

The Advertiser

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JOHN CAMERON, President and Manager.

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LONDON, - CANADA.

God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.
—(BROWNING.)

London, Monday, July 17.

DO YOU COMPREHEND ITS IMPORTANCE?

The London city assessors are now on their rounds.

They are sworn not only to make a correct valuation of all civic property and taxable income, but also to procure the necessary information to compile a voters' list for the municipal elections of 1894 as well as a Provincial voters' list for the same year.

On ordinary occasions it is most important that the assessors should be assisted in every way possible to make their work as complete as possible, but the present occasion is one of no ordinary moment.

Every citizen, whether man or woman, must bear in mind three cardinal facts:

1. On the lists now being compiled the mayor and aldermen for next year will be elected.

2. On these lists, by decree of the Legislature, a plebiscite will be taken in regard to the question of prohibition, and be it remembered that on that vote, which takes place at the same time as the municipal elections, all women entitled to vote in municipal contests have a vote if their names are on the voters' lists. No necessary step should be left unattempted to secure this end, and as the first formula is the simplest we shall state it.

3. Then it should not be forgotten that on the lists now being compiled the Ontario elections of 1894 will be held. That seems to be now beyond doubt, as the four year term of the Legislature ends in June next.

The Supplementary Voters' Act, passed at last session of the Legislature, leaves it impossible for any one entitled to be on the voters' lists to be left off if the average household, store and factory owner does his duty and the assessor does that which he takes an oath he will do.

Let us give a brief summary of this act. The assessor is bound, by careful inquiry at every house, hotel, factory or workshop, to ascertain with the utmost practicable accuracy the names of all persons over the age of 21 years residing in the house who are entitled by law to vote at an election for the Legislature in that district; and he must enter each name on the assessment roll and mark opposite to the name in capitals the letters M. F.

Any person who refuses to answer the inquiry of the assessor, or who answers falsely, shall for every refusal or neglect be fined \$20. To better enable the assessors to do their duty, it is incumbent upon the city clerk to give every assessor, prior to entering on his labors, an alphabetical list of the male persons who have died in the city since the last of January preceding the final revision of such lists so far as these appear on the documents in his possession. To enable him so to do, the clerk is bound to keep for reference a list of the voters who have died, with the necessary particulars of rank and profession. When a city assessor returns his roll, he must make affidavit to the effect that he has made careful inquiry at every house in his district, in order to ascertain the names of all persons over the age of 21 who are entitled to vote for member for the Legislature, and that he has entered the names of all such persons upon his roll. It is the duty of the mayor and the assessment commissioner to see that the assessors duly perform the whole of their duties under this act as well as under the Manhood Franchise Act.

Immediately after the return by the assessors of the assessment rolls to the clerk, and without waiting for their revision and correction by the Court of Revision, it is the duty of the clerk to make out a correct alphabetical list of all persons appearing by the assessment roll to be entitled to be voters in the city. Then he must have 200 copies of these printed for the use of the various parties stipulated by the act as well as of the assessment commissioner, but the council may order additional copies if it so chooses. Power is placed in the hands of the assessment commissioner to amend the lists in any way that will very much simplify the work in case of those wrongly left off the rolls who may have become dis-

qualified. Without the necessity of a formal appeal, the names of persons properly qualified may be added by him, and the names of persons who are known to be dead may be struck off the roll, as well as all duplicates of names. To enable him to do this, the assessment commissioner must appoint a time and place in the city when he will attend, day and evening, and the clerk shall notify the public of the fact. This procedure must be taken within fourteen days after a copy of the list is posted up in the clerk's office. Before entering on the duty, the assessment commissioner must take an oath that he will faithfully discharge it.

No person on the alphabetical list can be struck off without notice of an intended application to the assessment commissioner for that purpose, but in order to have a name added to the list or to correct any error in a name it will not be necessary to give previous notice. To have a name added the person will have to make the usual affidavit under the Manhood Franchise Act, and such affidavit shall be prima facie evidence that the applicant has a right to vote unless appealed against.

The lists will, as usual, be finally revised by a county judge. An important provision in the act is section 24, which enacts that after the voters' list has been finally revised and before nomination for any election the county judge shall have power, on being duly applied to, to strike from the lists the names of any persons who have died since the list was revised and corrected. For the purpose of striking off these names, the certificate of the Registrar-General or of the division registrar as to deaths shall be sufficient prima facie evidence of a death, with any evidence of identity which may be reasonably necessary in case the identity of the person said to be dead with the person of the same name on the voters' list is disputed or open to reasonable doubt. This enactment applies to municipal voters as well as to the voters for the Legislature.

It will be seen from this summary of the new law that the easiest and most effective way to make the lists complete is to have them rendered so by the citizen co-operating with the assessor, while the last named is making his rounds. The assessor cannot shirk his duty, except by breaking his oath; let the citizen do his and her part and there will be little work to finish when the Court of Revision sits. Neglect now means much work hereafter.

SIR GEORGE DIBBS recently stated in the New South Wales Legislature that Ministers had voluntarily agreed to a 10 per cent. reduction in their salaries.—(Toronto Empire.)

With the dull times in Canada has come no such relief. Instead of reducing their salaries the Ottawa Ministers added several new members to the Cabinet at an expense to the country in providing them with a fat income and a well-paid retinue of hangers-on.

THE PROOF, SIR CHARLES.

Sir Charles Tupper either has or has not ground for the statement made by him that the British officials charged with searching for pleuro-pneumonia in Canadian cattle were guilty of fraud or gross negligence in arranging for the examination. He says that the "inwards" of a foreign animal were substituted for those of a Canadian beast. If this statement is correct, Sir Charles is in a position to verify it. If he is not in a position to prove it, the High Commissioner had not right to make it. What Sir Charles is doing to back up the position he has taken? Canada will be humiliated if it is proved that he has once more been romancing. The people of the Dominion want their cattle trade to be as untrammelled as can be—why, indeed, should not all their trade be as free as possible? But no accusations which cannot be substantiated should be made against the British authorities. See how our case in Britain has been prejudiced by misrepresentation already. For months the Dominion Government asserted that the quarantine laws were scrupulously observed all along the United States border. Then the British Government discovered that this was a falsehood—that cattle from the Western States, with the connivance of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, had Manitoba and the Northwest thrown open to them.

CITY PAVEMENTS.

The present method of city road-making is not an ideal one. Cedar blocks are expensive, and are likely to become more so, and at the same time medical men assert that they are unhealthy. The policy of spreading over the thoroughfares what is called gravel, but which is really sandy earth, mixed with small, soft stones, is not very satisfactory. Gravel put on a street this year will be carted away as mud or as dust next year, to be replaced by similar material, which, in turn, will be taken away a year later, and so on. It is an expensive penny-wise, pound-foolish system. What shall take its place? In Harrogate, England, they are trying gas tar macadam, built in a manner which the borough engineer describes. The foundation material is first prepared by forming a heap of 24-inch broken limestone, 6 feet wide, 15 to 18 inches high and of any convenient length. A fire of wood and cinders is then made on top and the stones gradually turned over until all are at the same temperature. The stone is then spread on an iron plate while warm and mixed with gas tar, after which it is stacked in a heap for a few months. The surface material is formed by preparing a 9-inch bed of furnace ashes. This bed is 6 feet wide and from 12 to 15 feet long, and is covered by one of the

same dimensions, but of 3-inch stone. A fire is then kindled on the stone, covered with ashes, and allowed to burn three or more days. A pan is afterward formed, as in slacking lime, with 6 inches of material on the ground and tar enough poured on to thoroughly coat the separate pieces. This material is allowed to stand for about twelve hours after the tar has been mixed into it and is then mixed again. In forming a roadway a 3-inch layer of the foundation stone is first put down and rolled with a 10-ton steam roller, after which enough 3-inch chippings are spread over the top to even up the surface. These chippings are rolled and then covered with a thin layer of the surface material, chippings and ashes. This is rolled and the surface finished with a thin sprinkling of fine, well-rolled limestone screenings. It is questionable if a roadway of this material would stand the frost of our winters. But there can be no doubt that the pavement question is one of the most important in municipal circles at the present time. What this city needs is a steady working to the provision of pavements that will last.

A work of great usefulness to the legal profession and to conveyancers generally is that just issued by the Carswell Company, Toronto. It is entitled "The Dominion Conveyancer: A new book of forms." Wm. Howard Hunter, B.A., the compiler, has made a general collection of precedents useful in conveyancing, arranged under the following titles: Affidavits, Agreements, Appointments, Apprenticeship, Assignments, Attorneys, Powers of Sale, Bonds, Chattel Mortgages, Charter Party, Conditional Sales, Conditions of Sale, Composition with Creditors, Declarations of Trust, Deeds, Guarantees, Leases, Mechanics' Lien, Mortgages, Notarials, Notices, Partnership, Party Wall Agreements, Pledges, Receipts, Releases, Separation, Settlements, Trade Marks, Patent and Copyright, Wills. In addition to the copious precedents under each title, the editor has added numerous forms of special clauses adapted to particular cases. A complete index to all the forms adds to the usefulness of the collection. The work contains 508 pages and is substantially bound in half law calf, \$5 post paid.

ABOUT THE TROLLEYS.

The New York State board of railroad commissioners has sent a circular to every street service railroad in the State, recommending that every car operated by the electric trolley system in that State on a double-track line be equipped with gates at both ends, and that only one gate, that opposite the other track on the rear platform, be open for the ingress and egress of passengers; also that no person (except an instructor, when necessary) be allowed to ride on the platform with the motorman on any electric car. The board also recommends that on all open cars operated by the electric trolley system on double-tracked lines there shall be attached a guard on the side of the car next to the opposite track, running the entire length of the car, to prevent passengers entering or leaving the car on that side, this guard to be of such a nature that it may be transferred from one side to the other.

Now that London is in the throes of an electric railway dispute not a little interest may be taken by our municipal solons and the railway managers in these recommendations. They have been suggested by the accident record in the various cities that have been running electric cars. At first the great danger feared was from the wires attached to the cars; but it is found that accidents are rare from that source but frequent from other agencies. Running over accidents are the more plentiful. It is much harder for a person either old or young to judge the speed of an approaching electric car than it is to gauge the rate of a horse car.

ENGLAND UNDER FREE TRADE.

(Montreal Herald.)

The London Echo says that "the agricultural laborer in England can buy as much bread, tea, sugar, salt, currants, cocoa, cheese and bacon today for 3s 8d (89 cents) as he could buy for 10s 2d (\$1 47 50) years ago." Yet Sir Charles Tupper and Mr. Howard Vincent are trying to induce England to go back to the old corn law regime with its high prices.

THE OIL QUESTION.

(Montreal Star.)

The Hamilton Spectator has discovered that they are using crude oil for fuel at Westville, but finds on investigation that steam coal is probably cheaper in Canada. We dislike to refer to it again, but the Spec. may now see the inexpediency of maintaining a duty of 1,200 per cent. against American crude oil, when our well cannot supply the demand at a paying price.

THE VALUE, NOT THE BULK.

(Dundas Banner.)

The Toronto Empire keeps boasting of the increase in exports, and tries to make the farmers believe, in spite of the evidence of their own senses, that they are well off and should be contented, and that the country is in a state of bounding prosperity. The exports may double, yet if the farmers get only a little over half for their produce while they got before it does not prove that they are prosperous. According to the Empire's way of arguing, \$2,000,000 worth of wheat exported at 50 cents a bushel would not only sound bigger but would prove greater prosperity than \$1,000,000 worth at \$1 a bushel. The fact is that it is not simply the volume of exports that one must judge by, but the value. All the figures in the world will not convince the farmers that they are prosperous with wheat at 65 cents a bushel and barley at 40 cents.

HOW THE PANIC WAS STOPPED.

(San Diego Sun.)

Horace McPhee, who is here as Riverside county commissioner, says there was no flurry whatever about the bank of Elsinore. And then McPhee told a story which is particularly pat at this time. He said there was a run on a bank in an iron mill town, and the depositors were being paid in silver dollars. The excitement increased and the run became a fast one. The cashier was a young Irishman, and the work put upon him was more than he liked. He resolved to stop it. He sent the janitor with a bushel of silver dollars into a rear room where there was a stove, with instructions to "heat them silver dollars red hot." They were heated, and

in that condition he handed them out with a ladle. The depositors first grabbed the coin, then kicked. "But you'll have to take them that way," said the cashier. "We are turning them out as fast as we can melt and mould them, and if you won't wait till their cool you'll have to take them hot."

That settled it. The run was stopped. McPhee says the story is true, but denies that he was the Irish cashier.



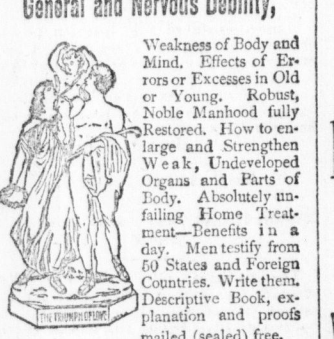
Looking Backward

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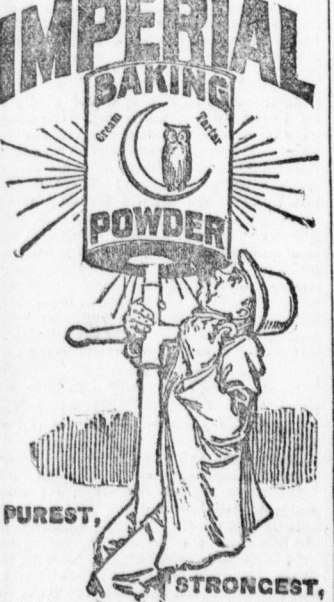
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