

BIRD.

WONDER—At his home, Brook Ave., Toronto, on Saturday, the 10th, Thomas Worthington, former Mayor of Acton, died at the age of 75 years.
Born in the hospital of Guelph, on November 26th, 1844, daughter of the late Michael Worthington, aged 27 years.

The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, JULY 12th, 1900.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The total revenue of the Dominion for the fiscal year ending with June 30th last was \$19,051,007, as compared with \$14,096,105 during the previous year, a gain of \$4,956,400. This is evidently the growing time.

The radio returns of Great Britain for June show the following increase in their country's general imports:—Wheat, £12,000; yeast, 25,000; bacon, £65,000; hams, £20,000; cheese, £180,000 worth; £20,000; pulse, £5,000; oranges, £7,000; The decrease is:—Cattle, £7,000; sheep, £3,000; butter, £25,000; timber, £20,000; live stock, £10,000. Exports to Canada, wool, &c., show considerable decreases; but other items show the same good increase.

One of the chief topics of discussion among thinking citizens is the rapid development of Imperialism, both in the British Colonies and in the United States. "The Future of Imperialism" is the title of a valuable and well-reasoned article in the July Canadian Magazine by John Lewis who is among the cleverest of Canadian journalists. An illustrated article on the Hull-Hawke Fire and a Canadian story by W. A. Brewster are two other features of what is an excellent issue of our national publication.

In response to the expressed wishes of numbers of citizens, and with a view to ensuring more tidy streets in certain sections of the town, the Council at its regular session on Monday evening amended the By-Law relating to animals at large so as to prohibit the tethering of animals on the streets or permit them grazing there. This action will be generally commended, and is very welcome as far as the animals are concerned for cattle and horses have frequently been seen to stand for eight or nine hours at a stretch, without shelter from the hot summer sun, or any supply of water during that time. The By-Law provides a penalty for infraction.

The town solicitor's opinion respecting the municipality's power relative to the laying of caskets walks under the permanent pavements act, has been presented to the Council. It states that the municipality has power to pass a local improvement by-law after it has received the assent of the electors as provided by the municipal act, and points out the necessity that a voter would have to indicate the amount to be charged against the various properties benefited by the improvements proposed. The frantage tax system is a fair and equitable arrangement and by its adoption permanent pavements may be laid much more generally than by the plan of payment front the ordinary funds of the corporation.

On the question of the tobacco duties when up in the House the other day, Mr. Henderson argued as follows:—"The very fact that one-fifth of our population is taxed upon to pay an increased tax to \$1.50 per pound, which was imposed previous to 1897, is in itself quite sufficient evidence of considerable discontent. As I have stated before in this House, when you leave out all the women and children and the non-smokers amongst the men, certainly not more than one-fifth of the population is called upon to pay that increased tax. It is, therefore, clear legislation, and is unfair to the small number who use tobacco, and who have just as much right to use it, if they see fit to do so, as any other citizen has to use tea or coffee."

After many delays the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways have been forced to comply with the order of the Italian Government to pay the extra taxes imposed on the rates of all iron importing ports. This is the result of the Government's over the railway interests of the Dominions sustained as they are by the wealth and influence of the Standard Oil Company, which is regarded as a most satisfactory outcome of a protracted controversy, apparently from the material advantage of a consequent reduction in the price of oil. Canadians are to be congratulated on the fact that the great monopoly that has corrupted courts and legislatures with impunity across the line has been foiled by the Government of the Dominions, although it pressed its services on our gigantic railway interests.—*Odeon.*

Mr. D. Henderson, the representative of this county in the House of Commons, is to be commended for his persistence in advancing Hamilton's claim to government buildings, notwithstanding we have no large populous centre in the county. His plan advocating the creation of post-office buildings of moderate cost in the five incorporated towns and villages of the county is a feasible one, and, Mr. Henderson, more worthy than the thousand of making a large grant for a building in a single town, in any constituency. The question was up in the House a couple of weeks ago, and voted for, for Hamilton's plan. The bill will cost \$10,000. Mr. Henderson said:—"My plan is that instead of the government spending \$30,000 in one town of the county, they divide that sum into five shares of \$6,000 each, and erect in Astor, Burlington, Georgetown, Milton and Oakville, buildings that would cost say \$15,000, leaving \$1,000 in each case to purchase the site. In that way you could have a building that would afford ample accommodation for the post office, with a dwelling in connection for the postmaster or his assistant. On that plan no expense would be incurred by the government for the erection of the building as a public office, but would be reduced to a minimum, a most feasible scheme, and no doubt the government would be justified in offering to the county such aid as referred to. I would, however, prefer that they make the test in the County of Halton, which is most suitable for the purpose." In reply the Postmaster-General said:—"There is a great deal to be done in the towns of the Hants. Greatly suggest, and the only question is its practicability. It comes as a new proposition, and the Hants. Government cannot expect an opinion now, but the government will consider it, and I hope that in time it will reach the period of fruition."

The Grand Trunk has made a new running receipt between Toronto and Montreal, the distance, 355 miles, being covered in 6 hours and 40 minutes by the second section of the Chicago express.

THE CAMPAIGN CLOSING.

The South African War is evidently drawing to a close.

THE DOERS ARE BURNING BHIBH.

London, July 11.—There are indications that the South African campaign is drawing to a close. Lord Roberts' official report yesterday was highly encouraging. Gen. Hart and Col. Mahon have been driving back the Boers to the Transvaal, and Jameson had been thwarted in a masterpiece at Rustenburg. The campaign is drawing to a close, and a large portion of his army will speedily be released, for service in the far east, if necessary.

Lord Roberts' report shows several offices of the late Free State Government have surrendered at Heilbron, and that the Boers have been defeated in several engagements particularly in an attempt to take Kimberley. He also pointed out that President Steyn, General Dowat, and about 1,000 Boers have retreated from Bethlehem to Ponelisburg. The latter town is close to the Basutoland border, and a considerable distance south, east of the district in which Dowat's commandos have caused considerable trouble by raids on the railway line and convoy. The retreat to Ponelisburg is an almost certain indication that Dowat has found the British cordons to the west, north, and south too strong to break through, and also that he is being hotly pressed by covering British columns.

Several Canadians were wounded in the recent engagements.

BETTER NEWS FROM CHINA.

Official Report Expresses the Hope that the Latitudes Are Holding Out.

London, July 11.—Yesterday's news from China is again hopeful. There seems to be little doubt that Prince Ching, who is in command of the Manchu Garrison at Peking, is protecting the Legations against the Boxers. The London *Daily Mail*, correspondent at Shanghai says the reason why the heavy guns trained on the Legations have not been used is because Prince Ching and General Yuanheng agreed and removed all the ammunition.

A despatch from Admiral Bruce to the British Foreign Office states that there are grounds for believing that Prince Ching is aiding in the defence of the Peking Legations.

Ching is reported to have 10,000 splendidly drilled troops available.

James A. Mathews, Orangeville, Ont., George Mathews, auditor Colorado Fuel & Iron Co., Denver, Col., and Alfred Moore, pastor Zion Tabernacle, Hamilton.

M. P. Moore, editor Paulus Park, Astoria, Mrs. M. P. Moore, Mrs. Hattie J. Hightower, Dr. Edgar McFarlin, druggist, Toronto.

Albert M. Hall, manager Heilbrunn & Hall, Penetanguishene.

John Heilbrunn, manager Heilbrunn & Hall, Galt.

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