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CIVIL SERVICE REFORMS.

Premier Whitney stands accused of introducing what is called the "spoils" system into the provincial civil service. The point that is made against him is that partizan appointees of the previous Liberal governments, who are known or suspected of having served at once the province and their party to the detriment of the public interest, have been dismissed. Yet it is plain enough, from the arguments of his critics themselves, that far from the present premier having introduced any new system, he is simply giving logical effect to the rule which has hitherto prevailed. What he is assailed for having done is not in itself the spoils system, but one of the phases of the spoils system.

During the generation in which Liberal administrations succeeded each other with unbroken frequency, the spoils system was maintained in full vigor. The public patronage which it provided was in the hands of the party, appointments were made for party reasons and provincial civil servants were not only allowed, but expected, to do party work. Even Liberals admit that in many cases office-holders actively interfered in election contests. They also admit that Premier Whitney is at liberty in these cases to exercise the right of dismissal, tho they maintain dismissal should follow only after public enquiry. Could there possibly be a more complete concession that the worst evils of the spoils system flourished in full force under the Liberal regime?

Provincial civil servants who actively intervened in political contests should have been dismissed by the government of the day, had it been seriously concerned with the purity and efficiency of the service. It ought not to have been left to Premier Whitney to do so. Not only this, but the Liberal ministers should have insisted upon absolute neutrality being observed and striven to inculcate upon the civil service of the province, public loyalty and the sense of public duty. Instead of prescribing a proper rule of conduct and adhering to it themselves, Liberal governments made use of the civil service to strengthen and confirm their hold upon the province. This is the real spoils system, and there is little wonder that opposition workers, knowing the unscrupulous use made of the civil service, should clamor for the application of the same spoils system when their opportunity came. When party appointments are made for party purposes and are used for party ends, no ground of complaint arises when they are superceded for party reasons. The sparing use by Premier Whitney of the power placed in his hands is a matter not for condemnation but commendation.

It is conceivable that the right of public patronage may be so exercised as to give on the whole little cause for animadversion. Its effects are least prejudicial where a high standard of public duty already permeates all departments of the service and is carefully maintained. But as conducted by the provincial governments of the last 30 years, the civil service of Ontario cannot be said to possess the traditions which nullify the evils inherent in a system of partizan appointments and offering no security of tenure. The only effectual remedy is to place the provincial civil service on a non-partizan basis, after the model of the British service, whose excellence has been vouched by great ministers of both the historical parties. This reform Premier Whitney should undertake, and he could establish no better claim on public gratitude. To continue the thoroly bad and vicious system hitherto prevailing will justly invite condemnation, but meantime let the blame be rightly placed. Mr. Whitney is not responsible for the appearance of the spoils system in this province, nor is it in the mouth of those who tolerated and even justified the methods of the late premier, to complain that they are carried to their only logical conclusion.

IMPERIAL TENTATIVES

Canada has discovered that there is something in a name after all. When the British government proposed that what has been known as the "Colonial Conference" should hereafter be called the "Imperial Council," the vigilant federal government demurred. It had no objection to the assembly itself nor saw in it any menace to the autonomy of the Dominion, but in the word "council" there lurked a danger which could not be incurred. Hence the quadrennial or other term meetings of the representatives of the imperial states will go down to history as imperial conferences. For this relief much thanks are due and the hope may be expressed that the government will be equally vigilant when matters of more vital importance threaten the interests of the Dominion.

It is difficult to see what valid objection can be stated to the proposal to establish an imperial intelligence bureau, for this is really what the suggested permanent commission means. Just now experiments in socialistic legislation of a peculiarly interesting character are in progress in the Britains of the southern seas. For information regarding them, Britons elsewhere are dependant on newspaper and magazine articles, and really authoritative particulars are not easily obtained. Interesting and instructive movements constantly take place in other parts of the empire, valuable suggestions are made, industrial and commercial developments take place, yet no facilities exist for making them the common property of the empire.

This suggested permanent commission, which could take cognizance of all these varied activities, to which application for information and proposals for consideration could be made, and by which they could be communicated to the imperial states would perform a really valuable public service. How it could be considered as infringing upon the autonomy of the self-governing communities is difficult to understand. Certainly it is not contemplated. If there is one thing clearer than another it is the general conviction that a federal body, possessing jurisdiction of any kind whatever over the imperial states would be unwise and is impracticable. But there is need for an office which can keep them in touch with each other by the acquisition and dissemination of useful information, and no ingenious and injurious exegesis should interfere with its establishment.

PARK-MAD.

Toronto aldermen in the past year or so seem to have got the park craze. They have either accepted or been asked to accept numerous "breathing spots" which are located in the outskirts of the city, where there is open land galore and will be for years and years.

And yesterday, because a congregation and the street railway company have happened to get adjoining locations for the purposes of a church and car barns respectively, the city very generously is willing to come to the relief of the church by expropriating the land for a park at a cost of $17,000.

And because residents object to a sand pit being used as a site for a crematory, the aldermen find a way out of the problem by proposing to convert the space into a park at a cost of some $17,000 more.

Doesn't it seem foolish?

SUFFERING RUSSIA.

Count Witte is said to have lost faith in the good sense and political tact of the Russian thinking classes, and hope that the liberties promised in the czar's manifesto can be carried out. Certainly the disclosures which are filtering thru regarding the state of the country are distressing and alarming in the extreme. The foundations of social order are being moved to their depths, and with them the means of defending the peaceable sections of the community from the attacks of turbulent and extreme revolutionaries. The fear is that the removal of restraint will increase the unrest and still further inflame the passion which grows with what it feeds on.

In the hour of the nation's extremity there is no man to whom the masses look for guidance, whose personality can command attention. For this the bureaucracy are themselves to blame. During all the years it followed the Machiavellian principle of removing every patriot who displayed a spark of the genius to command, and threatened to dispute its supremacy. As at the eve of the French revolution, the ruling classes trod the trembling crust of the volcano and dreamed that it would last their time.

A military dictatorship is proposed, but without an obedient army what would it avail? The fate of Gen. Sakharoff, who attempted to knout the peasantry of Saratoff into submission has, it is said, created a profound impression, as well it might. But save as an incentive to other assassinations, it bears no new significance. Nor is it so terrible in character as the greater crimes perpetrated upon the Jews, with the connivance or at least the culpable indifference of the responsible authorities who were in a position to intervene, but did not. Such is the fire the czar's advisers kindled, who misled and tempted him into the fatal Japanese war. Yet, however, dark the outlook, and however terrible the path still to be traversed, none can doubt that the outcome will be good for Russia and the world.

Thousands of dollars' worth of cigars were consumed in that Montreal fire. But, then, what were they made for?

Some of the gentlemen "mentioned" as mayoralty candidates should retire to the cellar and do a lot of cool, hard thinking.

It is proposed to require that a bath be put in every house in Montreal. But why not first compel the town council to give Craig-street a bath once or twice a year as a starter?

Nine out of every ten men go into politics for what they can get out of it, remarks Mr. Rockefeller, jr. Of course, he was speaking of the United States.

It was rumored downtown last night that the "Mysterious Mr. Coby" is none other than J. W. Flavelle, the missing license commissioner.

Kubelik, the violinist, has taken to wearing a muff to protect his fingers. The grafters who are getting their digits numbed this severe weather will probably follow suit.

MAMMON-"ISM" IS DESPOT-"ISM."

Editor World: If we examine the origin of the American silver dollar, we find, comparatively speaking, that ten nothings create one myth; that ten myths create one cent; that ten cents create one dime, and that ten dimes constitute one dollar. This mythical dollar is supposed to represent the value of one ounce of silver, which on the London bullion market to-day is quoted as being worth 30 pence.

We will now follow the subtlety of this cunning American silver dollar, thru its vagaries in the ten stages of trade, commerce and finance, and, bear in mind, every time the American dollar changes hands at face value, as legal tender money, it leaves a mystification of value behind it, the first mystification being with labor; the second mystification the shopkeeper; the third mystification, the merchant; the fourth mystification, the factor; the fifth mystification, the importer; the sixth mystification, the manufacturer; the seventh mystification, the exporter; the eighth mystification, the banker; the ninth mystification, the producer; the tenth mystification, the consumer. So that practically with American ramifications all over the world, this octopus, in the shape of a silver dollar, doing duty at 100 cents, cheats and defrauds mankind, either directly or indirectly, at every turn in life. Whereas, our lives of industry become paralyzed in competing with the mystifications of this inflated value in a money metal coin, for after the almighty dollar has gone its rounds in all communities and on all commodities in the avenues of trade and commerce, finance and finesse, we find there is nothing left but the mythical dollar itself, and material wealth conjured together thru the complexities of the world's money metals. For instance, take the British 50-cent-dollar; the Philippine 50-cent-dollar; the Straits Settlements 50-cent-dollar; the Mexican 50-cent-dollar. These 50-cent-dollars at the market price of silver to-day are absolute value, and are the equivalent of gold, which is now the standard of the world's currency. Then why should the almighty American dollar be allowed to remain at 100 cents, for bear in mind all these said dollars contain the same amount of silver?

It may be argued that the American dollar at 100 cents has the guarantee of the government at its back; that may be so, but unless that guarantee supplies the difference between the market price of silver and the face value of the dollar (a moral impossibility) in hand to hand transactions, that guarantee is a deliberate fraud on the part of the government, and an insult to the capacity of the people. And this is where the iniquity of the guaranteed legalized 100-cent-dollar creeps in; it is this unseen, this incomprehensible juggliery, that confounds the people and constitutes the mystification of the American dollar, and either the American dollar must be brought down to the value of the 50-cent-dollars or measures must be taken to bring the 50-cent-dollars up to the standard of the American dollar; one or the other is absolutely necessary in the interest of the world's commonwealth, otherwise in trade and commerce we shall have the 100-cent-dollar boycotting the 50-cent-dollar or the 50-cent-dollar boycotting the 100-cent-dollar, and then probably this great question of the world's money metals, the greatest of all the great questions of the day, will be forced under the notice of Joseph Chamberlain and the "tariff commission." For until trade, commerce and finance are based on a sound money metal footing, there can be no real or stable value, and the continuous depreciations in gilt edge securities must continue until the money metals of the world once more become harmonized, for with the different relative values in the dollars the breach betwixt capital and labor becomes widened. Look at the unrest in England and Russia, the whole of which can be traced to the monetary bondage of the people, and to the arbitrary and unwise fiscal laws of our forefathers. And unless these laws become changed and progressive laws substituted, what is happening in England and Russia to-day will most assuredly, in the near future, happen to other nations on the Continent of Europe.

M. Gadd.

King Edward Hotel, Toronto, 1905.

NORTH ROSEDALE ANNEXATION.

Editor World: The North Rosedale annexation" question has now got beyond being a question of local importance only, to a question of justice or injustice, and the involving of a principle and the establishing of a precedent, and should be strenuously opposed by all parties concerned, on the following grounds:

The petition for annexation, as I am credibly informed, is illegal, and is not sufficiently signed by the requisite number. The petition as filed seems to be made up from several documents, and is not the original petition which was filed, and which I am informed has been lost. Moreover, a number of signatures to what petition was signed were obtained under misrepresentation as to the terms of annexation.

The assumption of the city of the $40,000 indebtedness upon the North Rosedale bridge, and the "indemnifying property owners for the cost of said bridge by way of a lower tax rate of 4 mills" is not just or equitable, and I object to the assessment of any portion of such indebtedness on any land or buildings in Toronto as a local improvement or otherwise. In connection with this matter I would say that South Rosedale has already built three bridges, two of which have already been paid for, namely, the Howard-street and the Huntley-street bridges, while a third, or Sherbourne-street bridge, has now about five years to run as a local improvement charge upon South Rosedale property.

For fifteen years at least, previous to the year 1900, very little progress was made in the settlement of South Rosedale. Property was unsalable, and only within the last few years has it been possible to realize the assessed value. Within about ten years vacant property in Rosedale has been sold for taxes, and there are still large districts, besides numerous scattered lots for which the owners cannot realize by sale their actual outlay for taxes and local improvements. It would be manifestly unfair to ratepayers who have been carrying this burden to annex a large tract of vacant land adjacent to the property of Rosedale ratepayers on terms specially advantageous to the owners of the proposed new district. A natural barrier, the second ravine, separates the district seeking annexation, from Rosedale, so that there exists the unusual condition of what is practically farm land lying directly alongside highly assessed city property. To connect this farm land by bridges, to construct streets and walks, to supply water and drainage, police and fire protection, largely at the cost of the city ratepayers, is a most extravagant and unnecessary proposal from the city standpoint, with 3000 acres of unoccupied land already within the city limits.

It is said that the property annexed is chiefly held by speculators who hope to dispose of it for villa residences of the better class. The number of resident ratepayers who would be benefited now by annexation is very small. The population is admitted to be seventy-five, which means there is not a score of resident ratepayers, and these are used by wealthy land owners and speculators who seek to take advantage of and pervert beneficial provisions of the act to obtain an unfair advantage over citizens, and especially the ratepayers of South Rosedale, and other ratepayers.

Wm. Croft.

Toronto, Dec. 7, 1905.

"C.-B'S" TASK.

Catholic Register: Three serious problems face the new government whenever they will meet the parliament next in succession to the present. These problems are home rule, the education bill, and the trade policy. With Lord Rosebery out of the count, with the public utterances of the new premier and with Mr. Morley on the bridge, home rule shows its lights near by, nearer than when the Grand Old Man pointed the ship for the harbor without making it. It is nearer not by lapse of time so much as by growing opinion, by the realization ever impressed upon the English mind that it is the only way to satisfy Ireland and make it contented, and by the persistent demand of the nationalist party. Is the palm of victory within reach? Or will that hope be still deferred which maketh the heart sick? It is no use trying to guess. The Liberals have been long out of power. The call, however it may have been looked for, is somewhat unexpected. And whilst the officers are in favor of home rule, the rank and file of the Liberals are not so clear and decided upon the details, the last act the Catholics were recognised along with the Anglicans. This offended the non-Conformists—those who, outside the Catholic Church, did not belong to the Anglicans. The majority of these people are Liberals. They have been calling for complete secularization of the schools and the entire separation of religion from education. Without any formal statement being given by Premier Campbell-Bannerman, the British Weekly, a strong Liberal newspaper, seems to indicate that complete secularization is the only solution—which will therefore be the policy of the new government. Catholics will thus have to choose between their schools and home rule.

The third important question is that of trade and labor. With a large discontented population, nearly starving, calling for work, spurning alms; with foreign competition freely entering their ports, and foreign races serving in their houses of business at a lower wage, with all the bitterness which such a state of affairs is sure to foster, the new government has enough to occupy its attention. Wedded to free trade for so long a time, with the memories of Cobden and Bright to encourage them, the Liberals of England will find it hard to cut away from old traditions, and equally hard to give satisfaction to the multitude.

NORTH ROSEDALE ANNEXATION.

Editor World: When South Rosedale was annexed the Sherbourne-st. bridge was built and the residents there were assessed for it as a local improvement. It seemed to them then an injustice that access to Rosedale should not have been provided by taxation upon the whole city (including Rosedale), as the city was taking in a territory greatly adding to its taxable assessment and capable of yielding a substantial revenue. But that injustice is no reason for perpetuating such an anomaly when further territory is annexed.

Access to North Rosedale is necessary to give the city the right to tax the locality upon an assessment arrived at by considering it a part and parcel of the city. As North Rosedale comes in with a local taxation of 4 mills for the bridge, it seems fair to take over that charge as part of its general debt—the only one it has—and this can only be done by charging that 4 mills against the city at large. Hence the provision in the proclamation, which upon that principle represents what South Rosedale was anxious to get when it was annexed.

Frank C. Hodgins.

OSGOODE HALL.

Judgments handed out yesterday, Dec. 7: Grand Trunk Railway Company v. City of Toronto, Canadian Pacific Railway Company v. City of Toronto—trial court, Anglin, J.

Announcements for To-Day.

Master's chambers at 11 a.m.; Cartwright, master.

Judge's chambers at 10 a.m., Falconbridge, C.J.

Divisional court—There will be no sitting of the divisional court until Monday, Dec. 11.

Court of appeal peremptory list at 11 a.m.: Milloy v. Wellington (to be concluded); case set down for Monday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m.: Port Arthur & Rainy River election appeal; Preston v. Kennedy.

THERE MAY BE NO TO-MORROW FOR YOU.

A strong man in the enjoyment of good health does not expect to die very soon.

Perhaps nothing is further from his mind than death.

Yet every day we have instances of men stricken in their prime, leaving their families practically penniless.

It is the strong man with a good income that very often leaves his family in the poorest circumstances, since he has not felt the need of seeking insurance.

If you have neglected carrying sufficient insurance to keep your family in comfort, get rates to-day (there may be no to-morrow for you), from The Manufacturers' Life Insurance Co., Toronto, Canada.

NAMES, PLEASE.

Editor World: I beg to submit the following list of six names on the chance of one of them being considered suitable by the management of the Niagara Navigation Company for their new steamer Calabria, Castilia, Cheruskia, Christiana, Constantia, and Coratia.

J. L. Bartlam,
46 Brunswick-avenue.

Editor World: Your local, re names for the new Niagara Navigation Company's steamer about to be launched: Cambria, Cleopatria, Canada, Caledonia, Columbia, Carpathia, Campanian, Cumana.

J. B. Tinning.

Editor World: I would suggest as an appropriate name for the new Niagara liner, "Careworna." When you are take a trip.

P. A. Bolte,
18 Farley-avenue.

Editor World: I would kindly suggest one of the following for the name of the new Niagara Navigation Company's steamers, viz, Catawba, Cholula (Indian) Mexico, (ruins of Aztec Temple); Calvinia (Province of Cape Colony, S. A.); Catalina (Trinity Bay, Newfoundland).

Charles H. Scales,
90 Gould-street.

Editor World: The name I suggest for the new steamship is Cremona, after the great violin maker.

Mabel Black,
525 Queen-street West.

N. Smith, 269 Palmerston-avenue, suggests Corolla and Cornucopia.

I submit three names for you to choose from: Carmencita, Calva, Cynthia.

Elsie Davis,
102 Wilton-avenue.

Why not call the new Niagara steamer Civita, or Corolla? The former seems to be a suitable name for a boat belonging to our "Queen City," and the latter appropriate for a boat in the same fleet as the Corona.

Fred Smith.

I would suggest the following names for Niagara Navigation Company's new boat: Canora and Chelsea.

C. E. B.

Columbia, or Cordova, last name preferred. Cordova is a city in Spain.

Mrs. J. E. Austen,
46 Leuty-avenue, Kew Beach.

I would suggest Catawba.

Mary McIntyre.
339 Markham-street.

TORONTO TELEPHONES.

Halifax Herald: Mayor Urquhart of Toronto was supposed to have a policy for a public telephone system for that city, but it appears that he exhibited just enough vigor in that direction to bring such policy into disrepute and leave the city more at the mercy of the Bell Telephone Company than before. Those interested might take note that a weak pursuit of a policy in favor of public ownership of public utilities is likely to be something worse than merely useless.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

STORE OPENS AT 8 A.M. | THE T. EATON Co. LIMITED | STORE CLOSES AT 5 P.M.

Unusually Deep Price Cuts in Men's Clothing

Three lines greatly altered in price to bring 8 o'clock buyers and relieve the afternoon congestion. His Christmas box might be the first item. If so, you save dollars there, too.

House Coats Reduced

Very pretty patterns, in red or brown, with colored overplaid, soft cheviot-finished material, with cord trimmings, sizes 34 to 46 chest measure; price, each, while they last..... 4.95

Wonder Price on Trousers

Think of Heavy-Weight Genuine Scotch Tweed Trousers for 1.75 a pair—twice that amount wouldn't buy them any other day—this price for "come early" men and to start with a rush a great day's business; your choice, a pair 1.75

$10.50 Overcoats for $5.95 One hundred of them, made of fine black cheviot cloth, good finish and reliable material, cut with generous length, single breasted, with a full loose box back, well lined and trimmed, sizes 35 to 44; come early; we will be ready at 8 a.m.; reg. 10.50; rush price, each 5.95

MAIN FLOOR—QUEEN STREET.

THE T. EATON Co. LIMITED 190 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

ALDERMEN SO OBLIGING MAKING PARKS TO ORDER

To Help Out a Church and Conciliate a Neighborhood, Discover Necessary "Breathing Spots."

The civic parks and exhibition committee decided yesterday to make an attempt to forestall an expected action of the street railway by recommending that the city expropriate a block of land over one and a half acres in extent bounded by ollis and Barton avenues and Markham and Bathurst streets, at an estimated cost to the city of $17,800. The land to be taken over would be used as a public park.

Some weeks ago a deputation representing St. Paul's Presbyterian church appeared before the board of control to protest against the street railway being allowed to carry out their plans to build car barns on the land. It was claimed that the quiet of church services would be disturbed by the noise of the cars running in and out of the barns, and that the lives of children attending the Sunday school would be endangered. The controllers were sympathetic, but the city solicitor gave the legal opinion that the company had a right to ask a permit.

In order that the land might be put beyond the company's reach, the mayor moved at the committee meeting that council be asked to pass a bylaw expropriating the land, and this was done without demur.

Make Sand Pit a Park.

The committee also felt minded to adopt the suggestion of Commissioner Forman that the sand pit area which corners on Bloor and Christie streets be made into a breathing spot for the people of the neighborhood. The plan was first broached as the result of objections being raised by residents round about to a crematory being located there. It was then discovered that the land was too low-lying to afford proper drainage, and was hence unsuitable for use as building lots.

Mr. Forman reported yesterday that the assessed value of the 17.85 acres was $13,541; that the city owned 11.72 acres, which were assessed for $8,787, and that the arrears of taxes thereon came to $10,641.95. He said he had received options covering the rest of the land for $21,500, but that he would not recommend that more than $17,000 be paid. This, with $10,700 set aside for the city's share, would bring the purchase price to $27,700, in which the committee concurred.

A Buffalo Run.

Ald. Noble called attention to a strip of land on the west bank of the Don from Gerrard-street to the Buffalo enclosure, below the hill of Riverdale Park, which he thought would be a desirable addition to the park property. There was no data at hand as to the area of the strip or the owners thereof. Mr. Chambers will look up details and report at the next meeting.

George Faulkner has declined to consider the city's offer of $15,750 for property on Dufferin-street opposite the race track that it was desired to acquire for park purposes. His figure is $25,000, being a big advance on the present assessment of $8,270.

The Island Committee.

The end of the civic term is drawing on apace. One striking sign of it was the presenting by Chairman Ald. Jones of the Island committee at yesterday's meeting of a review of the more important undertakings of the year. He referred to the deepening and improving of the channel of the cut from Blockhouse Bay to Lakeside Home, which had made it possible for a ferry service to be run between the city and the home, and alluded to the several acres of marsh land that had been filled in, as well as the park land south of Long Pond. A wharf had been built on the park land near Lakeside Home, and during the summer thousands of people had enjoyed the advantage of being conveyed by boat to the lake front in this way. Among other improvements pointed out were the sidewalks from Turner's north along West Island Point, and on the east from Chippewa-ave. to the breakwater. It had been arranged to have the shacks south of Turner's replaced next year by neat cottages on properly surveyed lots. A spacious shelter had been built near Centre Island wharf for the special convenience of picnickers, and a freight wharf had been built at Hallam's bridge. Next year a separate ferry service to the bridge will be established. Valuable additions to Island equipment had been secured in a new sand pump of large capacity and a weed cutting launch.

The edict of Commissioner Forman that the dwellers in shacks and cottages on the western sandbar of the Island south of Turner's must remove from the lake shore, making it open to the public, was the reason for a large deputation appearing. There were 19 cottagers notified to remove, and there being only 12 lots available on the lagoon, each with a 20-foot frontage, it was a plain proposition that seven cottagers must quit altogether. Mr. Forman will look into all the claims, and will report at the next meeting.

To Remove Level Crossings.

The board of control yesterday agreed to the scheme for track depression and elevation from Bathurst-street west.

The police commissioners have reported favorably, the board of control has approved the projected site for a police station above Queen-street on Pape-avenue.

An offer of $860 for the Perkins house on the Carnegie library site was considered too low yesterday by the board, who will prepare a valuation.

There have been 1200 applications made to the city clerk by would-be voters whose names are not upon the lists. Judge Winchester will consider the claims.

"It's the Quality That Tells."

Groceries

have their daily claim upon the attention of the housekeeper, and Xmas but emphasizes the superior service offered by Michie's Store in quality and variety.

The Best Pudding

comes from the bowl into which the best ingredients go, and Michie's superior currants, raisins, spices, peels and flavorings do their part towards a satisfactory result.

The Children's Part

of Christmas—always well cared for—was never so completely and attractively provided for as now, and there is not only variety and beauty to please the eye, but there is wholesomeness in everything for eating—especially the candy.

Michie & Co., Limited
7 King St. West

Established 1835.

THE RUSH BEGINS.

Yonge Street Stores Report a Big Advance Christmas Business.

The fine weather yesterday brought out the shopping crowds in droves, and the scene on Yonge-street resembled Christmas week in earnest. It is more noticeable this year than ever before that trade is moving up, and stores that once seemed a little out of the way are now decidedly busy. One store in particular is that of East & Co., at 306 Yonge-street, which has been a leather-goods corner for a generation and is thoroly well known. The recent reorganization of this business shows to advantage in handsome displays of trunks, bags, hand-satchels and fancy leather goods, together with umbrellas. There are no such stocks anywhere else in town, with a thousand and one things there to invite your Christmas wish and admiration. This old-time store offers you continuous welcome, with better service and vastly better satisfaction both as to goods and prices than the more crowded shopping centres.

MURDERER THRU NERVOUSNESS.

Brooklyn Druggist Shoots Wife and Mother-in-Law.

New York, Dec. 7.—Alfred Frelich, a pharmacist in the Presbyterian Hospital, shot and instantly killed his wife, Fannie, and her mother, Mrs. Annie Hoeflung, in his home in Brooklyn to-day.

After the shooting he pocketed the revolver, and, stepping over his wife's body, walked out of the house. He gave himself up to a policeman he met in the street and was locked up after refusing to make any statement.

Frelich had met his wife while she was employed as a stenographer in the hospital, and they were married about five years ago.

They have one child, and the bullets that ended the mother-in-law's life came near killing the baby, with whom its grandmother was playing at the time.

A doctor who examined the prisoner at the station house said he was suffering from nervous prostration.

SACRIFICE OF DIGNITY.

Ottawa Citizen: There may be no rule against it, but Hon. Mr. Aylesworth is coming in for a good deal of adverse criticism for taking a brief at the assizes against the City of Ottawa. Professional etiquet was shocked when Wallace Nesbitt left the bench to resume practice, but to the lay mind there is a sacrifice of dignity, if nothing else, in a leading cabinet minister appearing as counsel in a case more especially as the case aforesaid is one having involved in its inception governmental action which was the subject of much criticism.

Maple Leaf Council.

At the regular meeting of Maple Leaf Council, Royal Arcanum, held in St. George's Hall, the following officers were elected: Regent, W R Tomlin; vice-regent, W H Malcolmson; past regent, W W Vickers; orator, Dr Robinson; secretary, R J Butler; collector, J R Code; treasurer, R J Gould; chaplain, W H Whitham; guide, W C Bryan; warden, F P Jory; sentry, W H Batting; organist, E W D Butler; trustees, Bros. W E Stuart, Ray and Tisdell. Representatives were also elected to the grand council and addresses upon the permanency of the order given by Bros. Wm. Ray, Harry Brown, W. W. Vickers and others.

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WARNING TO LITTLE BOYS.

Eddie Leason Badly Hurt Thru Hitching on a Wagon.

Seven-year-old Eddie Leason, who lives at Wright and Sorauren-avenue, was probably permanently injured internally as the result of an accident last night. The youngster was following the foolish custom of "hitching on" to wagons. He fell off a loose tail-board and the wagon coming behind him rolled over his stomach. He was taken into Graham's drug store and received medical aid. The lad was cut about the head and badly injured internally.

DOMINION IRON & STEEL CO. BUSINESS BEATS EXPECTATIONS

Montreal, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—J. H. Plummer is in the city and attended the meeting of directors of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company this afternoon.

Mr. Plummer said he thought no one had such a thing in mind as considering dividends on preferred stock, and that there was no hope of anything being done in that respect at present. It did not follow that because dividends were not being paid, that the company was not making satisfactory progress. On the contrary business during recent months had far exceeded expectations.

BAVARIAN IN WINTER QUARTERS.

Montreal, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—H. and A. Allan state that they have now accomplished all that can be done towards securing the stranded Bavarian thru the winter months.

There is no thought of another attempt being made to get the vessel afloat from the Wye rock before the coming spring. Four men have been placed on board the vessel for the winter.

GOOD ROADS FOR MIDDLESEX.

London, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—The county council of Middlesex to-day adopted the country road system which gives them recognition in the Ontario government grant. The council will petition the government to continue the present system of electing county councils.

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