

THE HAMILTON TIMES

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1909.

THE PREMIER'S FAKE CLAIM.

In the extremely boastful and self-laudatory statement given to the public on Wednesday, Premier Whitney stated that more than half a million dollars would be saved this year by the new contract for school readers, and that \$125,000 would be saved to the people of the Province in each succeeding year. Sir James evidently believes in making his claims extravagant enough. Very little examination, however, is necessary to show that the statement is one which would not have been made by any careful man desirous only of placing the people in possession of the facts. The report of the Minister of Education contains a table setting forth the number of pupils in each stage of the school work. By this table it is very easy to test the reliability of the Premier's figures. In preparing his boastful statement the Premier has taken the maximum prices at which the old readers were allowed to be sold under any circumstances, although, as a matter of fact, they were nearly always sold at a very large discount from those figures. But let us see what the showing is like, even conceding the Premier's claim which, in view of the facts, looks very much like a bit of petty sharp practice. According to the report of the Minister of Education the number of pupils in the Public and Separate Schools of Ontario in the year 1907 (the latest information available) was as follows, the cost of the old readers at the maximum prices quoted by the Premier being set opposite the number in each grade:

Table with 2 columns: Grade and Cost. Rows include First Reader, Second Reader, Third Reader, Fourth Reader, and Total.

There you have it, dear reader, from the statement of the Minister of Education himself, that \$98,320.80 would put school readers into the hands of every pupil of the Public and Roman Catholic Separate Schools in Ontario, even were the books sold at the highest gross retail prices. Sir James Whitney has the hardihood to claim that he has reduced the prices of school readers so that for one year's supply he will save to the people of the Province on that item alone \$500,000 and about \$125,000 every year afterwards. Think of effecting such a marvellous saving on the expenditure of less than \$100,000! Evidently Sir James is a wonder. But seriously, taking into consideration these figures and the fact that these maximum prices were not the prices generally prevailing, and that the readers were in many cases purchased in quantity as in Toronto and Hamilton at very much lower figures, is Sir James to be acquitted of a reprehensible lack of frankness in this matter by an ordinary exercise of charity? In Toronto it has been stated that the average cost per pupil per year for readers for ten years past has not exceeded 11 1/2 cents. Even a considerable part of the "saving" or reduction in price now claimed is merely a charging of the cost of the readers to the people's account and through the public treasury, instead of allowing it to appear in the price of the books. But Sir James Whitney should hardly ask an intelligent public to believe that by any exercise of mathematical legdemania he can effect a saving of \$500,000 on an expenditure of less than \$100,000.

IT'S UNCLE SAM'S MOVE.

A conference upon reciprocity is being held at Detroit, and delegates from a number of States are in attendance. The Boards of Commerce and other business bodies are largely represented and the Governors of several States are taking part. In the addresses made there is ample evidence that the delegates are alive to the economic folly of tariff obstruction and that they appreciate that in the dealings of the Republic with Canada in the past, an unneighborly and fatuous policy has been followed. Mr. J. A. Macdonald, of the Globe, who was one of the speakers yesterday, was very frank in setting forth the Canadian attitude on the question. He is quoted as saying: "I tell you plainly that the one certain way for you to secure for your people better trade relations with Canada is to secure a more reasonable tariff against Canadian goods entering your country. You must learn for yourselves, and you must teach your people, that trade is a stick with two ends. You cannot do business with a man unless he can do business with you. Your people need not expect freer trade with the people in Canada so long as you keep your tariff so nearly prohibitive against imports from Canada. It may be economically absurd for our people to meet tariff with tariff, but it was from you that they learned the habit. When your McKinley tariff suddenly killed Canadian trade in important lines serious injury was inflicted on many Canadian industries. But what did our people do? They did what your people would have done. Your markets were closed to them; they sought markets elsewhere. Formerly they traded south; now they trade east and west. They have proved themselves, their strength, and other resources. They are no longer dependent on any one market. And certain it is that never again will representatives go from Ottawa to Washington to negotiate a reciprocity treaty. It is your move.

That is a lucid and forceful presentation of the facts—facts which are not creditable to this age and civilization. Mr. Macdonald bluntly told the conferees that there was still an uncivilized remainder of paganism among men who seemed to think that the progress of one nation depends on the hurt of another,

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There has been a fall of over 9c in wheat prices in Chicago, and it is rumored that Patten has unloaded his holdings and withdrawn from the market.

INDETERMINATE RATES.

Cleveland has had much difficulty in arriving at a settlement of her street railway affairs. It will be remembered that that city was the scene of a struggle for 3c fare. The people had been deluded into the idea that the operation of a street railway was a work which by some financial sleight of hand a municipality was able to do to much better advantage and with much greater economy than a company of private investors managing their own money. It took a brief trial to thoroughly disabuse the public mind on that question. Since that time much effort has been devoted to drafting an agreement which provides an indeterminate rate of fare, the exact charge being regulated on a sliding scale, according to the receipts and expenses of the operating company. Twelve provisions are contained in section 22 of the ordinance, which is as follows: The maximum rate of fare for a single continuous ride within the city of Cleveland in one direction over any route of the company shall be five cents cash fare and seven tickets for 25 cents, including said maximum rate the following sliding scale of fares is hereby established: A. Five cents cash, seven tickets for 25 cents, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. B. Four cents cash, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. C. Four cents cash, four tickets for 15 cents, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. D. Four cents cash, three tickets for 10 cents, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. E. Four cents cash, three tickets for 10 cents, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. F. Three cent fare, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. G. Three cent fare, one cent transfer, one cent rebate. H. Three cent fare, two tickets for 5 cents, one cent transfer. I. Three cent fare, two tickets for 5 cents, one cent transfer. J. Two cent fare, one cent transfer. K. Two cent fare, one cent transfer, one cent rebate.

The object of the ordinance is, of course, to give the people as low fares as justice to the investors will permit. In this respect it differs radically from the systems which Toronto and Hamilton have adopted. We take all we can get of the gross receipts, leaving the companies to make what profit they can by scrapping the service, or endure what loss they may in trying to give the best possible. We divert into the city's treasuries a large sum in revenue—the more passengers, the greater amount—and make no reduction from the fixed fare. The Cleveland arrangement contemplates that the street car patrons shall be the only ones who profit by the increase in the traffic. We do not think that arrangement is a just one. Perhaps our system errs in the other direction; perhaps not. Obviously, however, the franchise—the use of the streets—is a property owned by all the people, not merely by those utilizing the cars, and it is quite proper that to the people as a whole, entirely apart from their usage of the cars, some value should be attached to this franchise which accrues. It seems to us that the system of Hamilton and Toronto is preferable, as a matter of simple justice, to that of Cleveland; although it is conceivable that some reduction in fares might be done in certain circumstances.

In explanation of the method introduced in Cleveland, it is said: The fare designated as "F," that is, three cents and one cent for a transfer, shall be in effect for at least eight months from the time the ordinance becomes operative, and, in any event, for three full months after 450 pay-as-you-enter cars have been placed in use on the city lines. To determine the rate of fare to be in effect after the first experimental period, a barometer is created, and the readings of that barometer prescribe automatically how much the patrons must pay. As might be expected, the fluid in that barometer whose expansion or contraction supplies the readings is hard cash. The sum of \$500,000 is to be set aside as a fund to be known as the "interest fund." Into this fund that represents, to put it concisely, the net revenues are to be placed, and from it interest is to be paid on approximately \$25,000,000 of traction securities. Whenever the interest fund, less accrued liabilities on it, is diminished below \$500,000 by an amount reaching \$200,000, it is to be accepted as prima facie evidence that the rate of fare next higher than the one that happens then to be in force shall be put in effect. Any time the interest fund, less accrued liabilities, shows a surplus of \$200,000, it is to be accepted as evidence that the rate of fare next lower than the one then in force shall be put into effect.

The Detroit Committee of Fifty is giving some attention to the Cleveland ordinance, and may find something attractive in it. It certainly possesses an elasticity which enables it to be adapted to a variety of conditions and circumstances. One great fact, however, which the public, too often prejudiced by ignorance and socialistic fallacies, must learn, is that an efficient and satisfactory street car service is an expensive matter, and that it can only be obtained by placing the system in the hands of careful and experienced men.

Windsor is beginning to seriously consider the price of Hydro power and what it is going to cost the city in cash and permanent obligations, and the consideration is having a sobering effect.

OUR EXCHANGES.

ASK MRS. FAY. (St. Catharines Standard.) That revolver story from Hamilton sounds a little suspicious. They should ask Mrs. Fay who put it under the sidewalk, now.

A GENTLE HINT. (Toronto Star.) There is no more gentle and effective way to extinguish a bore than to yawn.

CROP GROWING LARGER. (Galt Reformer.) The Kinrade murder case has the floor again. It is to be hoped that the crop of fake sensations will show a falling off.

THE SAME HERE. (Brantford Expositor.) One way of carrying out the policy "Build up Brantford" is for all Brantfordites to do their shopping at home. Such a policy is not only sound patriotism but good common-sense as well.

CHEATING THE OLD HANDS. (Kingston Whig.) Kingston has a case similar to that in Hamilton, where an old-time official of the Ontario government cannot get a gratuity he is entitled to. His services were so good that he gets better treatment than he is getting.

WERE CHUMMY. (Canadian Courier.) He was frequently remarked that Hon. J. M. Gibson, the present Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, was in his days as Attorney-General, decidedly friendly with the Conservative leader, forming a friendship which makes present officialdom decidedly comfortable.

AGAINST COMPULSION. (Brantford Expositor.) The people of this province want no compulsory military training in the public schools. Physical training has its merits and should be encouraged. But military training, if necessary at all, should be left to the option of local authorities.

OVERHANGING SIGNS. (Toronto Telegram.) It is a pity, if the decent could have been unaccompanied by loss of life, that the recent big wind did not blow down every overhanging sign in the city. Toronto lovers are hopelessly and helplessly doomed to an ignominious vision of city streets disfigured by eyesore signs. These signs are useless for advertising purposes when every building sprouts a sign.

WELL, AND WHAT INFERENCE, PRAY? (Toronto Mail and Empire.) This talk about Canada defending her own costs is not without its humor, for its advocates seem to have the idea that as Canada has only about one-twelfth the population of the United States, our costs will require about one-twelfth the defense. They lost sight of the fact that the defense of Canada's coasts would be an impossible job for the second largest navy in the world.

A SIGNIFICANT FEATURE. (Goldwin Smith.) A feature of militarism not to be overlooked in considering whether we shall give way to it is the military pension list. All these years after the last war waged by the United States, the Congressional Record, number after number, swarms with private bills for the grant or increase of pensions. In the last number there are fourteen columns of them. The cost, which the close of the war with the South was reckoned at 25 millions, is now reckoned at a hundred and fifty-three millions, with a

Professor Hutton comes in for over a column of abuse at the hands of the Toronto News because he has had the hardihood to question the wisdom of the so-called tariff reform movement in Great Britain. Professor Hutton's plea for enlightened moderation in politics is met by the sneer that "the man who tells us the nation" and the general idea which the News' article conveys to the reader is that intelligence, education and enlightenment are qualities very much to be deprecated and that they should not be utilized in the direction of the affairs of the nation.

In addressing the Canadian Fraternal Association yesterday, Mr. J. Howard Hunter recommended that the rates of the fraternal societies be increased to correspond with the experience of the insurance companies of the country. This hint is significant. Insurance organizations under Dominion control are obliged to fix a standard which is believed to be necessary to safety. The Ontario Government has been extremely lax in the matter of investigating the condition of the fraternal societies under its control by way of conserving the interests of the members.

Six hundred thousand dollars is what it cost Mr. Fielding to borrow \$30,000. A Royal Commission should be appointed to go abroad, find out and expose the sharks who took cruel advantage of the simplicity of our Finance Minister—Mail and Empire.

It was a large sum, wasn't it? But let us see how it compares with the cost of floating former loans in London. In 1885, a time when money was cheap, and under circumstances when there were absolutely no expenses to be incurred save the interest, the Conservative Government floated a loan of £4,000,000 (\$20,000,000). The cost of floating this loan was over £82,000 (\$410,000). Take into consideration also the

fact that while the loan of 1908 was issued at 3 1/2 per cent, interest that of 1885 was issued at 4 per cent. The comparison is not so bad.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1909 SHEA'S Clearing Sale Corsets Less Than Wholesale

HIGH CLASS Hats at a Bargain

Nearly 100 New Pattern Hats that were imported and trimmed for a late wholesale millinery opening held in Toronto on Monday last were captured by our buyer on Wednesday. The very perfection of newest of late styles, made of most exquisite materials profusely trimmed with most elegant small and large flowers and foliage; all high-class creations that would cost a full half more to duplicate in any Hamilton workroom. These are the cut prices:

\$18 and \$20 Hats for \$10 \$15 Hats for \$8.95 \$12.50 Hats for \$7 Dress Hats for \$5.00--A Special Saturday Bargain

Another lot of 50 of those elegantly trimmed Dress Hats for Saturday. Hats that were the admiration of the city last Saturday have been more than equalled for to-morrow. Made of all the new braids in the most popular shapes, all the good colors, abundantly trimmed with velvet and Duchesse ribbons and French flowers, \$5.00 worth \$7.50 to \$8.50, Saturday sale price, each

Special Tailored Hats at \$3.75 All the new Untrimmed Shapes 65c to \$3.00 Sale of Women's Hosiery--- 50c to 65c Hose for 39c

200 pairs of Women's pure Wool Black Cashmere Hose, a clearing out of odd lines, gathered up in our immense stock, all sizes, 8 1/2 to 10 inches for both slender women and stout women, medium and light weights, plain and ribbed, worth 59, 59 and 65c, all go on sale at one price, to clear at per pair

500 Women's Dress Skirts On Sale A Third to a Half Off

This entire lot were cleared out from the most noted skirt manufacturer in Canada and go on sale Saturday in one big offering--skirts that have all been made for this spring's selling. Every one the perfection of style and materials. The same can be said of the workmanship. Worsted, Broadcloth, Venetians, Lustrés, Panamas, Voiles, etc. Blacks and all the wanted colors, at these cut prices. They are bargains:

\$4.50 to \$6.00 Skirts on sale for \$2.95 \$6.00 to \$7.50 Skirts on sale for \$3.95 \$8.00 to \$8.95 Skirts on sale for \$5.00 \$10.00 to \$12.00 Skirts on sale for \$7.50

Women's Spring Coats On Sale Over 50 of them, neat jaunty Spring Coats, in a variety of popular styles, both fitted and loose backs, plain and fancy Covert Cloths, both lined and unlined, fawns, greys and blacks, nicely trimmed with strappings and buttons. Divided into two lots, as follows:

\$8.50 to \$9.50 Coats for \$5.95 \$6.50 to \$7.50 Coats for \$3.95 Women's Suits at \$8.95 Women's Suits at \$12.50 Women's Suits at \$15.00

Made of excellent black and grey light cloths, long coats, nicely trimmed skirts, plain gored, with buttons; value for each \$8.95 \$12.50 \$15

Women's Long Silk Coats \$12.00 Children's Spring Coats \$5.00, for \$3.50 Women's Silk Princess Gowns \$18, for \$15.00 Bargains in Raincoats at \$5.95 to \$15.00

Six Splendid Blouse Bargains

Women's Net, Silk and Eolienne Blouses, worth from \$3.00 to \$5.00, black and colors, for \$1.95 Women's Net Waists, in cream, white and black; back, front and sleeves nicely trimmed; silk slip; worth \$5.00; on sale for \$3.49

Women's White Mull and Persian Lawn Waists, all-over embroidered front and embroidered and lace trimmed long sleeves, pointed cuff, \$2.75 and \$3.00 value for \$1.95 Women's Blouses, made of fine lawn, stiff laundered collars and cuffs; worth \$2.75; on sale for each \$1.25

Women's Fine Lawn Waists, made with both long and sleeves, all-over embroidered fronts, finished with lace insertion; worth \$1.50; on sale for \$1.00 Women's Waists, made of light and light print, tucked fronts and backs, long sleeves; worth more but our price is \$1.00

Another Sale of Under-skirts

Black, navy and green Underskirts, made of saten and moreen, \$1.50 value, for 75c Black and colored Saten Underskirts, prettily pleated and flounced, \$1.50, for \$1.00 Black and Colored Underskirts, made of taffete, messaline, saten, and moreen; worth \$2.50; on sale for \$1.50 Embroidered Taffete in black and colored Heather-bloom and Messaline Saten Underskirts; worth up to \$3.50; on sale for each \$1.95

Lace Curtain Sale Still Going On

Hundreds of pairs of these splendid Lace Curtains have been sold during this week and still plenty left for Saturday.

50c Curtains for 39c 75c Curtains for 50c \$1.50 Curtains for \$1.00 \$2.00 Curtains for \$1.65 \$2.50 Curtains for \$1.95 \$4.50 Curtains for \$2.95

Special Cut Prices in Notions Saturday

Button molds, per dozen, 2c, 3c, 4c and 5c Colgate Crepe Paper, assorted colors and fireproof; 1/4 lb. 10c, per roll 10c Dome Fasteners, worth 5c, 2 dozen for 10c

Tape, assorted sizes, 12 bunches for 10c Large Hair Nets, 10c size for 5c Hooks and Eyes, 2c, at 6 for 5c

Wash Hat Pins, 10c per dozen 6c Nail Brushes, 2 for 10c Best Safety Hooks and Eyes, 5c, at 2 for 5c

Invisible Hair Pins, 100 in box, worth 5c, at 2 boxes for 9c Children's Hose Supporters, 15c, for 10c Dress Shields, 25c and 30c, for 19c

Wire for fancy work, all colors, worth 5c, at 3 for 10c Silk Hair Pins, worth 5c, 2 dozen for 5c Pearl Buttons, worth 5c, 2 dozen for 5c

Pearl Buttons, worth 10c, per dozen 5c Thimbles, worth 5c, for each 2c Thimbles, worth 10c, for each 5c

Safety Pins, worth 5c, at 2 for 5c

prospect of increase. Men who have turned out once and hardly smell powder are "veterans" for the rest of their days and claim pensions; while laboring men who often have plied more dangerous, as well as more beneficial trades, contribute to the taxes out of which the "veteran's" pension is paid.

WHAT CARELESSNESS COSTS. Running an Elevator Back After Passing a Floor Means Half a Cent.

Even the elevator passengers and the operator can't throw away more money for the owner of a building. Not counting the wear and tear on the machinery, cables and other equipment, the expense of running a car back to a floor which it had passed a few inches has a noticeable effect on the monthly cost sheet. When an electric elevator starts up or down empty or loaded, the first four seconds after throwing the lever cost as much money as traversing three floors after full speed is attained. Reducing this to figures for a large size passenger elevator, it is safe to say that it costs half a cent to start it.

Take a twelve-story building with five elevators. Assume that in each trip, both up and down, two errors were made, partly owing to the passengers and partly to the operator. Thus for every round trip of each elevator there will be four errors made in bringing the car to the proper level. Assuming these to cost half a cent each there will be a loss of 10 cents in the time required

times, then bush out thoroughly with a clothes brush. Long-haired furs should be combed out, for which use a comb with blunt teeth. Light furs, white fox, ermine, chin-chilla, etc., must be cleaned before they can be put away. First brush them well with a clean, soft whisk. Spread them out and rub them with bran, moistened with warm water, and applied with a piece of soft flannel. Rub the furs until they are dry, finishing with dry bran.

After the bran process, the furs should be wiped with magnesia until they are perfectly clean. When putting away, sew in muslin bags and wrap tightly in newspaper, which is the best preventive against moths, and put in a trunk or chest. Camphor, if it comes in contact with the fur, is likely to turn yellow. A cedar chest is an invaluable addition to every household.

It Would Not Show. That everything should be neat and shipshape is most important aboard a yacht. A writer in the Mariners' Advocate tells the story of the deck in a certain sloop, who crossed the deck in a hurry, seemingly very much perplexed. A lady stopped him and asked what the trouble was.

"The fact is, ma'am," he said, "our rudder's broken."

"Oh, I shouldn't worry about that," said the lady. "Being under water nearly all the time, no one will notice it."