit it may not be an easy matter to start cities that will increase the value of property to what it was a few years ago, yet we know too much of the city to believe that it is not possible to do so. We can economize and make our expenses bear a proportionate relation to our business. We say that Mayor Fleming has egregiously failed to do what was expected of him when he was last elected. The people who are paying two and three per cent. of the value of their property are paying more than they should. Almost everyone in Toronto just now is suffering from the general business depression, and those who own property are the worst sufferers. It is admitted we have been too extravagant and are now paying up for it. The class of citizens who are suffering the least from the depression are Government and municipal officials with fixed salaries and constant employment. They not only receive as much as they ever did in the way of salary, but their salary is more effective in the market to-day than it ever was before. People with ready money are able to buy everything they need at surprisingly cheap figures. The big salary officials live in a house which would not produce two per cent. for the landlord who has to support the official. If any class of people in Toronto are able to stand a decrease in their income it is the class of officials we have referred to. With rent and provisions and labor as cheap as they are a salary of \$300 to \$400 is equivalent to perhaps \$1000 three years ago. The salaries of all the officials paid out of civic money should have been reduced from 10 to 20 per cent., temporarily at least. A reduction of this kind would not only save the city many thousands of dollars, but it would infuse the idea of economy throughout the whole civic service. Mayor Fleming has failed to grasp the situation. It is a shame to read the few details of his economy. He says he effected a saving of \$2000 by amending the Waterworks and Treasury Departments, and he further boasts that "when the second new engine is completed we can dispense with the services of two engineers at \$3 a day each."

The Mayor's whole appeal is based on a few alleged economies of this kind. He even takes credit for a promise to abolish tax collectors. When he has to rely upon half-a-dozen petty economies of this kind it shows how terribly weak a case he has. Mayor Fleming has done nothing to justify his appeal for a third term. He has left no distinctive trace of reform of any particular during his two years of office. There is no prospect or hope that he will do any better next year. On the contrary the chances are in favor of his being even more inefficient to the public welfare than during the present year. He ought not to be re-elected, and we are glad to state that the chances of his being so are very slim.

A chain of facts.
On Monday a deputation secretly waited on the Attorney-General among other things to try and procure legislation to defer a vote being taken on Sunday cars, and to have the Legislature interfere and alter the clause in the agreement governing the matter, and to surround the submission of the vote with such restrictions that there would be little chance of Sunday cars for five years. The press got wind of the deputation and gave the public some idea of the movement.

On Thursday morning it was announced that Mr. W. F. Mackenzie had been asked to contest the mayoralty on the issue thus created.

Yesterday morning The Globe said: The citizens, not the Mayor or aldermen, have the right to decide the question of the running of cars on Sunday. The council, it is true, have the power to say when and under what conditions a vote shall take place. We think that they should retain that power, and that the vote shall be taken only once in five years the proposal should emanate from the council. As to the question of providing proper safeguards against fraud in the voting, we take it that

There is no difference of opinion.

At the mayoralty nomination yesterday both Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Fleming pledged themselves, if elected, not to be a party to any attempt to deprive the citizens now have in regard to settling the question of Sunday cars.

Sometimes a man has to stand in the breach with a gun in his hand to preserve public rights.

Fleming and Kennedy.
Some citizens boasting refer to Toronto as a moral and godly city. The "moral" idea is made the dominant one in the election of the chief civic officer. The "moral" idea is looked upon as a "moral" consideration. So we find the present majority election characterized by the presence of two candidates who are backed by the church and who look to the church for not a little of the support that each thinks will elect him. The World would like to have seen a candidate in the field with a platform based on personal liberty, economy, enterprise and tax-exemption; but we are not to expect these things; any measure from either of these candidates. As it is we imagine citizens will have little difficulty in deciding which candidate ought to be returned. They have tried Fleming. They know what he is and what he is capable of. There is no hope for the city in that quarter. Mr. Warring Kennedy cannot turn out worse than Fleming, and the probabilities are that he will be an immense improvement over him. He has had a good business education, he is good common sense to bear on all questions that may come under his consideration. One commendable characteristic about Mr. Kennedy is that he is sincere and honest, doing his level best for the interests of the city. He is the head of a large business enterprise and that of itself is a guarantee of more than ordinary ability and good, practical common sense.

FINANCIAL TRADE.

The year 1893 will be remembered as one of the most disastrous to speculators. A Montreal broker made the statement a few days ago that about \$10,000,000 of Canadian money had been sent from Montreal to New York and Chicago since the beginning of the year. The heaviest losses were made in the Chicago grain market. One of the quarters of a million dollars was lost in the American markets at present worse than ever, and some brokers are closing out their positions in the street there to be found a speculator who has made money in stocks during the year.

Wheat is not in it. A farmer living near Weston had 33 acres in clover the past season, and has returned upward of \$140 for his stock from this small acreage, or nearly \$4.50 per acre.

Bank troubles are not yet over in the States. In New York City the St. Nicholas was closed on Thursday, and yesterday rumors were afloat that others were in difficulties. The stock market was severely affected, and in many cases prices are the lowest in years.

One of the best known men in the whole grocery trade at Montreal draws the attention to the illegitimate methods of doing business, which, he said, cannot be too often repeated to the consumers. Regarding cutting below first cost, it has become so notorious that consumers are warned to be on their guard. It is said that in the Montreal Trade Bulletin, that they have endeavored to use a mild term to designate the practice, but it is in fact, a cutting below first cost, and in many cases prices are the lowest in years.

White and gray cottons are down 1/2 per cent., or about 7 to 8 per cent., and colored cottons are down 1/2 per cent. Although colored cottons are depressed owing to over-production, white and gray cottons are in good request at the present time. In some of the mills are booked a long way ahead. The price of one of our large white cotton mills said that he could not fill his orders fast enough. With colored cottons, however, it is altogether different, and the improved machinery that has been introduced into some of the mills has tended to increase production beyond the requirements of the market, and it looks as if colored cottons will be in short supply for some time.

The Sunday before Christmas.
In to-night's Toronto Sunday World will be given with all the news of the day the following special features:
For the Christmas feast.
Ancient Christmas, by Washington Irving.
A City Man's Christmas.
The Christmas Dining Match.
Some Christmas Bear Stories.
A Christmas Sermon, by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps.
The Children's Festival.
A page devoted to the children, by Nibbe and Bellamy with illustrations.
Murder in Rome: cases similar to the Montebello case.
A page devoted to horsemanship, edited or written by Fop.
The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing, by Finch Mason.
Winning Stires of the Year.
Dan Webster and Jenny Lind.
Largest Winning Horses in America.
The Music of the Stage, by Timon.
Musicians in Toronto, by Allan Douglas Brodie.
A Vanished Groom.
Notes and Comments, by The Captions.
Symposium of Speed, second instalment, by Don Dorman.
Short stories, poetry, humor, etc.
Subscription price to The Toronto Sunday World, mailed delivered free: \$2 a year, \$1 for six months, 50c for three months, 25c a month, 5c a copy.

Cries items with just a ring of business in them put to the public at a cent a copy in The World leave a trade to your doors and money in your till.
Customers Men Made Happy.
The Government cheque for customs house salaries will not arrive till near the end of the month, but Collector Small yesterday made arrangements with the bank to have the money, and the cheques were accordingly issued. The officials were buying turkeys and Xmas presents last night.
Paid sickly children should use Mother Gray's Worm Expeller. Worms are the principal cause of suffering in children and should be expelled from the system.
All items, society or otherwise, intended for The Toronto Sunday World, must be addressed to the editor of this paper at 85 Yonge-street.

Hold Up Two Constables and a Sheriff.
OSKALOHA, Ia., Dec. 22.—A gang of 15 traps held up and robbed the deputy sheriff and two policemen here last night. The constables were taken to the jail. The town is overrun with the vagabonds. The constables have been called out to protect the town.
Holloway's Corn Cure is a specific for the removal of corns and warts. We have never heard of its failing to remove even the worst kind.

WEAVERS OF GLASS.

A Very Unique show at The Museum. The glass weaving and spinning exhibit that proved such an interesting attraction at the Chicago World's Fair will be the feature at the Museum during Christmas week. This attraction is now at Mr. Moore's Wonderland in Detroit, and the following is a clipping from The Detroit Free Press:

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XMAS SLIPPERS.

The Greatest Sale Ever Known.

A USEFUL XMAS PRESENT.

One That Will Not Be Thrown Aside.

Plush, Velvet, Alligator, Dongola, Morocco and Silk-Worked Slippers of Every Kind and Style Manufactured.

On looking over our stock of Xmas slippers we are amazed to discover that we have five times too many, and that unless we make a supreme effort we will be unable to dispose of half of them this season.

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PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

W. A. GEDDES, Wharfing, Insurance and General Inland and Ocean Steamship Ticket Agent.

Storage, Bond or Free Salt for Sale.

Canadian representative for W. Wingate & Johnston, shipping agents, London, Liverpool, Glasgow and Southampton.

Agents for the following lines: CUNARD S.S. CO., BEAVER LINE, NETHERLANDS LINE, HAMBURG-AMERICAN PACKET CO., QUEEN LINE, CROMWELL LINE, OCEAN LINE, COLUMBIAN LINE, MALLORY LINE, ANCHOR LINE.

Steam's Not In It. Celebrated Electric Motors.

See the one that runs The Monetary Times' presses and freight elevators. The slightest jer and the water is charged with lightning.

KAY ELECTRIC WORKS, Hamilton, Ont.

ST. LEON Mineral Water Co., Ltd. Head Office: King-street west, Toronto. Branch: 46 Yonge.

STOVES 6-HOLE Grand Duchess Ranges Made by Gurney Co., For \$20. Get one before they are all gone.

WHEELER & BAIN, 179 KING-ST. EAST.

THE NEW Vegetable Shortening and substitute for lard, and her cheeks, with those of her family, will be far more likely to be "Like a rose in the snow."

Now Ready CANDIAN POCKET DIARIES, 1894 Over 150 varieties. All styles and prices. Useful, durable, stylish. 30th year of Publication.

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