

The Toronto World

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A Morning Newspaper Published
Every Day in the Year.

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FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 20, 1912

WHO PAYS THE TAXES?

The Telegram does not agree with
Ontario Democracy, which preaches
that the man who pays taxes ought
to have a vote. And this is based on
the fact that the man who pays the
rent always pays the taxes. The Tele-
gram thinks that the man who pays
the rent does not pay the taxes, or at
any rate he is not entitled to vote. As
to whether the tenant pays the taxes
or not, read the following circular from
a big real estate concern to its tenants
in Toronto:

In connection with the premises
which you occupy as tenant, we
would say that the taxes are go-
ing up greatly every year on ac-
count of the increased value of
property in that locality. We are
instructed by our realty advisers
that this property should bring in
more rent, and in view of all the
circumstances, we feel that we
must ask you to pay us a rental
of \$—, commencing on Jan. 1
next.

As things now are the tenant has
the pleasure of paying the taxes (and
they are steadily increasing taxes)
and the landlord has the pleasure of
doing the voting. In other words, the
tenant is not only bearing the burden
of the taxes, but he holds up the straps
in the street cars and he has not even
a voice in saying whether tubes shall
be built or whether civic car lines
shall be extended, or whether the city
shall make annexations, all or any of
which things might somewhat amelior-
ate the burdens of the tenants.

With The Telegram please say again
to all the people of Toronto, and espe-
cially to the 25,000 tenants who pay
taxes and have no votes, and some of
whom take The Telegram, that this is
just treatment and a fair distribution
of political rights and taxpayers' bur-
dens.

THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT.

In some quarters misconception still
exists regarding the character and ob-
ject of the brotherhood of boy scouts.
Certain labor circles in particular ap-
pear to be thoroughly obsessed with the
notion that it has been initiated, and
is being conducted, in support of "mi-
litarism," a word that is supposed to
convey an idea of ill omens to interna-
tional peace. Much of the hostile cri-
tiques passed on the boy scout move-
ment is evidently the result of abso-
lute ignorance or partial knowledge of
the aim and intention of its founder,
General Baden-Powell. It has been
constantly confused with the military
cadet service, a totally different orga-
nization, as a modicum of enquiry
would have ascertained. Those who
continually conjure up the bogey of
"militarism" might at least take the
trouble of ascertaining the facts before
condemning, or casting discredit on,
this last and most valuable endeavor
to imbue the youth of a nation with
high ideals of character and citizen-
ship.

In the Canadian edition of the Chris-
mas number of The Windsor Maga-
zine the chief of the boy scouts again
seeks to dispel the two prevalent mis-
conceptions of the organization. General
Baden-Powell makes it perfectly plain
that far from encouraging "militar-
ism," the boy scouts have been estab-
lished to destroy racial animosity.
"Every scout is a brother of every
other scout, whatever may be the
 creed or clan to which he belongs," is
one of the fundamental axioms. Far
from encouraging animosity either
among classes or nations, the boy
scouts, if the intention of their found-
er is observed, are taught the duty of
practical comradeship, or universal
comradely and sympathy. It may be
true that this movement, which so
strongly appeals to boy instincts, is
capable of misuse, but that possibility
should not encourage opposition, but
rather insistence that its primal pur-
pose shall be observed.

General Baden-Powell says empha-
tically to those who see in the boy
scout movement only a form of mili-
tary cadet service, made attractive
under another name and with a sport-
ing uniform, that if they would look
into the methods they would see that
military training is particularly avoid-
ed. "In principle," he writes, "our aim
is far higher than to make soldiers—
it is to make citizens. We avoid mili-
tary drill because it tends to make boys
part of a machine, whereas our aim is
to develop the individuality and re-
sponsibility of each lad. Military dis-
cipline is a form of punishment, put on
with a uniform and dropped the mo-
ment parade is over. The boy scouts'
discipline is a sense of duty which he
is expected, on his honor, to carry out
at all times, day or night, in uniform
or out—it becomes his character." One
need only read the small selection from

the splendid achievements of the boy
scouts, as noted by General Baden-
Powell, to recognize how valuable is
the spirit of heroism, self-sacrifice and
self-reliance with which they have
been instilled.

SUPPORT THE COMMISSIONER.

Onslaughts from the board of con-
trol upon Commissioner Harris are
quite wrong. The city council has been
accustomed to treat the city officials
as enemies to be fought, instead of
friends to be assisted. The result is
that the strong men leave, the weak
give in to the meddling aldermen, and
sooner or later civic affairs get into
a mess. Commissioner Harris has only
been appointed a few months, but he
has already been repeatedly rebuffed.

The action taken in rejecting his re-
commendation to purchase a gravel-
pit must be reconsidered, whatever
private interests may have to say to
Controller Maguire. With respect to
the quarry and the stone crusher,
which were also in question, there may
be room for some difference of opin-
ion. Why should the city not have
its own stone crusher located in the
city? Many contractors have followed
this plan.

The radial railways under a co-opera-
tive hydro-electric system, could co-
operate in such a matter as this, but
it is just on account of this that pri-
vate interests, individual and corpo-
rate, oppose such a system.

MONEY BYLAWS AND THE TENANTS.

On the question of giving taxpayers
who rent their homes instead of own-
ing them, a vote on the disposal of
their taxes the present city council
appears to be about entirely under the
thumb of the landlords. This is, of
course, because the members are all or
nearly all landlords themselves. It is
harder for the rich man to enter into
the kingdom of justice and fair play,
we are told on good authority, than for
a camel to go thru the eye of a needle.
We find, therefore, that according to
their wealth, the controllers are will-
ing to have their tenants pay their
taxes, but the tenants must not ex-
pect any other privileges. Controllers
Church and Foster are opposed to the
British principle as applied to their
tenants of no taxation without repre-
sentation. Controller Maguire is open
to conviction. We presume he would
like to see the man that could convict
him. And Controller McCarthy is
willing to admit the principle to a lim-
ited extent. Perhaps he will agree with
us as far as we believe the principle
should be applied. All these gentle-
men in England would be compelled to
yield justice to their tenants. In Can-
ada they prefer the landlords' view.

Aldermen Anderson, Hilton and
Watson are leaving council and will
not commit themselves. Ald. Austin,
Dunn, Graham, McBrine, McMurtry,
Rawlinson, Ryding, Saunders, Spence
and Yeomans are opposed to tenants
having any say about spending the
taxes they pay. These gentlemen need
a little education in citizenship. They
reflect capitalistic opinion too faithfully.

Ald. May says he will favor the
policy next year, and the citizens will
hold him to it. There are others who
will join him. Ald. Wanless is open to
conviction and a little investigation
and consideration should enable him to
see the point. Ald. O'Neill is in favor
of letting leaseholders have the vote,
but not tenants. If he says yearly
leaseholders, we agree. A man would
have to be two years a leaseholder be-
fore he could vote. That would mean
three years continuity and a longer
term than the average property is held.
Ald. Rowland is tacitly favorable, but
wants the question discussed. So do
we. He will find it a popular issue.
Ald. McBride declares he is for Mis-
souri. It must be quite quiet down
there since he left.

It is evident that in the state of mind
of the city council on the subject,
Mayor Hocken had no possible chance
to make an issue of the question. But
it is one that will make progress now
that it is started. Even Ald. Yeomans
must admit that it is the tenants who
pay their own water rates and their
own car fares, but they are not allowed
to say a word about extending these
systems or improving the services. The
landlords do the voting.

Now what have the new candidates
to say?

There will be a chance to play cricket
in ward two with Wicket and Ball as
the crease.

Wounded at Pigeon Shoot.

GALT, Dec. 19.—(Special.)—August
Moeller, while scouting during the Hes-
perus pigeon shoot, was accidentally
shot by Norman Ringler, who fired the
second barrel at the wounded bird,
as the scout came out of hiding to
retrieve. He was painfully injured in
the hip and side, but will recover.

AN ADDITION TO THE CATECHISM.

An enterprising superintendent was en-
gaged one Sunday in catechizing the Sun-
day school pupils, varying the usual meth-
od by beginning at the end of the catech-
ism.

After asking what were the prerequis-
ites for the Holy Communion and con-
firmation, and receiving satisfactory re-
plies, he asked:

And now boys, tell me what must
precede baptism?
A lively urchin shouted: "A baby,
sir!"

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investments there is no more convenient or safe method of secur-
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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Dec. 19, 1912.
Judge's chambers, will be held on
Friday, 20th inst, at 10 a.m.

December sittings of divisional court closed.

The first sittings of the appellate di-
vision of the supreme court of Ontario
will begin on Jan. 15, 1913.

Master's Chambers.

Before J. S. Cartwright, K.C. Master.
St. Clair v. Stair—J. Hales for plain-
tiff; As. S. Hassard for defendant. Motion
by defendant for an order for secur-
ity for costs in a libel action. En-
larged until Jan. 7, 1913.
Farrin v. London and Western Trust
Co.—D. Henderson for plaintiff. Motion
by plaintiff for an order amending
defendant's notice of publication. De-
fendants resident in the United States,
and for the issue of a concurrent writ.
Order made.

Blackburn v. Price—C. M. Garvey for
defendant; J. R. Roaf for plaintiff. Motion
by defendant for an order setting
aside default judgment. Order made
setting aside the default judgment and
allowing defendant to appear and de-
fend. Costs of and incident to signing
said judgment and of this application
to be costs to the plaintiff in any event.

McMurtry v. Leashner—W. J. Mc-
Larty for plaintiff; J. P. Crawford for
defendant. Motion by plaintiff for an
order for costs in a libel action. En-
larged until Jan. 7, 1913.

Stegall v. Automobile Livery Co.—R.
D. Moorhead for plaintiff; J. P. Crawford
for defendant. Motion by plaintiff for
an order for costs in a libel action. En-
larged until Jan. 7, 1913.

Douglas v. Fawcett—O. H. King for
plaintiff; R. W. Hart for defendant.
Motion by plaintiff for judgment under
C. R. 602. Motion dismissed. Costs in
the cause.

Single Court.

Before the Hon. J. S. Cartwright, K.C.
St. Clair v. Stair—J. Hales for plain-
tiff; As. S. Hassard for defendant. Motion
by defendant for an order for secur-
ity for costs in a libel action. En-
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Blackburn v. Price—C. M. Garvey for
defendant; J. R. Roaf for plaintiff. Motion
by defendant for an order setting
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allowing defendant to appear and de-
fend. Costs of and incident to signing
said judgment and of this application
to be costs to the plaintiff in any event.

McMurtry v. Leashner—W. J. Mc-
Larty for plaintiff; J. P. Crawford for
defendant. Motion by plaintiff for an
order for costs in a libel action. En-
larged until Jan. 7, 1913.

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aside default judgment. Order made
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McMurtry v. Leashner—W. J. Mc-
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to be costs to the plaintiff in any event.

McMurtry v. Leashner—W. J. Mc-
Larty for plaintiff; J. P. Crawford for
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CITY WITHOUT PLANT

Merely Trying to Prevent Ex-
actions, Commissioner
Harris Tells the
Retailers.

The board of control did an unlim-
ited amount of wobbling yesterday over
the proposal to give Commissioner
Harris a sufficient plant to carry on
the work he is supposed to do for the
city.

Hitherto the board has been prac-
tically unanimous in supporting, after
some investigation, many of the com-
missioner's recommendations, and this
appropriation of \$187,429 which is the
only means of giving satisfaction to
the many deputations which have al-
ready called at the works department
requesting work already started to be
completed, as well as work which it is
essential should be undertaken has re-
ceived the approval of the board of
works, which specializes on these mat-
ters, on three different occasions, the
board of control has also passed upon
it once, but it was referred back for
more information by council.

Different contractors have been seen
hovering around the entrance to com-
mittee room No. 2, and the climax was
reached yesterday when Secretary
Trower of the Retail Merchants' As-
sociation appeared before the board,
backed by a deputation, to ask that
the commissioner be not given the op-
portunity of purchasing extra plant.
"How far is the city going to trespass
on the private trade interests of the
city?" asked Mr. Trower. "Are we
going to have the city compete with our
own people? The elections are hover-
ing around and we want to know how
far this is going to go. Because a little
evil has existed, that is no reason you
should go into the contracting business
and put these men out of business."

Commissioner Harris said that it
was not the intention of the city to go
into the contracting business, "but the
city is going to regulate the prices," he
declared. "The works department is
going to submit tenders on all civic
works, and when the contractors can-
not conform with our estimates, the
city will do the work itself. We have
contracts for \$4,000,000 worth of sewers,
and these contractors are not going
to charge just what they like. An-
other year before we are at present trying
to do with a pick and shovel just what
the contractors are doing with an up-
to-date plant, and these insufficient
conditions have got to be changed. We
are perfectly content to let the contrac-
tors do the work, but they are not go-
ing to charge more than we can do it."

"We can't deny him a plant," put in
the mayor to Mr. Trower.

"If he regulates the prices in a
proper manner," added Controller Fos-
ter.

Immediate Action
The question of referring the matter
back then came up, but the com-
missioner fought for his plant. "Gentle-
men, if you refer this matter back, it
will be another year before we can go
ahead. It is a question of immediate ac-
tion. There is work which must be
looked after forthwith. It is perfectly
willing to do all that is reasonable, but
the city's interests are paramount."

Several stone and gravel contractors
appeared, and voiced their views.
Which Mr. Harris met in every way.
It was divulged that the commissioner
had previously had a private confer-
ence with the city engineer, and that
the five of the good results obtained by
the conference with the asphalt men.

Mr. Pearson of the Paving and Con-
struction Company stated that he
could supply the city with asphalt at
cost. "I have a written statement
of the cost of the asphalt, which was
handed to me by Mr. Pearson," said
the commissioner. "which binds the
company to supply the city with as-
phalt at \$1.28 a batch in large quan-
tities, and \$1.53 in small quantities,
that is what it costs the city. This
means that the city saves approximately
\$1.20 and \$1.53 per load from what
the people are now charging us, so
that I am content that the appropri-
ation for an asphalt plant be struck
out."

"I'm opposed to you going into the
quarry business, too," said Controller
Maguire, "the item should be struck
out."

This means that the commissioner
will now have to be dependent upon
the sources of supply he had last sum-
mer, because the controller was suc-
cessful in having the sum appropriated
(\$65,000) struck out. The commission-
er gets the plant, but will now have no
means of securing delivery of the mat-
erial when it is most needed.

Controller Maguire said that St. Clair
avenue would have been completed
much cheaper had it been let to a con-
tractor, but the commissioner says:
"I don't know anything about that, but
when contractors take over our tenders
they put up at our price, and make
ample profits, there is no real cause for
complaint."

Controller McCarthy wants the com-
missioner to have a plant which will
enable him to tender for contracts and
carry them out if the contractors are
not willing to do the city's price.

The whole matter is now held up,
subject to a conference between Com-
missioner Harris, E. M. Trower and
his army of retailers.

R. S. Williams Sales Floors Are Open
at Night.

The R. S. Williams & Sons Co.,
Limited, 145 Yonge street, in response
to many requests received from cus-
tomers who do not find it convenient
in the day to give sufficient time to the
selection of a piano, phonograph, vic-
trola or other musical instrument are
keeping their new building sales floors
open until 9.30 in the evenings, for the
present. Many fine gifts are on dis-
play.

Turkish Massacre Reported.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(Can. Press.)—
According to a Port Said despatch, Be-
n Lloyds a wireless message from the
Greek Government vessel Macedonia,
says that the Turks have massacred
the Christians in Mytilene. The num-
ber killed is not known.

Chief Rabbi of British Empire.
LONDON, Dec. 19.—(Can. Press.)—
The Jewish World says that in all
probability Dr. Bernard Drachman of
New York will be invited to become
chief rabbi of the British empire.
Early in January the rabbinical sec-
ond committee will meet to frame
recommendations for the conference
to be held subsequently.

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